



MINUTES OF DECEMBER 3, 2025, RETIREES COMMITTEE MEETING

To: Members of the Retirees Committee

From: Elizabeth Rogers, Chair

Subject: Summary of the December 3, 2025, Retirees Committee Meeting

Committee Chair Elizabeth Rogers called the December 3, 2025, Committee meeting to order at 9:33 a.m.

ACERA TRUSTEES, SENIOR MANAGERS AND PRESENTING STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

Committee members present were Elizabeth Rogers, Steven Wilkinson (via Zoom for “just cause”) and George Wood. Also, present were Ophelia Basgal, Kellie Simon and alternate member Cynthia Baron. Committee member Henry Levy and Board member Tarrell Gamble joined the meeting after roll call.

Staff present were Carlos Barrios, Assistant Chief Executive Officer; Mike Fara, Communications Manager; Jessica Huffman, Benefits Manager; Vijay Jagar, Chief Technology Officer; Lisa Johnson, Assistant Chief Executive Officer; David Nelsen, Chief Executive Officer; and Jeff Rieger, Chief Counsel.

PUBLIC INPUT

None.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Adoption of Medicare Part B Reimbursement Plan Benefit for 2026

Staff and Segal, ACERA’s Benefits Consultant, provided information on ACERA’s Medicare Part B Reimbursement Plan (MBRP) benefit, including retirees’ out-of-pocket costs, and the percentage of retirees affected at each of the designated income levels, based on the retirees’ ACERA retirement allowances only. Staff recommended to continue the benefit for 2026 based on the reimbursement at the lowest standard premium rate of \$202.90, which is an increase of about 10%.

It was moved by George Wood and seconded by Kellie Simon that the Committee recommend to the Board of Retirement to continue to provide the Medicare Part B Reimbursement Plan (MBRP) benefit to eligible retirees in 2026, and approve the reimbursement based on the lowest standard monthly Medicare Part B premium at the rate of \$202.90.

MBRP benefit is a non-vested benefit 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 (*Basgal, Gamble, Levy, Rogers, Simon, Wilkinson, Wood*), 0 no, 0 abstention.

2. Adoption of Updates to Appendix A of 401(h) Account Resolutions

Staff stated that for Resolution No. 07-29 to remain current for the upcoming 2026 Plan Year, Appendix A was amended to reflect the Board of Retirement's (Board) decisions regarding the Monthly Medical Allowance amounts for Group and Individual plans; and medical, dental, and vision premium amounts as adopted by the Board.

Staff reported that a change was made in May to allow retired annuitants to continue receiving the monthly medical allowance. The first paragraph on the second page, which refers to Appendix A of Resolution No. 729, should be removed. Staff recommended that the committee adopt Appendix A, but without the first paragraph on the second page that references the prohibition against granting monthly medical allowance to retired annuitants. Any other related references to the prohibition against granting monthly medical allowance to retired annuitants will also be removed from the appendix.

It was moved by Kellie Simon and seconded by George Wood that the Committee recommend to the Board of Retirement (Board) to adopt the revised and updated Appendix A to Resolution No. 07-29, which reflects the changes approved by the Board to the Monthly Medical Allowance amounts for Group and Individual Plans as well as the Retiree Health Benefit contribution amounts for Plan Year 2026.

The motion carried 6 yes (*Basgal, Levy, Rogers, Simon, Wilkinson, Wood*), 0 no, 1 abstention (*Gamble*).

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Annual Retired Member (Lump Sum) Death Benefit Report

Staff provided information on the number and amount of the Retired Member (lump sum) Death Benefit payments made to eligible beneficiaries of retirees for the twelve-month period December 1, 2024, through November 30, 2025, including the payments made by reciprocal agencies. In addition, Staff provided a five-year comparison of the total death benefits paid. This \$1,000 benefit is funded by the Supplemental Retiree Benefit Reserve and is considered a vested benefit, as long as there are funds available.

2. Retiree Health and Wellness Fair Results and Open Enrollment Activity

Staff provided a report on the results of the hybrid Retiree Health and Wellness Fair, which was held through Zoom and in person at DoubleTree in Pleasanton, CA on October 23, 2025. There were live presentations from ACERA, First United Credit Union, Kaiser Permanente and the Alameda County Deferred Compensation Program.

These presentations were recorded and posted on ACERA's website. 183 members attended the hybrid event virtually, and 234 attended in person, for a total of 417 attendees. Staff also reviewed the health fair survey results.

TRUSTEE REMARKS

Trustees directed staff to revise the wording of the medical plan information presented on the ACERA website. Staff will update the language to ensure greater clarity for retirees.

FUTURE DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Annual Supplemental Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA)

ESTABLISHMENT OF NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting is scheduled for February 4, 2026, at 9:30 a.m.

MEETING ADJOURNED

The meeting adjourned at 9:56 a.m.