

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

Thursday, September 19, 2024
9:06 a.m.

Presiding: Brian Williams, Chair

Present: Trustees Neil Baker (Alternate Retiree), Travis Balzarini, Chris Coursey, Amos Eaton, Greg Jahn, Joe Tambe, Mark Walsh, and Bob Williamson, Chief Executive Officer Julie Wyne, Assistant CEO/Chief Legal Counsel Cristina Hess, Member Services Manager Jackie Purter, Finance and Retiree Services Manager Cheryl Enold, Retirement Analyst Rebecca Gay, and Administrative Aide Julia Smith

Absent: Trustee Erick Roeser

Public comments were solicited prior to the meeting by emailing Rebecca.Gay@sonoma-county.org. Members of the public that joined the Zoom 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.

Trustee Williams confirmed with Department Analyst Rebecca Gay that SCERA had not received any public comment prior to the meeting.

I. CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Retirement Board Meeting Minutes – August 22, 2024
- B. Active/Deferred Member Death Benefits

Recommendation: Approve Consent Calendar items A and B.

A motion was made by Trustee Walsh, seconded by Trustee Williamson, to approve Consent Calendar items A and B. The motion carried 8-0-0-1 with voting as follows:

Mr. Balzarini	Aye
Mr. Coursey	Aye
Mr. Eaton	Aye
Mr. Jahn	Aye
Mr. Roeser	Absent
Mr. Tambe	Aye
Mr. Walsh	Aye
Mr. Williams	Aye
Mr. Williamson	Aye

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 or consideration of a public employee performance evaluation. Those attendees physically exited the Board room and/or were placed in the virtual Zoom lobby by the host and neither heard nor saw the meeting. All meeting attendees were re-admitted to the meeting when the Board returned to open session.

II. 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 reported on recommendations made by the Committee at the September 19, 2024, meeting:

Disability Applications:

1. BRIAN KEEL, Correctional Deputy II filed 12/28/21 for a service connected disability retirement.

A motion was made by Trustee Williamson, seconded by Trustee Tambe, to grant the application of Brian Keel, Correctional Deputy II, for a service connected disability retirement. The motion carried 8-0-0-1 with voting as follows:

Mr. Balzarini	Aye
Mr. Coursey	Aye
Mr. Eaton	Aye
Mr. Jahn	Aye
Mr. Roeser	Absent
Mr. Tambe	Aye
Mr. Walsh	Aye
Mr. Williams	Aye
Mr. Williamson	Aye

2. MICHAEL RAASCH, Lieutenant filed 04/25/24 for a service connected disability retirement.

A motion was made by Trustee Jahn, seconded by Trustee Williamson, to grant the application of Michael Raasch, Lieutenant, for a service connected disability retirement. The motion carried 8-0-0-1 with voting as follows:

Mr. Balzarini	Aye
Mr. Coursey	Aye
Mr. Eaton	Aye
Mr. Jahn	Aye
Mr. Roeser	Absent

Mr. Tambe	Aye
Mr. Walsh	Aye
Mr. Williams	Aye
Mr. Williamson	Aye

3. JOSEPH BISBIGLIA, general member who retired effective 10/11/20 with a service retirement. On August 8, 2024, Mr. Bisbiglia submitted a request that his retirement be suspended and that he be reinstated per Government Code section 31680.4. He has been offered the position of a Deputy Public Defender IV with the County of Sonoma.

A motion was made by Trustee Williamson, seconded by Trustee Jahn, to grant the request of Joseph Bisbiglia, general member, that his service retirement be suspended and that he be reinstated per Government code section 31680.4. The motion carried 8-0-0-1 with voting as follows:

Mr. Balzarini	Aye
Mr. Coursey	Aye
Mr. Eaton	Aye
Mr. Jahn	Aye
Mr. Roeser	Absent
Mr. Tambe	Aye
Mr. Walsh	Aye
Mr. Williams	Aye
Mr. Williamson	Aye

- B. Executive Session. Meeting closed pursuant to Government Code section 54957(b) to consider a public employee performance evaluation (Chief Executive Officer).

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

III. EXECUTIVE SESSION REPORT OUT

Chair Williams reported the Board unanimously granted the applications of Brian Keel, Correctional Deputy II and Michael Raasch, Lieutenant, for service connected disability retirements. The Board also unanimously granted the request of Joseph Bisbiglia, general member, to have his service retirement suspended and that he be reinstated per Government code section 31680.4.

Chair Williams also reported that the Board had no reportable action in the evaluation of the Chief Executive Officer's performance.

IV. REGULAR CALENDAR

- A. SACRS Proxy Designation

Recommendation: Designate a Voting Proxy for the SACRS Fall Conference.

A motion was made by Trustee Williamson, seconded by Trustee Walsh, to designate Brian Williams as Voting Proxy for the SACRS Fall Conference. The motion carried 8-0-0-1 with voting as follows:

Mr. Balzarini	Aye
Mr. Coursey	Aye
Mr. Eaton	Aye
Mr. Jahn	Aye
Mr. Roeser	Absent
Mr. Tambe	Aye
Mr. Walsh	Aye
Mr. Williams	Aye
Mr. Williamson	Aye

B. Conflict of Interest Code review – No recommended changes

Chief Executive Officer Julie Wyne advised the Board that there were no recommended changes to the Conflict of Interest Policy and that the policy will indicate it has been reviewed by the Board. Trustees had no recommended changes.

C. Educational Topic Discussion

Trustees discussed potential educational topics including governance and strategic planning focused presentations. Ms. Wyne indicated she would reach out to Aon to assess their governance consultants.

D. Communications

1. Service Retirements September 2024
2. SACRS Legislative Update, September 2024
3. CalPERS Pathways for Women Conference Report – Julie Wyne
4. Mid-year Financial Statement, Q2 2024

Trustees discussed the new format of the financial statements and Finance and Retiree Services Manager Cheryl Enold answered questions. Trustee Walsh described the three categories of financial statements, which are external, internal and compliance.

V. 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. IFM Global Infrastructure Fund Annual General Meeting, October 28 to 30, 2024, Four Seasons Hotel, Las Vegas, NV.
2. SACRS Fall Conference, November 12 to 15, 2024, Hyatt Regency Hotel and Spa, Monterey, CA. Trustees Baker, Walsh, and Williams are attending.
3. CALAPRS Trustee Roundtable, October 11, 2024, San Jose Marriott, San Jose, CA.
4. AON Wealth Insight Series – Miami Conference, December 9 to 11, 2024, Miami, FL.
5. CALAPRS General Assembly, March 2 to 5, 2025, Silverado Resort, Napa, CA.

VI. 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.

There were no general discussion items.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

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

There were no public comments.

VIII. NOTICE OF NEXT MEETINGS

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

Investment Committee
September 26, 2024
8:30 a.m.

Administrative Benefits Committee
September 30, 2024
1:00 p.m.

Educational Forum at the DoubleTree Hotel in Rohnert Park
October 9 and 10, 2024
9:15 a.m. on October 9
9:30 a.m. on October 10

Disability Committee
October 24, 2024

8:30 a.m.

Retirement Board

October 24, 2024

9:00 a.m.

Investment Committee

November 21, 2024

8:30 a.m.

Audit Committee

November 21, 2024

12:00 p.m.

Disability Committee

December 19, 2024

8:30 am.

Retirement Board

December 19, 2024

9:00 a.m.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to conduct, the meeting adjourned at 10:22 a.m.

X. APPROVAL

The above minutes from the September 19, 2024, Retirement Board meeting were approved at the Retirement Board meeting on October 24, 2024.

BRIAN WILLIAMS, CHAIR