



RETIREMENT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING

July 13, 2022

9:00 a.m.

The Board of Retirement meeting was accessible telephonically at (669) 900-6833, Webinar ID 817 3480 6212 Passcode 574719, as permitted by Government Code Section 54953(e).

1. Pledge of Allegiance

The Board and staff joined in the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

2. Roll Call

Present: Candace Andersen, Dennis Chebotarev, Donald Finley, Scott Gordon, Jerry Holcombe, Louie Kroll, Jay Kwon, David MacDonald, John Phillips, Mike Sloan, Belinda Zhu for Russell Watts and Samson Wong.

Absent: None

Staff: Gail Strohl, Chief Executive Officer; Christina Dunn, Deputy Chief Executive Officer; Karen Levy, General Counsel; Timothy Price, Chief Investment Officer and Tim Hoppe, Retirement Services Manager.

Outside Professional Support:

Joe Wiley
Marc Weinberg
Caitlin Moyna

Representing:

Aleshire & Wynder, LLP
Grant & Eisenhofer P.A.
Grant & Eisenhofer P.A.

3. Board Reorganization

It was **M/S/C** to nominate Scott Gordon as Chairperson David MacDonald as Vice-Chairperson and Jerry Holcombe as Secretary. (Yes: Andersen, Chebotarev, Finley, Gordon, Holcombe, Kroll, MacDonald, Phillips and Zhu).

4. Accept comments from the public

Glen A. Stewart disagrees with his retirement calculation and is requesting the Board review his retirement calculation.

Pete Nowicki spoke about his experience in 2015 with CCCERA noting he has additional information that he will provide each Board meeting.

Adolfo Garcia spoke about the concern he has over the length of time it is taking for him to receive his first retirement check.

5. Approve of Minutes

It was **M/S/C** to approve the minutes from the June 8, 2022 meeting with changes to item #13a. (Yes: Andersen, Chebotarev, Finley, Gordon, Holcombe, Kroll, MacDonald, Phillips and Zhu).

6. Approval of Routine Items

It was **M/S/C** to approve the routine items of the July 13, 2022 Board meeting. (Yes: Andersen, Chebotarev, Finley, Gordon, Holcombe, Kroll, MacDonald, Phillips and Zhu).

7. Acceptance of Routine Items

It was **M/S/C** to accept the routine items of the July 13, 2022 Board meeting. (Yes: Andersen, Chebotarev, Finley, Gordon, Kroll, Holcombe, MacDonald, Phillips and Zhu).

CLOSED SESSION

The Board moved into Closed Session pursuant to Govt. Code Section 54957, 54956.9(d)(1), 54956.9(d)(2) and 54957.6.

The Board moved into open session.

- 8. It was **M/S/C** to accept the Medical Advisor's recommendation and grant the following disability benefits:**
- a. Herman Barnes – Service Connected (Yes: Andersen, Chebotarev, Gordon, Holcombe, Kroll, MacDonald, Phillips, Zhu and Wong)
 - b. Isaac Cortes – Service Connected, not granted for lack of information. (Yes: Andersen, Chebotarev, Gordon, Holcombe, Kroll, MacDonald, Phillips, Wong and Zhu)
 - c. William Fiore – Service Connected (Yes: Andersen, Chebotarev, Finley, Gordon, Holcombe, Kroll, MacDonald, Phillips and Zhu)
 - d. Leah Marchese – Service Connected (Yes: Andersen, Chebotarev, Finley, Gordon, Holcombe, Kroll, MacDonald, Phillips and Zhu)

9. The Board continued in closed session pursuant to Govt. Code Section 54956.9(d)(1) to confer with legal counsel regarding pending litigation:
- a. Nowicki v. CCCERA et al., Contra Costa County Superior Court, Case o. C17-01266
No reportable action.
 - b. Wilmot v. CCCERA, et al., Contra Costa County Superior Court, Case No. N22-0302
No reportable action.
 - c. CCCERA, et al. v. Valeant Pharms. Int'l, Inc., et al., United States District Court, New Jersey (3:17-cv-12088)
No reportable action.

10. **The Board will continue in closed session pursuant to Govt. Code Section 54956.9(d)(2) to confer with legal counsel regarding potential litigation (one case).**

No reportable action.

11. **Conference with Labor Negotiator (Government Code Section 54957.6)**

No reportable action.

Andersen, Chebotarev, Kroll and Sloan were no longer present for subsequent discussion and voting.

12. **Consider and take possible action to adopt the contribution rates for the period July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023 for the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District.**

It was **M/S/C** to adopt the contribution rates for the period July 1, 2022 – June 20, 2023 for the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District. (Yes: Finley, Gordon, Holcombe, Kwon, MacDonald, Phillips, Wong and Zhu).

13. **Consider and take possible action to add CCCERA staffing:**

- a. Cancel the Administrative/Human Resources manager classification (currently vacant), establish classifications for Human Resources Manager and Administrative Services Manager; change the Administrative/Human Resources Supervisor classification to Human Resources Coordinator; and
- b. Amend Attachment A of Resolution 2022-1 with the updated position information.

It was **M/S/C** to make staffing changes and Amend Attachment A of Resolution 2022-1 with the updated position information. (Yes: Finley, Gordon, Holcombe, Kwon, MacDonald, Phillips, Wong and Zhu).

14. **Consider and take possible action to authorize the Board to conduct teleconference meetings under Government Code Section 54953 (e) and to make related findings**

Levy presented information related to the open meetings law regarding holding teleconference board meetings during a state-proclaimed state of emergency.

It was **M/S/C** to authorize the Board and its committee(s) to continue to conduct teleconference meetings for the next 30 days under Government Code Section 54953 (e) and make the following findings:

1. The Board has reconsidered the circumstance of the statewide state of emergency proclaimed by the Governor on March 4, 2020 and the countywide local emergency proclaimed by the Governor on March 10, 2020
2. The following circumstances currently exist:
 - a. The statewide state of emergency and the countywide local emergency continue to directly impact the ability of the Board and its committee(s) to meet safely in person at meeting that are open to the general public because of the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - b. The County Health Officer's recommendations for safely holding public meetings, which recommend virtual meeting and other measures to promote social distancing, are still in effect.

(Yes: Finley, Gordon, Holcombe, Kwon, MacDonald, Phillips, Wong and Zhu).

15. Consider authorizing the attendance of Board:

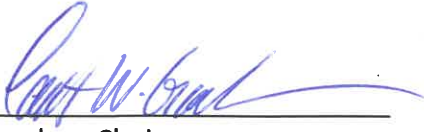
- a. It was **M/S/C** to authorize the attendance of 1 Board member at the IFEBP Trustees Master's Program, October 22-23, 2022, Las Vegas, NV. (Yes: Finley, Gordon, Holcombe, Kwon, MacDonald, Phillips, Wong and Zhu).
- b. It was **M/S/C** to authorize the attendance of 3 Board members at the IFEBP 68th Annual Employee Benefits Conference, October 23-26, 2022, Las Vegas, NV. (Yes: Finley, Gordon, Holcombe, Kwon, MacDonald, Phillips, Wong and Zhu).

16. Miscellaneous

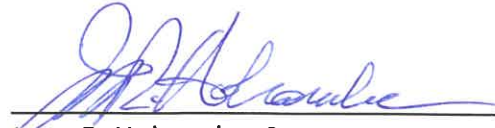
- a. Staff Report- Strohl reported CCCERA is anticipating mailing the Annual Benefit Statements to members in a few weeks and the Actuarial Valuation Report as of December 31, 2021 will be presented at a board meeting in August.
- b. Outside Professionals –

None
- c. Trustee comments – Gordon welcomed Samson Wong as our Safety Alternate Trustee.

It was **M/S/C** to adjourn the meeting in memory of Karen Wright. (Yes: Finley, Gordon, Holcombe, Kwon, MacDonald, Phillips, Wong and Zhu)



Scott Gordon, Chairman



Jerry R. Holcombe, Secretary