



## **RETIREMENT BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

REGULAR MEETING  
September 14, 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, Samson Wong and Belinda Zhu (for Russell Watts).

Absent: None

Staff: Gail Strohl, Chief Executive Officer; Christina Dunn, Deputy Chief Executive Officer; Karen Levy, General Counsel; Tim Hoppe, Retirement Services Manager and Jasmine Lee, Member Services Manager.

Outside Professional Support:

Jesse Rivera  
KC Kolluru

Representing:

Segal Consulting  
Sagitec

### **3. Accept comments from the public**

Carol Nowicki spoke about her husband's experience in 2015 with CCCERA.

Pete Nowicki spoke about his experience with CCCERA and different information he has collected.

Kroll now present for subsequent discussion and voting.

4. **Approve of Minutes**

It was **M/S/C** to approve the minutes from the August 10, 2022 meeting. (Yes: Andersen, Chebotarev, Finley, Gordon, Holcombe, Kroll, MacDonald, Phillips and Zhu).

5. **Approval of Routine Items**

It was **M/S/C** to approve the routine items of the September 14, 2022 Board meeting. (Yes: Andersen, Chebotarev, Finley, Gordon, Holcombe, Kroll, MacDonald, Phillips and Zhu).

6. **Acceptance of Routine Items**

It was **M/S/C** to accept the routine items of the September 14, 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)(4) and 54956.9(d)(2).

The Board moved into open session.

7. It was **M/S/C** to accept the Medical Advisor's recommendation and grant the following disability benefits:

- a. Bartholomew Corrie – Service Connected (Yes: Andersen, Chebotarev, Gordon, Holcombe, Kroll, MacDonald, Phillips, Wong and Zhu).
- b. Frank Oathout – Service Connected (Yes: Andersen, Chebotarev, Finley, Gordon, Holcombe, Kroll, MacDonald, Phillips and Zhu).

8. **The Board continued in closed session pursuant to Govt. Code Section 54956.9(d)(1) to confer with legal counsel regarding pending litigation:**

- a. Marchese v. CCCERA et al., Contra Costa County Superior Court, Case o. N22-1435  
Andersen recused herself from this item because she serves on the Board of Supervisors for Contra Costa County, the County is a named party in this lawsuit, and Andersen would be taking part in confidential discussions in the County's interest, which may be adverse to CCCERA's interest.

It was **M/S/C** to retain Reed Smith, LLP to represent CCCERA in the litigation (Yes: Chebotarev, Finley, Gordon, Holcombe, Kroll, Kwon, MacDonald, Phillips and Zhu).

9. **Pension Administration system project update:**

- a. Update from staff – Strohl gave an update on the project and noted the project is on track.

Lee noted CCCERA staff visited San Diego City Employees' Retirement System. During the visit their team discussed steps they took with their Sagitec implementation.

- b. Presentation from Segal – Jesse Rivera from Segal Consulting gave an update on the project.
- c. Presentation from Sagitec – KC, Sagitec's project manager gave an update on the project timeline.

**10. Consider and take possible action to update CCCERA's Conflict of Interest Code**

Levy presented the amendments to CCCERA's Conflict of Interest Code. It was **M/S/C** to adopt the updates to the CCCERA Conflict of Interest Code as recommended by staff (Yes: Andersen, Chebotarev, Finley, Gordon, Holcombe, Kroll, MacDonald, Phillips and Zhu).

**11. 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 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 on March 4, 2020 and the countywide local emergency proclaimed 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: Andersen, Chebotarev, Finley, Gordon, Holcombe, Kroll, MacDonald, Phillips and Zhu).

**12. Consider and take possible action on SACRS voting proxy form**

It was **M/S/C** to appoint Sloan as the Voting Delegate and MacDonald as the Alternate Voting Delegate at the upcoming Fall SACRS Conference. (Yes: Andersen, Chebotarev, Finley, Gordon, Holcombe, Kroll, MacDonald, Phillips and Zhu).

**13. Report from Audit Committee Chair on August 24, 2022 Audit Committee meeting**

Phillips reported on the August 24, 2022 Audit Committee meeting.

**14. Consider authorizing the attendance of Board:**

- a. It was **M/S/C** to authorize the attendance of 4 Board Members at the CALAPRS Trustees' Roundtable, October 28, 2022, Virtual (Yes: Andersen, Chebotarev, Finley, Gordon, Holcombe, Kroll, MacDonald, Phillips and Zhu).
- b. It was **M/S/C** to authorize the attendance of 6 Board Members at the SACRS Fall Conference, November 8-11, 2022, Long Beach, CA (Yes: Andersen, Chebotarev, Finley, Gordon, Holcombe, Kroll, MacDonald, Phillips and Zhu).
- c. It was **M/S/C** to authorize the attendance of 4 Board Members at the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual N. California Institutional Forum, December 7, 2022, Napa, CA (Yes: Andersen, Chebotarev, Finley, Gordon, Holcombe, Kroll, MacDonald, Phillips and Zhu).

**16. Miscellaneous**

- a. Staff Report- Strohl reported CCCERA engaged with Leap Academy to assist with a business reengineering effort on the Retirement Application Process with a limited duration and limited scope engagement.

Strohl also noted for the first time CCCERA processed electronic payments for those members requesting electronic payments without issuing a paper check to the member first.

- b. Outside Professionals – None
- c. Trustee' comments – MacDonald reported he and Gordon attended the Value Edge Investors Public Funds Conference in Laguna Beach.

Gordon noted the conference had interesting panels.

It was **M/S/C** to adjourn the meeting. (Yes: Andersen, Chebotarev, Finley, Gordon, Holcombe, Kroll, MacDonald, Phillips and Zhu)

  
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Scott Gordon, Chairman

  
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Jerry R. Holcombe, Secretary