

**SONOMA COUNTY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION  
RETIREMENT BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday, January 20, 2022  
9:01 a.m.

In accordance with Retirement Board Resolution #156, adopted on September 23, 2021 and readopted January 6, 2022, the Sonoma County Employees' Retirement Association Retirement Board meeting was held virtually and in compliance with California Government Code section 54953(e) through WebEx Meetings.

Individuals interested in participating in the meeting were invited to join using one of the following methods:

1. WebEx meeting application via computer, tablet or smartphone:

<https://sonomacounty.webex.com/sonomacounty/j.php?MTID=m46738fed013cd8d521cece18addf1782>

2. Call-in:

Dial 1 (408) 418-9388

Meeting ID: 2491 508 8490

Password: 01202022

Presiding via

WebEx: Brian Williams, Chair

Present

via WebEx: Trustees Neil Baker (Alternate Retiree), Travis Balzarini, Amos Eaton, Erick Roeser, Joe Tambe and Tim Tuscany; Finance and Retiree Services Manager Cheryl Enold

Present in the

SCERA Boardroom: Trustees Greg Jahn and Bob Williamson; Chief Executive Officer Julie Wyne, Member Services Manager Jackie Purter, Retirement Analyst Rebecca Gay, and Administrative Aide Julia Smith

Also present

via WebEx: John Pels (member of the public)

Public comments were solicited prior to the meeting by emailing [Rebecca.Gay@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Rebecca.Gay@sonoma-county.org). Members of the public that joined the WebEx meeting via the app or dial in were provided opportunity to submit live public comment for each agenda item after the Board and staff provided their comments.

**Board Committees for 2022**

**Administrative Benefits** – Neil Baker (Retiree Alternate) Travis Balzarini, Tim Tuscany, Brian Williams, Bob Williamson

**Audit Committee** – Travis Balzarini, Amos Eaton, Greg Jahn, Erick Roeser, Joe Tambe

**Disability Committee** – Neil Baker (Retiree Alternate), Travis Balzarini, Joe Tambe, Tim Tuscany, Brian Williams, Bob Williamson

**Investment Committee** – Full Board

I. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

A. The Board will select a Chair and Vice Chair by majority vote of the members.

**Recommendation:** Select a Chair and Vice Chair.

A motion was made by Trustee Tambe, seconded by Trustee Jahn to select Brian Williams as Chair and Bob Williamson as Vice Chair. The motion carried 8-0-0-0 with voting as follows:

<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Mr. Balzarini			
Mr. Eaton			
Mr. Jahn			
Mr. Roeser			
Mr. Tambe			
Mr. Tuscany			
Mr. Williams			
Mr. Williamson			

II. CONSENT CALENDAR

All agenda items on the Consent calendar will be approved in a single motion unless a Trustee, staff member or member of the public requests separate action on a specific item.

A. Meeting Minutes – December 16, 2021 and January 6, 2022 Retirement Board Meeting Minutes

**Recommendation:** Approve Minutes.

A motion was made by Trustee Williamson, seconded by Trustee Eaton to approve the December 12, 2021 and January 6, 2022 Retirement Board Meeting Minutes. The motion carried 8-0-0-0 with voting as follows:

<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Mr. Balzarini			
Mr. Eaton			
Mr. Jahn			
Mr. Roeser			
Mr. Tambe			
Mr. Tuscany			

Mr. Williams  
Mr. Williamson

III. REGULAR CALENDAR

- A. Retirement Board Resolution #156 – COVID State of Emergency and imminent threat of risk

**Recommendation:** Affirm that the conditions set forth in Retirement Board Resolution #156 still exist and warrant continued application of Government Code section 54953(e) to SCERA Retirement Board and Committee meetings for the next thirty days through February 19, 2022.

A motion was made by Trustee Eaton, seconded by Trustee Balzarini to affirm that the conditions set forth in Retirement Board Resolution #156 still exist and warrant continued application of Government Code section 54953(e) to SCERA Retirement Board and Committee meetings for the next thirty days through February 19, 2022. The motion carried 8-0-0-0 with voting as follows:

<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Mr. Balzarini			
Mr. Eaton			
Mr. Jahn			
Mr. Roeser			
Mr. Tambe			
Mr. Tuscany			
Mr. Williams			
Mr. Williamson			

- B. Felony Forfeiture Policy review

**Recommendation:** Approve amendments to the Felony Forfeiture Policy.

CEO Wyne explained the proposed amendments to the policy to address a felony conviction reversal. Trustee Eaton asked whether the 7-day period to request a Board hearing was found in the statute and Ms. Wyne indicated she would bring the policy back in February after she researched it.

- C. List of Compensation earnable decisions

CEO Wyne informed the Board that pursuant to the Compensation Earnable and Final Compensation Policy she is called upon by the County and participating districts to render decisions regarding the treatment of newly bargained pay elements as pensionable or non-pensionable. As per the policy, all decisions are to be reported to the Board annually. Trustees expressed appreciation at the collaboration between SCERA and the employer bargaining teams.

D. Trustee/Staff Training & Conferences

Notify Julia Smith if you plan to attend any future event. Please note, if out of state travel to attend a conference is not approved in the Budget, separate approval from the Board must be obtained prior to attending the conference.

1. CALAPRS General Assembly, March 5 to 8, 2022, San Diego Mission Bay Resort, CA.
2. CALAPRS Trustee Roundtable, April 29, 2022, virtual.
3. SACRS Spring Conference, May 10 to 13, 2022, Omni Rancho Las Palmas Resort, Rancho Mirage, CA.

E. Communications

1. Service Retirements
2. December 31, 2021 Member Interest Crediting Rate
3. SACRS Board of Directors nomination timeline
4. FPPC Local Official Gift Fact Sheet

IV. GENERAL DISCUSSION ITEMS

Opportunity was given to advise the Board of new matters and for Trustees to ask questions for clarification, provide information to staff, request staff to report back on a matter or direct staff to place a matter on a subsequent agenda.

Trustee Eaton inquired about a listing of upcoming Board meeting topics so future items may be anticipated earlier than the posting of the monthly agenda. Ms. Wyne stated she maintains a calendar of potential Board items and offered to share that with the Board.

A discussion ensued regarding the 2022 Planning Session scheduled for March 23 & 24 and the current health order prohibiting gatherings of over 50 people. Ms. Wyne indicated that the health order was set to expire in mid-February and that it was difficult to anticipate whether it will be extended. Trustees concurred with the staff recommendation to postpone the Planning Session to October.

Ms. Wyne announced a job offer has been made to a very qualified candidate for the Assistant CEO/Chief Legal Counsel position with SCERA. Since it is not clear whether the hiring will be finalized prior to the January Investment Committee meeting a closed session agenda item will be included for the Board to meet the candidate.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

Opportunity was given for public comment on non-agenda items within the jurisdiction of the Retirement Board.

There were no public comments.

The Board of Retirement moved into Executive Session and closed the meeting to all attendees who were not necessary for the determination of a disability retirement. While the meeting was closed, those attendees were placed into the WebEx lobby by the WebEx host and did not hear or see the meeting.

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Executive Session. Meeting closed pursuant to Government Code Section 54957(b) to consider the employment status and evaluation of performance of a SCERA member or members as concerns eligibility for a disability retirement.

Disability Committee Chair provided the recommendations made by the Committee at the January 20, 2022 meeting.

Application for review:

GREGORY HALS, JR., Deputy Sheriff II filed 03/16/21 for a service connected disability retirement.

A motion was made by Trustee Tambe, seconded by Trustee Williamson to deny a service connected disability retirement for Gregory Hals, Jr., Deputy Sheriff II. The motion carried 8-0-0-0 with voting as follows:

<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Mr. Balzarini			
Mr. Eaton			
Mr. Jahn			
Mr. Roeser			
Mr. Tambe			
Mr. Tuscany			
Mr. Williams			
Mr. Williamson			

The Board of Retirement moved out of Executive Session and reopened the meeting to all WebEx attendees who were placed in the lobby during the closed session period.

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION REPORT OUT – OPEN SESSION

Trustee Williams reported that the Board unanimously denied a service connected disability retirement for Gregory Hals, Jr., Deputy Sheriff II.

VIII. NOTICE OF NEXT MEETINGS

All meetings are held at SCERA in the Board Room at 433 Aviation Boulevard, Suite 100, Santa Rosa, CA, or virtually via WebEx unless otherwise noted.

Investment Committee

January 27, 2022

8:30 a.m.

Disability Committee

February 17, 2022

8:30 a.m.

Retirement Board

February 17, 2022

9:00 a.m.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to conduct, the meeting adjourned at 9:39 a.m.

V. APPROVAL

The above minutes from the January 20, 2022 Retirement Board meeting were approved at the Retirement Board meeting on February 17, 2022.

BRIAN WILLIAMS, CHAIR