

APPROVED

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE AUDIT, COMPLIANCE, RISK, AND ETHICS (ACRE) COMMITTEE AND

BOARD OF RETIREMENT AND BOARD OF INVESTMENTS

LOS ANGELES COUNTY EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION

300 N. LAKE AVENUE, SUITE 810, PASADENA, CA 91101

9:00 A.M., MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2026

This meeting was conducted by the Audit, Compliance, Risk, and Ethics (ACRE) Committee and Board of Retirement and Board of Investments both in person and by teleconference under California Government Code Section 54953.8.3.

COMMITTEE TRUSTEES:

PRESENT:

Debbie Martin (BOI), Chair

Nicole Mi (BOI), Vice Chair

Aleen Langton (BOR), Secretary

Trevor Fay (BOI) Trustee, (Teleconference Due to Just Cause under Section 54953.8.3.)

Bobbie Fesler (BOR), Trustee

Shawn R. Kehoe (BOR), Trustee

Elizabeth B. Ginsberg, Ex-Officio

STAFF, ADVISORS AND PARTICIPANTS:

Luis A. Lugo, Chief Executive Officer

Laura Guglielmo, Assistant Executive Officer

STAFF, ADVISORS AND PARTICIPANTS:

JJ Popowich, Assistant Executive Officer

Steven P. Rice, Chief Counsel

Allison Barrett, Senior Staff Counsel

Jessica Rivas, Staff Counsel

Carly Ntoya, Ph.D., Human Resources Director

Richard P. Bendall, Chief Audit Executive

Leisha E. Collins, Principal Internal Auditor

Christina Logan, Principal Internal Auditor

Delfino Aguilar, Senior Internal Auditor

Nathan K. Amick, Senior Internal Auditor

Kristina Sun, Senior Internal Auditor

Gabriel Tafoya, Senior Internal Auditor

Christian Velasco, Senior Internal Auditor

Alex Ochoa, Internal Auditor

Larry Jensen, ACRE Committee Consultant

I. CALL TO ORDER

This meeting was called to order by Chair Martin at 9:12 a.m. in the Board Room of Gateway Plaza.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Larry Jensen led the Trustees and staff in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ELECTIONS OF OFFICERS (Election of Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary)

A. Chair of the Audit, Compliance, Risk, and Ethics Committee

Trustee Martin was nominated to the position of Chair of the Audit, Compliance, Risk, and Ethics Committee by Trustee Mi. Hearing no other nominations, the nominations were closed. Trustee Martin was declared Chair of the Audit, Compliance, Risk and Ethics Committee for 2026.

B. Vice Chair of the Audit, Compliance, Risk, and Ethics Committee

Trustee Mi was nominated to the position of Vice Chair of the Audit, Compliance, Risk, and Ethics Committee by Trustee Martin. Hearing no other nominations, the nominations were closed. Trustee Martin declared Trustee Mi as Vice Chair of the Audit, Compliance, Risk and Ethics Committee for 2026.

C. Secretary of the Audit, Compliance, Risk, and Ethics Committee

Trustee Langton was nominated to the position of Secretary of the Audit, Compliance, Risk, and Ethics Committee by Trustee Martin. Hearing no other nominations, the nominations were closed. Trustee Martin declared Trustee Langton as Secretary of the Audit, Compliance, Risk and Ethics Committee for 2026.

IV. PROCEDURE FOR TELECONFERENCE MEETING ATTENDANCE UNDER SB707

A. Just Cause (Section 54953.8.3)

B. Statement of Persons Present at SB707 Teleconference Locations

Trustee Fay requested to participate in the meeting via teleconference for Just Cause, pursuant to Government Code Section 54953.8.3(c)(2) (SB 707 – Contagious illness). A physical quorum was present at the noticed meeting location. Trustee Fay confirmed that no individuals 18 years of age or older were present at the teleconference location.

V. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 20, 2025

Trustee Kehoe made a motion, Trustee Ginsberg seconded, to approve the Minutes of the Regular meeting of November 20, 2025. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Ginsberg, Kehoe, Fay, Martin, Mi

Abstain: Fesler, Langton

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no requests from the public to speak.

VII. NON-CONSENT ITEMS

A. **Proposed 2026 ACRE Committee Meeting Dates**

Recommendation as submitted by Richard P. Bendall, Chief Audit Executive: That the Committee review and approve the proposed 2026 ACRE Committee meeting dates. (Memo dated February 9, 2026)

Mr. Bendall was present and answered questions from the Committee.

Trustee Ginsberg made a motion, Trustee Fesler seconded, to approve staff's recommendation. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Fay, Fesler, Ginsberg, Kehoe, Langton, Martin, Mi

B. **Internal Audit Proposed Fiscal Year 2026 – 2027 Budget Request**

Recommendation as submitted by Richard P. Bendall, Chief Audit Executive: The Committee approve the Internal Audit's Proposed Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Budget Request, and upon approval, direct staff to include it in LACERA's Administrative Budget for Board approval. (Memo dated February 9, 2026)

VII. NON-CONSENT ITEMS (Continued)

Mr. Bendall and Ms. Guglielmo were present to answered questions from the Committee.

Trustee Fesler made a motion, Trustee Mi seconded, to accept staff's recommendation. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Fay, Fesler, Ginsberg, Kehoe, Langton, Martin, Mi

C. **Ethics and Compliance Proposed Fiscal Year 2026 - 2027 Budget Request**

Recommendation as submitted by Steven P. Rice, Chief Counsel: The Committee approve the Ethics and Compliance Proposed Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Budget Request, and upon approval, direct staff to include it in LACERA's Administrative Budget for approval by the Board of Retirement and Board of Investments. (Memo dated February 9, 2026)

Messrs. Rice, Lugo and Ms. Barrett were present to answered questions from the Committee.

Trustee Fesler made a motion, Trustee Mi seconded, to approve staff's recommendation. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Fay, Fesler, Ginsberg, Kehoe, Langton, Martin, Mi

D. **Updating LACERA's Code of Ethical Conduct**

Recommendation as submitted by Jessica Rivas, Staff Counsel: The Committee review the proposed revised and restated Code of Ethical Conduct and recommend it to the Board of Retirement and Board of Investments for their joint approval. (Presentation) (Memo dated February 10, 2026)

Ms. Rivas provided a presentation. Messrs. Lugo, Bendall and Rice were present to answer questions from the Committee.

Trustee Kehoe made a motion, Trustee Langton seconded, to approve the Code with the suggested revisions from the committee (including reverting to the current standards on gifts for trustees and clarifying the language on outside employment). This item will be presented to both Boards for approval.

VIII. CONSULTANT COMMENTS
Larry Jensen, ACRE Committee Consultant
(Verbal Presentation)

There was nothing to report.

IX. ITEMS FOR STAFF REVIEW

There was nothing to report.

X. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

There was nothing to report.

XI. GOOD OF THE ORDER
(For Information Purposes Only)

Trustees thanked staff and extended best wishes to Mr. Bendall for his retirement.

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION
(For ACRE Committee Members Only Pursuant to Salary Ordinance, Section 6.127.040 S 2 and ACRE Committee Charter, Section VII A 1 j to Consider a Recommendation to the Board of Retirement and Board of Investments)

A. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE APPOINTMENT
(Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54957)

Title: Chief Internal Audit, LACERA

There was nothing to report.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 1:12 p.m.