

APPROVED

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF RETIREMENT
LOS ANGELES COUNTY EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION

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

9:00 A.M., WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2, 2023

This meeting was conducted by the Board of Retirement both in person and by teleconference under California Government Code Section 54953 (f).

TRUSTEES PRESENT:

Shawn R. Kehoe, Chair (Left the Meeting at 1:15 p.m.)

Alan Bernstein, Vice Chair (Left the Meeting at 12:57 p.m.)

Vivian H. Gray, Secretary

Jason E. Green

JP Harris (Alternate Retired)

Keith Knox

Antonio Sanchez

Herman Santos

TRUSTEES ABSENT:

Elizabeth Greenwood

Ronald Okum

Les Robbins

STAFF ADVISORS AND PARTICIPANTS

Santos H. Kreimann, Chief Executive Officer

Luis A. Lugo, Deputy Chief Executive Officer

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STAFF ADVISORS AND PARTICIPANTS (Continued)

Jonathan Grabel, Chief Investment Officer

JJ Popowich, Assistant Executive Officer

Laura Guglielmo, Assistant Executive Officer

Steven P. Rice, Chief Counsel

Francis J. Boyd, Senior Staff Counsel

Dr. Glenn Ehresmann, Medical Advisor

Ted Granger, Interim Chief Financial Officer

Barry W. Lew, Legislative Affairs Officer

Michael Herrera, Senior Staff Counsel

Jasmine Bath, Senior Staff Counsel

Fern Billingsy, Senior Staff Counsel

Louis Gittens, Benefits Interim Division Manager

Carly Ntoya, Human Resources Director

Ricki Contreras, Disability Retirement Services Manager

Tamara Caldwell, Disability Retirement Specialist Supervisor

Vickie Neely, Disability Retirement Specialist Supervisor

Kerri Wilson, Disability Retirement Specialist Supervisor

Hernan Barrientos, Disability Retirement Specialist Supervisor

Ricardo Salinas, Disability Retirement Specialist Supervisor

Vincent Lim, Disability Litigation Manager

STAFF ADVISORS AND PARTICIPANTS (Continued)

Kathy Migita, Strategic Program Advisor

Jenni Kregel, Tax Counsel

Segal Consulting
Stephen Murphy
Debbie Donaldson

Milliman
Robert Schmidt
Janet Jennings
Ryan Cook

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Kehoe at 9:14 a.m. in the Board Room of Gateway Plaza.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Harris led the Trustees and staff in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. PROCEDURE FOR TELECONFERENCE MEETING ATTENDANCE UNDER AB 2449, California Government Code Section 54953 (f)

- A. Just Cause
- B. Action on Emergency Circumstance Requests
- C. Statement of Persons Present at AB 2449 Teleconference Locations

No requests were received for (A) Just Cause or (B) Emergency Circumstances.

IV. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 6, 2023

Trustee Gray made a motion, Trustee Harris seconded, to approve

IV. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES (Continued)

the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 6, 2023. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Bernstein, Gray, Green, Knox, Harris, Santos, Sanchez

Absent: Greenwood, Okum, Robbins

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

Attorney Thomas Wicke addressed the Board regarding XVI. A. 1. Administrative Appeal of Vivian Bazley.

V. EXECUTIVE UPDATE

A. LACERA All Stars

Mr. Popowich announced the winners for the month: Michael Huang, Judith Cajulis, Angel Calvo, and Celso Templo. The Web Watcher winner was Benjamin Juarez.

B. Member Spotlight

Mr. Popowich recognized LACERA member, Steve Powell.

C. Service Awards

Koreana Wong was recognized for her 23 years of service with LACERA and retirement at the end of July. LaTonya Jackson was recognized for her 25 years of service. Lastly, Fern Billingsy was recognized for her retirement following 29 years with LACERA.

D. Chief Executive Officer's Report

Mr. Kreimann provided a brief presentation on the Chief Executive Officer's Report and answered questions from the Board.

VI. DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATIONS ON CONSENT CALENDAR

Safety Law Enforcement
Service-Connected Disability Applications

On a motion by Trustee Kehoe, seconded by Trustee Green, the Board of Retirement approved a service-connected disability retirement for the following named employees who were found to be disabled for the performance of their duties and have met the burden of proof.

<u>APPLICATION NO.</u>	<u>NAME</u>
62E*	KRIS C. CARTER
63E*	VINCENT F. GRANT
64E	JABOY J. LEOMITI
65E	TIMOTHY R. ALSKY
66E	ALEX E. PINO
67E	TOMMIE D. BATES
68E	STEVEN R. KAYS
69E*	JOSE I. REVELES
70E	JAIME GUERRA, JR.
71E*	ANTONIO FASCIO, JR.
72E	LEANDRO C. VALLOZZI
73E	DARRYL G. CHEVALIER
74E	SONIA A. CASTRO
75E	EUGENE G. HATCH
76E	JOSIE S. WOOLUM
77E	CHRISTOPHER P. WIRSING
78E	MICHELLE N. SAMBOLICH
79E	RYAN M. BODILY
80E**	JANET L. SANDOR
81E	ERIC L. EHRHORN
82E	JACQUELINE J. REGALADO
83E	GUILLERMO G. VELOZ

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Bernstein, Gray, Kehoe, Knox, Harris, Santos, Sanchez

Absent: Greenwood, Okum, Robbins

*Granted SCD – Employer Cannot Accommodate

**Granted SCD – Retroactive

VI. DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATIONS ON CONSENT CALENDAR

Safety Fire, Lifeguards
Service-Connected Disability Applications

On a motion by Trustee Green, seconded by Trustee Harris, the Board of Retirement approved a service-connected disability retirement for the following named employees who were found to be disabled for the performance of their duties and have met the burden of proof.

<u>APPLICATION NO.</u>	<u>NAME</u>
1642B	JOHN D. LIPP
1643B	DAN S. MONCOURTOIS
1644B	ALMA D. ORTEGA
1645B	JARO SNOPEK
1646B	SHAWN E. GEORGIA
1647B	ROBERT ALDANA, JR.
1648B	MICHAEL S. BROWN
1649B	CHRISTOPHER A. PLANK
1650B	ARTHUR E. MONTGOMERY
1651B	MICHAEL JANNEY
1652B	PATRICK M. DOLAN
1653B	RICHARD E. RODRIGUEZ
1654B*	KAREN A. EDMONSTON

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Bernstein, Gray, Green, Knox, Harris, Santos, Sanchez

Absent: Greenwood, Okum, Robbins

General Members
Service-Connected Disability Applications

On a motion by Trustee Santos, seconded by Trustee Harris, the Board of Retirement made a motion to approve a service-connected disability retirement for the following named employees who were found to be disabled for the performance of their duties and have met the burden of proof.

*Granted SCD - Retroactive

VII. DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATIONS ON CONSENT CALENDAR

General Members

Service-Connected Disability Applications

<u>APPLICATION NO.</u>	<u>NAME</u>
2553C*	LAPEKAS MAYFIELD
2554C**	HILDA CHONG
2555C	RICHARD A. CASANOVA, II
2556C	AZURE D. ALEX
2557C***	WINDELL W. PETTIES, JR.
2558C****	KELLY S. TONG
2559C	JAIME G. MANIPIS
2560C*	GIL MARTIN SAURA
2561C**	HORACE M. WILLEY
2562C*****	ALEJANDRO R. FIERRO (DEC'D)
2563C*	AUDREY BOLDEN
2564C	GRACIELA MORA
2565C	REBECCA E. BAKER-STILES
2566C*	CATHERINE L. MADRID

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Bernstein, Gray, Green, Knox, Harris, Santos, Sanchez

Absent: Greenwood, Okum, Robbins

VIII. CONSENT ITEMS

On a motion by Trustee Santos, Trustee Harris seconded, to approve consent items A-F. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Bernstein, Gray, Green, Knox, Harris, Santos, Sanchez

Absent: Greenwood, Okum, Robbins

- *Granted SCD – Employer Cannot Accommodate
- **Granted SCD – Retroactive
- ***Granted SCD – Salary Supplement
- ****Granted SCD – With 2-year Review
- *****Granted SCD – Survivor Benefit

VIII. CONSENT ITEMS (Continued)

A. **Legislative Proposal – Prepaid Accounts**

Recommendation as submitted by Les Robbins, Chair, Insurance, Benefits, and Legislative Committee: That the Board approve submission of a legislative proposal for inclusion in the SACRS 2024 Legislative Platform that would clarify the use of prepaid accounts for the disbursement of retirement benefits. (Memo dated July 20, 2023)

B. **Prosper Africa U.S. Institutional Investors Delegation Trip & GEBF Thought Leadership Conference – Johannesburg and Cape Town, South Africa on October 1-6, 2023**

Recommendation that the Board approve attendance of Trustees at the Prosper Africa U.S. Institutional Investors Delegation Trip & GEBF Thought Leadership Conference in Johannesburg and Cape Town, South Africa on October 1-6, 2023, and approve reimbursement of all travel costs incurred in accordance with LACERA's Trustee Education and Trustee Travel Policies. (Memo dated July 12, 2023)

C. **Appeals for the Board of Retirement's Meeting of August 2, 2023**

Recommendation as submitted by Ricki M. Contreras, Division Manager, Disability Retirement Services: That the Board of Retirement grant the appeal and request for administrative hearing received from the following applicant and direct the Disability Retirement Services Manager to refer this case to a referee: Clayton G. Larson. (Memo dated July 20, 2023)

D. **Dismiss with Prejudice the Appeal of Rebecca Ramirez**

Recommendation as submitted by Ricki M. Contreras, Division Manager, Disability Retirement Services: That the Board dismiss with prejudice the appeal of Rebecca Ramirez for a service-connected disability retirement. (Memo dated July 19, 2023)

E. **Dismiss with Prejudice the Appeal of Seda K. Tum**

Recommendation as submitted by Ricki M. Contreras, Division Manager, Disability Retirement Services: That the Board dismiss with prejudice the appeal of Seda K. Tum for a service-connected disability retirement. (Memo dated July 19, 2023)

VIII. CONSENT ITEMS (Continued)

F. **Ratification of Service Retirement and Survivor Benefit Application Approvals**

Recommendation that the Board approve the service retirements and survivor benefit applications received as of April 25, 2023, along with any retirement rescissions and/or changes approved at the June 7, 2023 and July 7, 2023 Board meetings. (Memo dated July 25, 2023)

IX. EXCLUDED FROM CONSENT ITEMS

There were no items excluded from Consent items.

X. NON-CONSENT ITEMS

A. **2022 Actuarial Valuation of the Los Angeles County Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Program**

Recommendation as submitted by Santos H. Kreimann, Chief Executive Officer: That the Board approve the July 1, 2022, Los Angeles County OPEB Program Actuarial Valuation Report prepared by LACERA'S consulting actuary, Milliman.

Robert Schmidt, Principal and Consulting Actuary – Milliman
Janet Jennings, Consulting Actuary – Milliman
(Presentation) (Memo dated July 20, 2023)

Messrs. Kreimann, Granger and Mr. Schmidt and Ms. Jennings of Milliman provided a presentation and answered questions from the Board.

On a motion by Trustee Santos, Trustee Bernstein seconded, to approve staff's recommendation. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Bernstein, Gray, Green, Knox, Harris, Santos, Sanchez

Absent: Greenwood, Okum, Robbins

XI. REPORTS

A. **Board of Supervisors' Approval of the Board of Retirement's Request to Revise Article VIII of the Board of Retirement's Regulations**

Frank J. Boyd, Senior Staff Counsel

(For Information Only) (Memo dated July 26, 2023)

This Item was received and filed.

B. **Legal Office Investment Staffing, including Internal and External Legal Resources and Secondment of Outside Counsel**

Steven P. Rice, Chief Counsel

(For Information Only) (Memo dated July 28, 2023)

This Item was received and filed.

C. **Trustee Monthly Travel & Education Report – FYE 22-23**

Ted Granger, Interim Chief Financial Officer

(For Information Only) (Memo dated July 20, 2023)

This Item was received and filed.

D. **Monthly Status Report on Legislation**

Barry W. Lew, Legislative Affairs Officer

(For Information Only) (Memo dated July 21, 2023)

This Item was received and filed.

E. **Application Processing Time Snapshot Reports**

Ricki M. Contreras, Division Manager

(For Information Only) (Memo dated July 24, 2023)

This Item was received and filed.

F. **2023 Quarterly Reports of Paid Invoices**

Ricki M. Contreras, Division Manager

(For Information Only) (Memo dated July 14, 2023)

(Attachment to Memo is Confidential)

This Item was received and filed.

XI. REPORTS (Continued)

G. **July 2023 Fiduciary Counsel Contract and Billing Report**

Steven P. Rice, Chief Counsel

(For Information Only) (Memo dated July 24, 2023)

(Privileged and Confidential/Attorney-Client Communication/Attorney Work Product)

This Item was received and filed.

XII. ITEMS FOR STAFF REVIEW

Trustee Kehoe requested that staff consider a line item in future budgets for prefunding LACERA's OPEB.

XIII. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

There was nothing to report.

XIV. GOOD OF THE ORDER

(For Information Purposes Only)

The Board and staff recognized and wished Fern Billings well on her retirement.

XV. DISABILITY RETIREMENT CASES TO BE HELD IN CLOSED SESSION

A. Applications for Disability

APPLICATION NO. & NAME AND BOARD ACTION

5325B – IMELDA BOTTOMLEY*

On a motion by Trustee Kehoe, Trustee Green seconded, to return to staff for additional information. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Bernstein, Gray, Kehoe, Knox, Harris, Santos, Sanchez

Absent: Greenwood, Okum, Robbins

*Applicant/Applicant Attorney Present

XV. DISABILITY RETIREMENT CASES TO BE HELD IN CLOSED SESSION

A. Applications for Disability

APPLICATION NO. & NAME AND BOARD ACTION

5326B – DEBORAH L. MORGAN

Pulled by staff for further development.

5327B – BRITTANY MORRIS*

On a motion by Trustee Kehoe, Trustee Green seconded, to deny a service-connected disability retirement and find the applicant not permanently incapacitated. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Bernstein, Gray, Green, Knox, Harris, Santos, Sanchez

Absent: Greenwood, Okum, Robbins

5328B - ROSARIO M. RAMIREZ

On a motion by Trustee Kehoe, Trustee Green seconded, to return to staff for additional information. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Bernstein, Gray, Green, Knox, Harris, Santos, Sanchez

Absent: Greenwood, Okum, Robbins

5329B – RONEY H. COBBS*

On a motion by Trustee Kehoe, Trustee Harris seconded, to deny a service-connected disability retirement without prejudice. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Bernstein, Gray, Kehoe, Knox, Harris, Santos, Sanchez

Absent: Greenwood, Okum, Robbins

*Applicant/Applicant Attorney Present

XV. DISABILITY RETIREMENT CASES TO BE HELD IN CLOSED SESSION

A. Applications for Disability (Continued)

APPLICATION NO. & NAME AND BOARD ACTION

5330B – SUSANA VELAZQUEZ

On a motion by Trustee Knox, Trustee Green seconded, to deny a service-connected disability retirement since the employer can accommodate. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Bernstein, Gray, Green, Knox, Harris, Santos, Sanchez

Absent: Greenwood, Okum, Robbins

5305B – SURENA M. WHITE*

On a motion by Trustee Santos, Trustee Knox seconded, to grant a nonservice-connected disability retirement pursuant to Government Code Section 31720 since the employer cannot accommodate. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Bernstein, Gray, Green, Knox, Harris, Santos, Sanchez

Absent: Greenwood, Okum, Robbins

55E – CORY M. SILVERMAN*

On a motion by Trustee Kehoe, Trustee Harris seconded, to grant a service-connected disability retirement pursuant to Government Code Section 31720 since the employer cannot accommodate. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Bernstein, Gray, Kehoe, Knox, Harris, Santos, Sanchez

Absent: Greenwood, Okum, Robbins

*Applicant/Applicant Attorney Present

XV. DISABILITY RETIREMENT CASES TO BE HELD IN CLOSED SESSION

B. Staff Recommendations (Continued)

1. Proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law

Recommendation as submitted by Ricki M. Contreras, Division Manager, Disability Retirement Services: That the Board adopt the Proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law granting Kevin Tobia a service-connected disability retirement pursuant to Government Code sections 31720 and 31720.5.

(Memo dated July 19, 2023)

On a motion by Trustee Bernstein, Trustee Gray seconded, to approve staff's recommendation. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Bernstein, Gray, Kehoe, Knox, Harris, Santos, Sanchez

Absent: Greenwood, Okum, Robbins

2. Application of Tyrell L. Richmond (Deceased)

Recommendation as submitted by Ricki M. Contreras, Division Manager, Disability Retirement Services: That the Board instruct staff to close Tyrell L. Richmond's (Deceased) application for disability retirement. (Memo dated July 19, 2023)

On a motion by Trustee Bernstein, Trustee Harris seconded, to approve staff's recommendation. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Bernstein, Gray, Kehoe, Knox, Harris, Santos, Sanchez

Absent: Greenwood, Okum, Robbins

XVI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation
Significant Exposure to Litigation (Pursuant to Paragraph (2) of
Subdivision (d) of California Government Code Section 54956.9)

1. Administrative Appeal of Vivian Bazley
Michael D. Herrera, Senior Staff Counsel
(Memo dated July 24, 2023)

On a motion by Mr. Knox, seconded by Mr. Bernstein, the Board voted 6-1 to deny the administrative appeal of Vivian Bazley to increase her survivor benefit.

Yes: Bernstein, Gray, Kehoe, Knox, Santos, Sanchez

No: Harris

Absent: Greenwood, Okum, Robbins

In open session, before this item was called, Chief Counsel stated that this item relates to the employment claim of Corneliu Gavriluc.

2. Number of Matters: 1
Steven P. Rice, Chief Counsel
(Memo dated July 27, 2023)

There is nothing to report.

B. Conference with Labor Negotiators
(Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6)

(Mr. Bernstein left the meeting at 12:57 a.m. and Mr. Kehoe left the meeting at 1:15 p.m.)

Agency designated representatives: Santos H. Kreimann, Chief Executive Officer and Luis A. Lugo, Deputy Chief Executive Officer

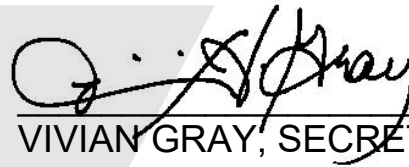
Employee organizations: Services Employees International Union (SEIU) and Coalition of County Unions (CCU)

XVI. EXECUTIVE SESSION (Continued)

There is nothing to report.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 1:42 p.m.



VIVIAN GRAY, SECRETARY



SHAWN R. KEHOE, CHAIR

