

ALAMEDA COUNTY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION BOARD OF RETIREMENT MINUTES

THIS MEETING WAS CONDUCTED VIA TELECONFERENCE WITH VIDEO

Thursday, March 17, 2022

Chair Jaime Godfrey called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Trustees Present:	Dale Amaral (<i>Arrived After Roll Call</i>) Ophelia Basgal Keith Carson Tarrell Gamble Jaime Godfrey Liz Koppenhaver Henry Levy Kellie Simon Nancy Reilly (<i>Alternate</i>) Darryl Walker (<i>Alternate</i>) (<i>Arrived After Roll Call</i>)
Trustees Excused:	George Wood
Staff Present:	Victoria Arruda, Human Resource Officer Angela Bradford, Executive Secretary Sandra Dueñas-Cuevas, Benefits Manager Kathy Foster, Assistant Chief Executive Officer Erica Haywood, Fiscal Services Officer Jessica Huffman, Benefits Manager Harsh Jadhav, Chief of Internal Audit Vijay Jagar, Retirement Chief Technology Officer, ACERA David Nelsen, Chief Executive Officer Jeff Rieger, Chief Counsel Betty Tse, Chief Investment Officer

PUBLIC INPUT

Ms. Alyssa Giachino of the Private Equity Stakeholder Project read a prepared statement from Ms. Chloe Jackson of Renters United. The statement voiced concerns about Ares' minority investment in Front Yard Residential. The statement further requested that ACERA reconsider its \$70 million investment in the Ares Senior Direct Lending Fund II until Ares addresses the living conditions of the thousands of single family homes in Front Yard's portfolio in which Ares is a minority investor.

The Board Chair (Trustee Godfrey) thanked Ms. Giachino for her public comments and remarked that the Board will follow up on this item. Trustee Basgal asked that Staff review the correspondence and inform the Trustees about the statements made regarding the conditions of the Front Yard homes in the Minnesota market. Staff responded that Staff and Verus have been in contact with Ares as recently as the day before the Board Meeting. Staff communicated that the Minnesota AG lawsuit against Front Yard does not involve Ares or the Ares Fund in which ACERA invests. Mr. Dave Nelsen, ACERA CEO, then communicated that this topic can be put on the agenda of the next Board or IC Meeting. The Board (Trustee Godfrey) and IC (Trustee Gamble) Chairs discussed which governing body (i.e. Investment Committee or Board) would address this issue. The ACERA CEO communicated that a written copy of the statement from Ms. Chloe Jackson could be provided to the Board. The IC Chair commented that following a review of the written statement it was possible the topic could be put on the next ICM agenda. The Board Chair concluded the discussion by communicating the issue will be looked into and how it will be handled will be determined.

CONSENT CALENDAR

REPORTS AND ACTION ITEMS

REPORT of APPLICATIONS FOR SERVICE RETIREMENT *Appendix A*

APPROVAL of APPLICATIONS FOR RETIREMENT, DEFERRED Appendix B

Appendix B Appendix B-1

<u>APPROVAL of APPLICATIONS FOR DEFERRED TRANSFER</u> *None*

LIST OF DECEASED MEMBERS Appendix D

Appendix D

APPROVAL of REQUEST FOR 130 BI-WEEKLY PAYMENTS TO RE-DEPOSIT CONTRIBUTIONS AND GAIN CREDIT

None

<u>APPROVAL of STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS (UNCONTESTED) FOR</u> <u>DISABILITY RETIREMENTS</u>

Appendix F

APPROVAL of HEARING OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DISABILITY RETIREMENTS

None

APPROVAL of BOARD and COMMITTEE MINUTES

February 17, 2022 Audit Committee Minutes February 17, 2022 Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting (as revised after initial posting) March 9, 2022 Investment Committee Minutes

MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

• Proposed Findings Regarding State of Emergency Pursuant to Gov't Code § 54953(e)(3):

Staff Recommendation: The Board finds that it has reconsidered the circumstances of the state of emergency and (1) the state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person, and (2) state or local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing.

- Operating Expenses as of January 31, 2022
- Approve Staff Recommendation regarding the County of Alameda's New Pay Item/Code Institutional Supervisor II Extra Shift Stipend 238
- Approve Staff Recommendations regarding First 5 Alameda County's New Pay Items/Codes:
 - 2022 CA COVID Other Reasons C7E
 - 2022 CA COVID Positive Test C8E

<u>22-15</u>

It was moved by Ophelia Basgal and seconded by Liz Koppenhaver that the Board adopt the Consent Calendar, as revised after initial posting. The motion carried 8 yes (*Basgal, Carson, Gamble, Godfrey, Koppenhaver, Levy, Reilly, Simon*), 0 no, and 0 abstentions.

REGULAR CALENDAR REPORTS AND ACTION ITEMS

The Chair decided, without objection, to report on the Committee Reports, Item 6A, before the Disability and Death Benefit Claims, Items 5A and 5B.

DISABILITY AND DEATH BENEFIT CLAIMS

Service Connected Disability Retirement Application of Pius Bachan, Deputy Sheriff II for the County of Alameda: Consideration of Hearing Officer's Proposed Findings of Fact and Recommended Decision, pursuant to Gov't Code § 31534.

This Item was addressed in Closed Session, pursuant to Gov't Code § 54957(b).

The Board reconvened into Open Session and ACERA Outside Counsel Ashley Dunning reported that the Board passed the following motion:

<u>22-16</u>

It was moved by Kellie Simon and seconded by Ophelia Basgal that the Board refer the matter back to the Hearing Officer for further proceedings and for briefing by the parties on the applicability of *City of Long Beach v. Workers Compensation* Appeals Board, 126 Cal.App.4th 298 (2005), to the recommended findings and to make a determination by the Hearing Officer as to whether the *City of Long Beach* case changes the recommended decision for the Board. The motion carried 7 yes (*Amaral, Basgal, Godfrey, Koppenhaver, Levy, Simon, Walker*), 0 no, and 0 abstentions. Discussion and Possible Motion on Whether Gov't Code § 7523 et seq. (COVID-19 Service-Connection Presumption) Applies to Claims for Service-Connected Surviving Spouse Continuances:

Deceased Member: Oscar Rocha Surviving Spouse: Carol Maureen Ennor Non-Service-Connected Surviving Spouse Allowance Effective: July 24, 2020

Staff Recommendation: The Board determine that Gov't Code § 7523 et seq. <u>applies</u> to claims for service-connected surviving spouse continuances if the requirements of Gov't Code § 7523 et seq. are otherwise established.

Trustee Koppenhaver disclosed that she ran into Ms. Ennor at a Starbucks, but did not discuss this matter with her. Trustee Amaral recused himself from all discussion and voting because he assisted Ms. Ennor with her application for certain federal benefits based on Mr. Rocha's death. Mr. Rieger explained that Ms. Ennor and the Office of County Counsel are seeking clarification about whether Gov't Code § 7523 et seq. ("COVID-19 Presumption") applies to claims for service-connected death benefits. Applicant's attorney Raymond Frost, Office of County Counsel attorney Scott Feudale and ACERA's outside counsel Ashley Dunning presented their analysis on this issue in the public back up materials and orally during the meeting. It was noted that there may be more death benefit claims where the COVID-19 Presumption could apply depending upon the Board's decision. After discussion the Board made the following motion:

<u>22-17</u>

It was moved by Liz Koppenhaver and seconded by Kellie Simon that the Board determine that Gov't Code § 7523 et seq. <u>applies</u> to claims for service-connected surviving spouse continuances if the requirements of Gov't Code § 7523 et seq. are otherwise established. The motion carried 5 yes (*Basgal, Godfrey, Koppenhaver, Simon, Walker*), 0 no, and 1 abstention (*Amaral recused himself*).

COMMITTEE REPORTS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND MOTIONS

This month's Committee reports were presented in the following order:

Investment:

Tarrell Gamble gave an oral report stating that the Investment Committee met on March 9, 2022 stating that the Committee discussed an Information Item regarding the Ukraine Russia War and its Impacts on the World's Economy and Investments.

Trustee Gamble reported that the Committee discussed an up to \$43 million investment in Altas Partners Holdings III as part of ACERA's Private Equity Portfolio – Buyout.

<u>22-18</u>

It was moved by Tarrell Gamble and seconded by Ophelia Basgal that the Board approve an up to \$43 million investment in Altas Partners Holdings III as part of ACERA's Private Equity Portfolio – Buyout, pending completion of Legal and Investment due diligence and successful contract negotiations. The motion carried 8 yes (*Basgal, Carson, Gamble, Godfrey, Koppenhaver, Levy, Simon, Walker*), 0 no, and 0 abstentions.

Trustee Gamble announced that the up to \$35 million additional investment amount for Clarion Partners Lion Industrial Trust ("LIT"), as part of ACERA's Real Estate Portfolio – Core Plus listed on the March 17, 2022 Board agenda was a typographical error. Trustee Gamble reported that the Committee discussed an up to \$50 million additional investment amount in Clarion Partners Lion Industrial Trust ("LIT"), as part of ACERA's Real Estate Portfolio – Core Plus.

<u>22-19</u>

It was moved by Tarrell Gamble and seconded by Kellie Simon that the Board approve an additional investment of up to \$50 million investment in Clarion Partners Lion Industrial Trust ("LIT"), as part of ACERA's Real Estate Portfolio – Core Plus, pending completion of Legal and Investment due diligence and successful contract negotiations. The motion carried 8 yes (*Basgal, Carson, Gamble, Godfrey, Koppenhaver, Levy, Simon, Walker*), 0 no, and 0 abstentions.

Minutes of the meeting were approved as part of the Consent Calendar.

<u>NEW BUSINESS</u>:

State Association of County Retirement Systems (SACRS) Proxy Vote on SACRS Business Items

Mr. Nelsen presented his March 17, 2022, memo requesting to vote ACERA's Proxy on behalf of the Board of Retirement at the upcoming SACRS Spring Conference Business Meeting. Mr. Nelsen recommended Assistant Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Kathy Foster as his designated alternate voting delegate in the event he is unable to vote. The SACRS voting items will be distributed sometime next month.

<u>22-20</u>

It was moved by Ophelia Basgal and seconded by Liz Koppenhaver that the Board grant Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Dave Nelsen authority to vote ACERA's proxy on behalf of the Board of Retirement at the upcoming SACRS Spring Conference Business Meeting. The Board also approved Assistant CEO Kathy Foster as the designated alternate voting delegate in the event Mr. Nelsen is unable to vote. The motion carried 6 yes (*Amaral, Basgal, Godfrey, Koppenhaver, Simon, Walker*), 0 no, and 0 abstentions.

David Nelsen, Chief Executive Officer's Report

Chief Executive Officer Dave Nelsen presented his March 17, 2022 written CEO Report which provided an update on: 1) Senior Management Recruitment; 2) Committee and Board Action Items; 3) Other Items: a) COVID-19 Responses; b) Pension Administration System Update; c) Russian Divestment; d) Staff Transitions; e) CALAPRS Conference; and 4) Key Performance Indicators.

Mr. Nelsen announced that ACERA will begin opening up to the public for counseling on Tuesdays and Thursdays, by appointment only. Mr. Nelsen reported that ACERA Staff and the County Labor Unions will begin the "meet and confer" process to discuss a re-opening plan for the organization as we come out of the COVID Pandemic. Mr. Nelsen will keep the Board apprised of the status regarding the organization's re-opening plan.

Trustee Koppenhaver inquired whether or not employees will have an opportunity to continue to work remotely post-COVID. Mr. Nelsen explained, depending on the work that employees do, there will be three Tiers that will be phased in: Tier 1 employees, who deal with our members, could work remotely some of the time; Tier 2 employees could work remotely most of the time; and Tier 3 employees could work remotely the majority of the time. All employees will be required to come into the Office when necessary. Mr. Nelsen will keep the Board apprised of the status.

CONFERENCE/ORAL REPORTS

None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

BOARD INPUT

Trustee Walker expressed his appreciation to Chief of Internal Audit Harsh Jadhav and Retirement Chief Technology Officer Vijay Jagar for the great job they did regarding their presentations on Cybersecurity, Audits, etc.at the CALAPRS General Assembly.

CLOSED SESSION

See Motion No. 22-16 above.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:02 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

J Melse

04/21/22

David Nelsen Chief Executive Officer Date Adopted

AKINJO, Paul Effective: 01/08/2022 Information Technology

CALLAGHAN-SANDER, Rilia Effective: 01/08/2022 Dept of Child Support Services

CARR Dorene Effective: 01/01/2022 Community Development Agency

COLLETT, Mary Effective: 01/01/2022 Health Care Services Agency

COREY, Irene Effective: 01/08/2022 Social Services Agency

DE JESUS, Judith Effective: 12/28/2021 Superior Court

DELAY, Lori Effective: 01/08/2022 Health Care Services Agency

ELLIOTT, Denise Effective: 12/24/2021 Health Care Services Agency

FUKUDA, John Effective: 01/08/2022 Sheriff's Department

GABRIEL, Kevin Effective: 12/02/2001 General Services Agency

JAKOVAC, Joseph Effective: 12/11/2021 Social Services Agency

KENT, Allison Effective: 01/01/2022 Alameda Health System LAU-HUNG, Jenny Effective: 01/08/2022 Health Care Services Agency

LINN, George Effective: 12/18/2021 Alameda Health System

MAYHEW, Russell Effective: 12/01/2021 Information Technology

MEYER, Lisa Effective: 12/18/2021 Dept. of Child Support Svcs

NGUYEN, Thanh Effective: 01/02/2022 Alameda Health System

NUNEZ, Irene Effective: 11/30/2021 Public Defender

OUBRE, Sandra Effective: 12/11/2021 Social Services Agency

OWENS, Anthony Effective: 12/29/2021 Sheriff's Department

PADUVERIS, Bart Effective: 12/22/2021 Sheriff's Department

SHAW, Michael Effective: 01/08/2022 Health Care Services Agency

TAKADA, Yoshiteru Effective: 12/24/2021 Alameda Health System

THIEU, Catherine Effective: 01/08/2022 Social Services Agency

APPENDIX A APPLICATION FOR SERVICE RETIREMENT

VILLALOBOS, Lynne Effective: 01/08/2022 Superior Court

WALLACE, Michael Effective: 12/31/2021 Zone 7 WASHINGTON, Sylvia Effective: 12/12/2021 Alameda Health System

YOO, Sojin Effective: 12/31/2021 Public Defender

APPENDIX B APPLICATION FOR DEFERRED RETIREMENT

DESTA, Melkamkal T. Health Care Services Agency Effective Date: 12/30/2021

KOBER, Brendan M. Heatlh Care Services Agency Effective: 12/31/2021

LAI, Sophia Heatlh Care Services Agency Effective: 01/21/2022 LIU, Chung H. Alameda Health System Effective: 12/16/2021

ROBERTS, Joshua G. General Services Agency Effective: 01/11/2022

SELBY, Jaime L. District Attorney Effective: 01/21/2022

APPENDIX B-1 APPLICATION FOR NON-VESTED RETIREMENT

AHMED, Beenish Information Technology Effective Date: 01/21/2022

ALLEN, Soraya F. Alameda Health System Effective: 01/06/2022

BARNES, Kameka L. Health Care Services Agency Effective: 12/31/2021

BELL, Rosann L. Alameda Health System Effective: 12/31/2021

BEN MOSHE, Karen P. County Administrator Effective: 01/21/2022 DAVIS, Delbert E. Alameda Health System Effective: 01/18/2022

FISHER, Nicole Superior Court Effective: 01/26/2022

GARCIA, Jose R. Health Care Services Agency Effective: 12/23/2021

GREEN, Breonna L. Alameda Health System Effective: 01/17/2022

GRIFFIN, Bobbie J. Community Development Agency Effective: 12/17/2021

APPENDIX B-1 APPLICATION FOR NON-VESTED DEFERRED

GUERRERO, Jocelyn L. District Attorney Effective: 12/13/2021

HALL, Christa A. District Attorney Effective: 12/31/2021

JOJEN, Nija Information Technology Effective: 01/11/2022

LIANG, Janet County Administrator Effective: 01/21/2022 PIERCE, Janelle A. Social Services Agency Effective: 01/07/2022

SOTELO, Jessica M. District Attorney Effective: 01/21/2022

STEVENSON, Tiffany M. Community Development Agency Effective: 02/04/2022

YEE, Myrna M. County Counsel Effective: 01/11/2022

APPENDIX D LIST OF DECEASED MEMBERS

AHLBORN, Zella Non-Mbr Survivor of Richard Ahlborn 02/10/2022

ANDERSEN, Robert Public Health 01/27/2022

ARMSTRONG, Donald Social Services Agency 11/27/2021

BISCO, Mila Social Services Agency 01/17/2022

DEXTER, Judy Non-Mbr Survivor of Norman Dexter 02/11/2022

EACKER, Don Assessor 01/23/2022

FREITAS, Doris Public Defender 01/27/2022 GAN, Ursula Superior Court 02/03/2022

HARGRAY, Lawrence Social Services Agency 12/31/2021

HOLDEN, William District Attorney 01/21/2022

JOHANSON, Diane Non-Mbr Survivor of Thomas Johanson 01/24/2022

LUONG, Kiem Social Services Agency 02/06/2022

MEANY, David Health Care Services 10/28/2021

MIDKIFF, Leonard Alameda Health System 01/15/2022

APPENDIX D LIST OF DECEASED MEMBERS

MOSHER, Garald Social Services Agency 01/09/2022

NAPARST, Marilyn Non-Mbr Survivor of Stanley Naparst 01/23/2022

PESHON, Harry Public Works Dept 01/16/2022

QUEVEDO, Peter Hayward-San Leandro Municipal Courts 01/14/2022 SCHOENEMANN, Janet Alameda County Superior Court 01/21/2022

SUPAN, Donald Public Defender 02/05/2022

THOMPSON, Elizabeth Alameda Health System 01/20/2022

WINROW, Derek Alameda Health System 02/02/2022 .

WOODS, Pascuala GSA Department 02/01/2022

APPENDIX F APPLICATION FOR DISABILITY RETIREMENT

Name:Abbott, JamesType of Claim:Service-Connected

Staff's Recommendation:

Adopt the findings and conclusions and approve and adopt the recommendation contained in the Medical Advisor's report, including but not limited to, granting Mr. Abbott's application for a service-connected disability, and waiving future annual medical examinations and questionnaires at this time.

APPENDIX F APPLICATION FOR DISABILITY RETIREMENT

Name:	Curl, Chantell
Type of Claim:	Service-Connected

Staff's Recommendation:

Adopt the findings and conclusions and approve and adopt the recommendation contained in the Medical Advisor's report, including but not limited to, granting Ms. Curl's application for a service-connected disability, and waiving future annual medical examinations and questionnaires at this time.

Based on the Medical Advisor's and Staff's review and determination of Ms. Curl's ability to determine the permanency of her incapacity, to deny Ms. Curl's request for an earlier effective date.

Name:	Darbison, Daniel
Type of Claim:	Service-Connected

Staff's Recommendation:

Adopt the findings and conclusions and approve and adopt the recommendation contained in the Medical Advisor's report, including but not limited to, granting Mr. Darbison's application for a service-connected disability, and waiving future annual medical examinations and questionnaires at this time.

Name:Kennedy, PatrickType of Claim:Service-Connected

Staff's Recommendation:

Adopt the findings and conclusions and approve and adopt the recommendation contained in the Medical Advisor's report, including but not limited to, granting Mr. Kennedy's application for a service-connected disability, and waiving future annual medical examinations and questionnaires.

APPENDIX F APPLICATION FOR DISABILITY RETIREMENT

Name:	Puebla, Ricardo
Type of Claim:	Service-Connected

Staff's Recommendation:

Adopt the findings and conclusions and approve and adopt the recommendation contained in the Medical Advisor's report, including but not limited to, granting Mr. Puebla's application for a service-connected disability, and waiving future annual medical examinations and questionnaires.

Based on the Medical Advisor's and Staff's review and determination of Mr. Puebla's ability to determine the permanency of his incapacity, to deny Mr. Puebla's request for an earlier effective date.