



**ALAMEDA COUNTY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF RETIREMENT
MINUTES**

Thursday, July 17, 2025

Chair Kellie Simon called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m.

Trustees Present: Ophelia Basgal (*Arrived After Roll Call*)
 Keith Carson (*Arrived After Roll Call*)
 Ross Clippinger
 Tarrell Gamble
 Kellie Simon
 Steven Wilkinson (*via Zoom*)
 George Wood
 Cynthia Baron (*Alternate*)
 Kevin Bryant (*Alternate*)

Trustees Excused: Henry Levy
 Elizabeth Rogers

Staff Present: Victoria Arruda, Human Resource Officer (*via Zoom*)
 Carlos Barrios, Assistant Chief Executive Officer-Benefits
 Angela Bradford, Executive Secretary
 Sandra Dueñas-Cuevas, Benefits Manager
 Harsh Jadhav, Chief of Internal Audit
 Vijay Jagar, Retirement Chief Technology Officer, ACERA
 Lisa Johnson, Assistant Chief Executive Officer-Operations
 David Nelsen, Chief Executive Officer
 Susan Weiss, Investment Counsel, for Jeff Rieger

Staff Excused: Erica Haywood, Fiscal Services Officer
 Jessica Huffman, Benefits Manager
 Jeff Rieger, Chief Counsel
 Betty Tse, Chief Investment Officer

PUBLIC INPUT

None.

CONSENT CALENDAR
REPORTS AND ACTION ITEMS

REPORT ON SERVICE RETIREMENTS

Appendix A

LIST OF DEFERRED RETIREMENTS

Appendix B

LIST OF DECEASED MEMBERS

Appendix C

**APPROVE REQUEST(S) FOR UP TO 130 BI-WEEKLY PAYMENTS TO
RE-DEPOSIT CONTRIBUTIONS AND GAIN CREDIT**

Appendix D

**APPROVE UNCONTESTED STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS ON
DISABILITY RETIREMENTS AND DEATH BENEFITS**

Corrected Appendix E

**APPROVE UNCONTESTED HEARING OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
DISABILITY RETIREMENTS AND DEATH BENEFITS**

None

APPROVE MINUTES of BOARD and COMMITTEE MEETINGS

June 18, 2025 Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting

June 18, 2025 Actuarial Committee Minutes

June 18, 2025 Audit Committee Minutes

June 18, 2025 Operations Committee Minutes

July 2, 2025 Retirees Committee Minutes

July 2, 2025 Investment Committee Minutes

MISCELLANEOUS

Operating Expenses as of 05/31/25

*Approve Staff Recommendation regarding the County of Alameda's New Pay Code Item:
Chief Deputy County Administrator Officer – 43G*

*Approve Staff Recommendation regarding the County of Alameda's New Pay Code Item:
On Call FLSA Except – 840*

*Approve Staff Recommendation regarding the County of Alameda's New Pay Code Item:
Call Suprv Criminalist – 844*

*Approve Staff Recommendation regarding Zone 7's New Pay Code Item: 5YZ Longevity 5
Year Zone – 10Z*

*Approve Staff Recommendation regarding Zone 7's New Pay Code Item: 10Z Longevity 10
Year – 5YZ*

25-51

It was moved by George Wood and seconded by Ross Clippinger that the Board adopt the Consent Calendar. The motion carried 7 yes (*Baron, Carson, Clippinger, Gamble, Simon, Wilkinson, Wood*), 0 no, and 0 abstentions. *Trustee Basgal was not present for the motion.*

**REGULAR CALENDAR
REPORTS AND ACTION ITEMS**

DISABILITY, DEATH AND OTHER BENEFIT CLAIMS

None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND MOTIONS

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

Retirees:

Cynthia Baron reported that the Retirees Committee met on July 2, 2025 and that the Committee reviewed and discussed increasing the 2026 Monthly Medical Allowance (MMA) for the following Retiree Medical Plans: **1)** Group; **2)** Individual (Early Retiree/Non-Medicare); and **3)** Individual (Medicare Eligible Retiree).

25-52

It was moved by Cynthia Baron and seconded by George Wood that the Board increase the 2026 Group Plan Monthly Medical Allowance (MMA) by 3.75% for eligible retirees in the group plans, in accordance with the substantive plan definition adopted under GASB 43 equal to 50% of the rate of health care inflation assumptions provided by ACERA's actuary, which results in a MMA maximum of \$687.21 for the Plan Year 2026. The MMA contribution is a non-vested benefit subject to possible reduction or elimination if Board policies change or funds are unavailable. This benefit is funded by contributions from ACERA employers to the 401(h) account. After contributions are made, in accordance with the County Employees Retirement Law, ACERA treats an equal amount of Supplemental Retiree Benefit Reserve assets as employer contributions for pensions. The motion carried 7 yes (*Baron, Carson, Clippinger, Gamble, Simon, Wilkinson, Wood*), 0 no, and 0 abstentions. *Trustee Basgal was not present for the motion.*

25-53

It was moved by Cynthia Baron and seconded by Keith Carson that the Board increase the 2026 Individual Plan Monthly Medical Allowance (MMA) by 3.75% for eligible qualified early (non-Medicare) retirees enrolled in individual plans through the Health Exchange, in accordance with the substantive plan definition adopted under GASB 43 equal to 50% of the rate of health care inflation assumptions provided by ACERA's actuary, which results in a MMA maximum of \$687.21 for Plan Year 2026. The MMA contribution is a non-vested benefit subject to possible reduction or elimination if Board policies change or funds are unavailable. This benefit is funded by contributions from ACERA employers to the 401(h) account. After contributions are made, in accordance with the County Employees Retirement Law, ACERA treats an equal amount of Supplemental Retiree Benefit Reserve assets as employer contributions for pensions. The motion carried 8 yes (*Baron, Basgal, Carson, Clippinger, Gamble, Simon, Wilkinson, Wood*), 0 no, and 0 abstentions.

25-54

It was moved by Cynthia Baron and seconded by Keith Carson that the Board increase the 2026 Individual Plan Monthly Medical Allowance (MMA) by 3.75% for qualified Medicare eligible retirees enrolled in individual plans through the Medicare Exchange, in accordance with the substantive plan definition adopted under GASB 43 equal to 50% of the rate of health care inflation assumptions provided by ACERA's actuary, which results in a MMA maximum of \$526.46 for Plan Year 2026. The MMA contribution is a non-vested benefit subject to possible reduction or elimination if Board policies change or funds are unavailable. This benefit is funded by contributions from ACERA employers to the 401(h) account. After contributions are made, in accordance with the County Employees Retirement Law, ACERA treats an equal amount of Supplemental Retiree Benefit Reserve assets as employer contributions for pensions. The motion carried 8 yes (*Baron, Basgal, Carson, Clippinger, Gamble, Simon, Wilkinson, Wood*), 0 no, and 0 abstentions.

The Committee was presented with an Information Item regarding Dental and Vision Plans Experience and Utilization.

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

Investment:

George Wood reported that the Investment Committee met on July 2, 2025 and that there was one (1) Action Item. However, the item was not discussed and was postponed until the August Investment Committee meeting.

The Committee was presented with and reviewed the following Information Items: *1) ACERA's Real Estate Policy; 2) Current Public Equity Structure and Possible Restructure of the Same – Part 3; 3) Update on the County's \$400 Million Prefunding; and 4) Absolute Return Policy.*

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

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion and Possible Motion to Adopt the County of Alameda's Revised Contribution Rate

Mr. Nelsen presented his July 17, 2025 memo and reported that the Board has already adopted the Participating Employers Contribution Rates, based on the Actuarial Valuation. However, because the Alameda County Board of Supervisors approved the County's additional \$400 million employer contribution for General members (and related Memorandum of Understanding) before the June 30, 2025 deadline, Staff is now requesting that the Board adopt the County's revised contribution rates for General members. ACERA Actuary Andy Yeung gave a high-level explanation of the new contribution rates and recommended that the Board adopt the County's revised employer contribution rates for General members, as provided in the backup agenda packet materials. Messrs. Yeung and Nelsen responded to Trustee questions.

25-55

It was moved by Tarrell Gamble and seconded by Ophelia Basgal that due to Alameda County's additional \$400 million contribution (and related Memorandum of Understanding), the Board adopt Alameda County's revised Employer Contribution rates for General members, as provided in the backup agenda packet materials. The motion carried 8 yes (*Baron, Basgal, Carson, Clippinger, Gamble, Simon, Wilkinson, Wood*), 0 no, and 0 abstentions.

Mr. Nelsen presented his July 17, 2025 written CEO Report which provided an update on: **1)** Committee and Board Action Items; **2)** Other Items: **a)** Business Planning; **b)** Legislative Update; **c)** Standby Pay Issue; **d)** Budget; and **3)** Key Performance Indicators.

Mr. Nelsen reported that he will be on vacation for the next two (2) weeks. During his absence, Assistant CEO of Benefits Carlos Barrios will be in charge during the first week, and Assistant CEO of Operations Lisa Johnson will be in charge during the second week. Mr. Nelsen stated that he would also check his email messages periodically.

Trustee Ophelia Basgal stated that she would like Staff to have a full discussion on the future of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and any implications that could affect ACERA. Mr. Nelsen stated that he will forward hyperlinks of the NASRA news articles regarding AI to the Trustees and reported that Staff will present additional information on AI to the Board later this year.

CONFERENCE/ORAL REPORTS

None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Trustee Tarrell Gamble commended Board Chair Kellie Simon for leading today's Board meeting in such an efficient manner.

BOARD INPUT

Trustee Ophelia Basgal stated that she would like to see reporting that tracks follow-up discussion items, especially those items related to retiree issues. Mr. Nelsen stated he will include that information in his CEO Report going forward.

To view the July 17, 2025 Board meeting YouTube video in its entirety, go to ACERA's Website at: <https://youtu.be/eUdPZDEtm7k>.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:24 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



David Nelsen
Chief Executive Officer

08/21/25

Date Adopted

APPENDIX A
REPORT ON SERVICE RETIREMENTS

BARTON, Crystal
Effective: 5/5/2025
Probation

KIEFER, Andrea
Effective: 4/26/2025
Alameda County Health

FIGUEROA, Mona
Effective: 5/10/2025
Alameda Health System

LANE-DENNY, Myiesha
Effective: 3/29/2025
Probation

GONZALEZ, Thao
Effective: 3/13/2025
Alameda Health System

MACINTIRE, Illene
Effective: 4/21/2025
Public Works Agency

GRABER, Ronald
Effective: 3/29/2025
Sheriff's Office

MAHARAJ, Umesh
Effective: 4/26/2025
Social Services Agency

GUTIERREZ, Marylou
Effective: 5/3/2025
Superior Court

MORRIS, James
Effective: 4/12/2025
District Attorney

GUZMAN, Lilian
Effective: 5/1/2025
Alameda Health System

NUNO, Courtney
Effective: 5/29/2025
Non-Member

HAVERSTOCK, Jeffrey
Effective: 4/11/2025
Superior Court

PATTERSON, Aisha
Effective: 5/3/2025
Probation

JAMES, Anthony
Effective: 5/10/2025
General Services Agency

REESE, Anaa
Effective: 5/10/2025
Alameda County Health

KAN, Celina
Effective: 5/10/2025
Information Technology Department

SAGAR, Pradeep
Effective: 4/29/2025
Alameda Health System

KESSLER, Michael
Effective: 4/26/2025
Alameda County Health

SARGET, Susan
Effective: 5/9/2025
Public Defender

APPENDIX A
REPORT ON SERVICE RETIREMENTS

SECOQUIAN, Yuri
Effective: 3/21/2025
Probation

USTASZEWSKA, Jolanta
Effective: 3/29/2025
Social Services Agency

SLOAN, Ruby
Effective: 3/1/2025
Alameda Health System

WEI, Jason
Effective: 3/29/2025
Alameda County Health

STAYSA, Colby
Effective: 3/22/2025
Sheriff's Office

WHITE, Barbara
Effective: 5/12/2025
Superior Court

TORRES, William
Effective: 5/10/2025
Public Works Agency

YAP, John
Effective: 5/5/2025
Alameda Health System

APPENDIX B
LIST OF DEFERRED RETIREMENTS

ALLEN, Jared
General Services Agency
Effective Date: 5/15/2025

CABATIC, Maricar
Alameda Health System
Effective: 5/2/2025

ARCHULETTA, Michelle
Superior Court
Effective: 5/30/2025

CAVALLERO, Jessica
District Attorney
Effective: 5/6/2025

BARNETT, Lyonette
Alameda Health System
Effective: 5/1/2025

CLARK, Kay
Alameda Health System
Effective: 5/19/2025

BARRETO-JACKSON, Julianna
Superior Court
Effective: 5/30/2025

DARCY, Nicole
Alameda County Health
Effective: 5/12/2025

BEARD, Ivan
Alameda Health System
Effective: 5/13/2025

FAULSTICH, Amy
Alameda County Health
Effective: 5/16/2025

BLACHE, Sharae
Alameda County Health
Effective: 4/25/2025

FRANK, Brianna
Public Defender
Effective: 5/5/2025

APPENDIX B
LIST OF DEFERRED RETIREMENTS

HERNANDEZ, Alexis
Superior Court
Effective: 5/23/2025

NATTENBERG, Rebekah
Social Services Agency
Effective: 5/9/2025

HOANG, Phung
Social Services Agency
Effective: 4/28/2025

PAREDES, Melissa
Superior Court
Effective: 5/30/2025

HORTON, Tiffany
Social Services Agency
Effective: 5/9/2025

PEREZ, Grecia
District Attorney
Effective: 4/28/2025

JONES JR., Burt Delano
Board of Supervisors
Effective: 5/19/2025

PEROU, Shanel
Sheriff's Office
Effective: 5/14/2025

JONES-MAYFIELD, Carol
Alameda County Health
Effective: 5/9/2025

REZAEI, Mehdi
Alameda Health System
Effective: 5/12/2025

JOSEPH, Stephanie
First 5 Alameda County
Effective: 5/9/2025

RICHARDSON, Tiffany
Alameda County Health
Effective: 5/9/2025

LAVIOLETTE II, Bruce
Social Services Agency
Effective: 5/12/2025

SANTORO, John
Public Defender
Effective: 5/19/2025

MARKOFF, Gabriel
District Attorney
Effective: 5/9/2025

SORIANO, Maxine Angela
Sheriff's Office
Effective: 2/14/2025

MCDONALD, Emily
Alameda County Health
Effective: 5/9/2025

TANG, Tiffany
Superior Court
Effective: 5/23/2025

MELLO JR, Gary
Zone 7 Water Agency
Effective: 5/7/2025

WONG, Elizabeth
Public Works Agency
Effective: 5/9/2025

ZAMORA, Maritza
Alameda Health System
Effective: 5/12/2025

APPENDIX C
LIST OF DECEASED MEMBERS

ATKINS, Robert K.
General Services Agency
5/17/2025

BACKERS-HOYLE, Angela C.
District Attorney
6/28/2025

BARAAN, Zenaida G.
Non-Member Survivor of RESTITUTO
BARAAN
6/1/2025

BOWMAN, Rissa R.
Human Resource Services
6/6/2025

CHURCHILL, Ruth E.
Non-Member Survivor of RICHARD
CHURCHILL
5/8/2025

COLLINS-HADLEY, Delores
Non member-Survivor of BILLY COLLINS
5/25/2025

CORDOVA, Lupe R.
Alameda County Health
5/31/2025

DALOPE, Lina T.
Alameda Health System
6/4/2025

DIAZ, Graciela C.
Behavioral Health Care Services
2/24/2025

DUNCAN, Joanne R.
Social Services Agency
5/16/2025

EVANS, James W.
Sheriff's Office
6/14/2025

FORTENBERRY, John E.
Non-Member Survivor of LAVETA
FORTENBERRY
6/3/2025

FREITAS, Michael C.
Probation
5/27/2025

GORDON, Jeanne L.
Social Services Agency
2/15/2025

HANLEY, Gail A.
Non-Member Survivor of DONALD
HANLEY
4/4/2025

HERNANDEZ, Zorina M.
Public Health
6/11/2025

HEROD, Dave
Non-Member Survivor of WANDA HEROD
5/28/2025

ITURBIDE, Jeanine L.
Social Services Agency
5/30/2025

JOE, Parkman
Auditor-Controller
6/21/2025

JUNG, Cynthia A.
Sheriff's Office
6/11/2025

APPENDIX C
LIST OF DECEASED MEMBERS

KITTELL, Cathy A.
Alameda Health System
5/28/2025

LEON, Della W.
General Services Agency
6/3/2025

MAO, Van
Alameda County Health
5/26/2025

MC CARTHY, Daniel P.
Alameda County Health
5/19/2025

MCNAIR, Roeline B.
Non-Member Survivor of PETER J. MC
NAIR
6/16/2025

MELENDREZ HUERTA, Laura
Information Technology Department
6/19/2025

MITCHELL, Barbara A.
Alameda Health System
5/29/2025

PARKER, Nadine S.
Non-Member Survivor of CLARENCE
PARKER
6/6/2025

PRATT, Bernadette A.
General Services Agency
6/6/2025

RAY, William P.
Non-Member Survivor of MICHAELANN
RAY
3/21/2025

ROBINSON, Johnny C.
Sheriff's Office
6/26/2025

SNYDER, Robert C.
Sheriff's Office
6/22/2025

TOLANI, Kany
Public Works Agency
6/11/2025

WILKINSON, Shirley M.
Alameda Health System
5/16/2025

WORDEN, David W.
Behavioral Health Care Services
4/19/2025

APPENDIX D
REQUEST FOR 130 BI-WEEKLY PAYMENTS TO
RE-DEPOSIT CONTRIBUTIONS AND GAIN CREDIT

SANDERS, Kansophanine
Government Code § 31641.5 Part-Time & Days Prior

APPENDIX E
APPROVE UNCONTESTED STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS ON
DISABILITY RETIREMENTS AND DEATH BENEFITS

Name: Franco, Rodolfo
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. Franco's application for a service-connected disability, and waiving annual medical examinations and questionnaires.

Name: Perry, Cherea
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. Perry's application for a service-connected disability, and waiving annual medical examinations and questionnaires at this time.

Name: Staysa, Colby
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. Staysa's application for a service-connected disability, and waiving annual medical examinations and questionnaires at this time.

**CORRECTED APPENDIX E
APPROVE UNCONTESTED STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS ON
DISABILITY RETIREMENTS AND DEATH BENEFITS**

Note: After the meeting, Staff corrected a clerical error in Appendix E of the agenda. In the recommendation for Jalaina Thompson, there was a reference to “Ms. Perry” that should have been “Ms. Thompson.”

Name:	Thompson, Jalaina
Type of Claim:	Service-Connected

Corrected Staff Recommendation (Appendix E- July 17, 2025):

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. Thompson’s application for a service-connected disability, and waiving annual medical examinations and questionnaires at this time.

“I, JANE E. HARR, a member of the Board of Retirement, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Retirement held on Thursday, July 17, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. in the Board Room of the State Capitol Building, Lansing, Michigan. My commission expires on July 31, 2026.”