

MINUTES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MARIN COUNTY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION (MCERA)

One McInnis Parkway, 1st Floor
Retirement Board Chambers
San Rafael, CA

October 11, 2017 – 9:00 a.m.

The Board of Retirement for the Marin County Employees' Retirement Association encourages a respectful presentation of public views to the Board. The Board, staff and public are expected to be polite and courteous, and refrain from questioning the character or motives of others. Please help create an atmosphere of respect during Board meetings. If members of the public wish to speak on any agenda items, please alert the Retirement Administrator to that request prior to the matter being called.

EVENT CALENDAR 9 a.m. Regular Board Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Bolger called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Bolger, Cooper, Given, Gladstern, Jones (alternate retired), Murphy, Silberstein, Stevens, Thomas

ABSENT: Piombo (alternate safety), Shaw (ex officio alternate)

MINUTES

It was M/S Gladstern/Murphy to approve the September 13, 2017 Board Meeting Minutes as submitted.

AYES: Bolger, Cooper, Given, Gladstern, Murphy, Silberstein, Stevens, Thomas

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

A. OPEN TIME FOR PUBLIC EXPRESSION

Note: The public may also address the Board regarding any agenda item when the Board considers the item.

Open time for public expression, from three to five minutes per speaker, on items not on the Board Agenda. While members of the public are welcome to address the Board during this time on matters within the Board's jurisdiction, except as otherwise permitted by the Ralph M. Brown Act (Government Code Sections 54950 et seq.), no deliberation or action may be

taken by the Board concerning a non-agenda item. Members of the Board may (1) briefly respond to statements made or questions posed by persons addressing the Board, (2) ask a question for clarification, or (3) provide a reference to staff for factual information.

No public comment.

B. BOARD OF RETIREMENT MATTERS

1. Administrator's Report

a. Administrator's Update

Retirement Administrator Jeff Wickman reported on staff members who were impacted by the fires in Sonoma County. Three staff members were evacuated and two have returned to their homes. Assistant Retirement Administrator Michelle Hardesty's home was destroyed by the Tubbs Fire.

Trustee Jones joined the meeting at 9:03 a.m.

Trustee Gladstern inquired about crisis planning for MCERA. In response, the Administrator said staff practiced evacuation drills on a regular basis. He noted that the building is also readily accessible to an access road leading away from the property. Benefit data is backed up and hosted offsite so information could be accessed remotely if the building were unusable. There is more work to be done to coordinate with Marin County on access to office space and connectivity if needed during an emergency.

Fifteen applications were received for the three Board vacancies. The Marin County Board of Supervisors selected six candidates for interviews on October 17. Those individuals are Steven Block, Ehren Epstein, Reed Kathrein, Sara Klein, Daniel McNevin, and Todd Werby.

The Administrator has been talking with Callan Associates about a physical rebalancing of the portfolio. The rebalancing will trim international equity that is over target and increase fixed income that is below target, and provide cash for benefit payments and capital calls for private equity commitments. Trustee Gladstern asked about the impact of the hurricane in Puerto Rico. Mr. Wickman said he would follow up with MCERA's fixed income managers.

b. Staffing update

Laura Ballard has been hired as the new Senior Accounting Assistant and Christyn Inciardi was hired as Accounting Assistant. Two other recruitments are underway; the Accounting Unit Manager position was just posted and staff is interviewing for the Benefit Supervisor position

c. Facility Use Report

No facility using during the period.

d. Future Meetings

- October 17-18, 2017 Strategic Workshop
- November 8, 2017 Board

2. Trustee Comments

a. Educational Training: Reports by Trustees and Staff

Mr. Wickman attended the CalAPRS Administrators' Institute. The administrators discussed trustee turnover and challenges with conducting new trustee training and education. Other topics discussed included changes to the Investment Assumption/Discount rate adopted by systems, Leveraging Operational Compliance, Political Success for Administrators, Dan Bienvenue's overview and roundtable on CalPERS' investment activities, Enterprise Risk Management and how to manage through a potential data breach.

Trustee Silberstein reported on the NCPERS Pension Funding Forum. The need to be careful with solutions to funding problems such as pension obligation bonds was addressed. Noting that private equity is leveraged, Mr. Silberstein indicated the same returns can be achieved by leveraging public equities. He reported there are monopolies in infrastructure and GASB 77 will be requiring governments to report as expenses tax incentives provided to certain organizations.

Trustees Cooper and Silberstein attended the CII conference. According to Trustee Silberstein one of the topics addressed attacks on public equities in an attempt to reduce regulations that has resulted in fewer initial public offerings (IPOs).

Trustee Cooper attended CII conference sessions on shareholder evaluation of corporate directors, proxy voting processes from start to finish, how immigration policy impacts institutional investors, and climate change with respect to shareholder votes.

b. Other Comments

No discussion.

Chair Bolger recessed Open Session for a break at 9:37 a.m., reconvening in Closed Session for deliberations on Agenda Item C at 9:50 a.m.

Chair Bolger recessed Closed Session and reconvened the meeting in Open Session at 10:58 a.m.

C. CONSIDERATION OF AND ACTION ON NON-CONSENT AGENDA DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATIONS (TIME CERTAIN: 9:30 a.m.) (CLOSED SESSION) (Action)

[Any non-Consent Agenda disability retirement application, whether pulled from the Disability Consent Agenda or originally agendized as a non-Consent agenda item, will be considered in Closed Session unless the applicant specifically waives confidentiality and requests that his or her application be considered in Open Session.]

1. Bruce Baker Service-connected Marin County Sheriff

Initial consideration of an application for service-connected disability retirement

2. David Clemmer Service-connected Marin County Public Works Department

Initial consideration of an application for service-connected disability retirement

Chair Bolger reported that the Board by a vote of 5-3 denied service-connected disability retirement, granted non-service disability retirement to Bruce Baker, and provided the applicant with the opportunity to request an administrative hearing on service connection. Motion was by Trustee Gladstern and seconded by Trustee Murphy. Voting for the motion were Trustees Bolger, Gladstern, Murphy, Silberstein and Thomas. Voting against the motion were Trustees Cooper, Given and Stevens.

Chair Bolger reported that the Board by a vote of 7-1 granted a continuance to November 8, 2017, for David Clemmer's application for service-connected disability retirement due to Mr. Clemmer's absence from the meeting, with the proviso there will be no further continuances. The request to continue the Board's initial consideration of the application was made by the applicant's attorney. Trustee Thomas recused himself and left room as he knew the applicant and stated he was unable to be impartial. Trustee Jones voted in place of Trustee Thomas. Motion was by Trustee Jones and seconded by Trustee Cooper. Voting for the motion were Trustees Cooper, Given, Gladstern, Jones, Murphy, Silberstein and Stevens. Voting against the motion was Trustee Bolger.

D. NEW BUSINESS

1. Board Meeting Calendar for 2018 (Action)

Consider and take possible action to approve Calendar

Mr. Wickman presented the proposed Board meeting schedule for 2018. The calendar is in a new format and has been reviewed by professional advisors to make sure they will be available. Based on Trustee Gladstern's question on the date for next year's fall CRCEA conference, the calendar will be presented for approval at the next Board meeting to make sure there is no conflict.

2. Future Meetings

Consider and discuss agenda items for future meetings

No discussion.

E. OTHER INFORMATION

1. Training Calendar (Action)

It was M/S Gladstern/Thomas to approve the Training Calendar as submitted.

AYES: Bolger, Cooper, Given, Gladstern, Murphy, Silberstein, Stevens, Thomas
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

2. Keeping in Touch

October Issue, Association of Retired Employees newsletter

F. CONSENT CALENDAR (Action)

It was M/S Gladstern/Cooper to approve the Consent Calendar as submitted.

AYES: Bolger, Cooper, Given, Gladstern, Murphy, Silberstein, Stevens, Thomas

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

CONSENT CALENDAR

MCERA BOARD MEETING, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2017

September 2017

RETURN OF CONTRIBUTIONS		
Marjonne Harper	Refund of Contributions (termination)	\$ 2,401.98
Melody Basford	Refund of Contributions (termination)	\$ 1,869.90
Kristen Gardner	Refund of Contributions (termination)	\$ 5,742.40
Katherine Ballinger	Refund of Contributions (termination)	\$ 19,336.84
Danielle Surdin-O'Leary	Partial Refund of Contributions (Correction)	\$ 1,932.19
Henry Bankhead	Partial Refund of Contributions (Correction)	\$ 3,141.99
Matthew Pagan	Partial Refund of Contributions (Correction)	\$ 1,922.02
Kelly Mael	Partial Refund of Contributions (30 years)	\$ 9,033.03
Lori Hendricks	Partial Refund of Contributions (30 years)	\$ 10,431.27
Khosrow Fallah	Partial Refund of Contributions (30 years)	\$ 3,069.33

BUYBACKS	
Sara Bolduc	\$ 5,835.66
Elizabeth Everhart	\$ 2,819.28
Tom Harp	\$ 22,455.05
Christopher Lee Good	\$ 9,380.55

NEW RETIREES	
Brendon Hom	City of San Rafael
Tracy Mogel	County of Marin - Assessor-Recorder-County Clerk
Martha Nelken	County of Marin - H&HS
Steven Pollock	County of Marin - Public Works
David Brown	County of Marin - Public Defender
Michael Verolini	County of Marin - H&HS

Beverly Panelli	County of Marin - County Administrator
Rainiero Miranda	County of Marin - H&HS
David Cornell	City of San Rafael
Richard Jang	County of Marin - H&HS
Diane Taylor	Courts
Jeannette Alexich	County of Marin - H&HS
Mary Kennelly	County of Marin - Public Works


DECEASED RETIREES	
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Geraldine Kebodeaux	County of Marin - Public Works
Dorothy Ressegieu	County of Marin - H&HS
Helen Peterson	County of Marin - Beneficiary
Clarence Nunes	County of Marin - Fire
Kenneth Homen	City of San Rafael

CONFERENCES/SEMINARS

NCPERS Public Pension Forum - Trustee Silberstein
 CII Fall Conference - Trustees Cooper and Silberstein
 CalAPRS Administrators' Institute - Administrator Wickman
 CalAPRS Disability Staff Training - Staff Bamford

There being no further business, Chair Bolger adjourned the meeting at 11:06 a.m.


 Bernadette Bolger, Chair
 MAYA GLADSTERIU


 Roy Given, Secretary