



San Bernardino County Employees'
Retirement Association

BOARD OF RETIREMENT

348 W. Hospitality Lane, 1st Floor, San Bernardino, CA 92408

Live stream access: <https://sbcera.legistar.com/calendar.aspx>

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Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 7, 2024

9:00 AM

Board Room

Trustees Present:

MARC BRACCO, Safety Member (Chair)
JEAN-RENE BASLE, Appointed Member (Vice-Chair)
LOUIS FIORINO, General Member
MICHAEL KENNEDY, Appointed Member
ENSEN MASON, Treasurer
DAWN ROWE, Appointed Member
DAWN STAFFORD, Retired Member
NEAL WANER, Appointed Member
HARRY HATCH, Alternate Retired Member
JARED NEWCOMER, Alternate Safety Member

Others Present:

DEBBY CHERNEY, Chief Executive Officer
BARBARA HANNAH, Chief Counsel
DAVID LANTZER, Senior Staff Counsel
AMY MCINERNEY, Chief Financial Officer
DON PIERCE, Chief Investment Officer
AMIT THANKI, Senior Investment Officer
CHRISTA JAMES, Clerk of the Board
SAM AUSTIN, NEPC
JONATHAN BERGER, AS Birch Grove
ANDREW FINK, AS Birch Grove
TODD TAUZER, Segal
MOLLY CALCAGNO, Segal
ASHLEY DUNNING, Nossaman
ALEX WESTERFIELD, Nossman
RICHARD ROBERTS, Member
LANCE MOHR, M.D.

Absent:

JOHN JOHNSON, Alternate Ex-Officio Member
VACANT, General Member

CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting was called to order at 9:01 AM. Chair Bracco led the Pledge of Allegiance and announced protocol regarding Public Comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Edgar Echaluse and Martin Santoyo provided comment on Item No. 15. Mr. Echaluse provided written public comment to be included in SBCERA's files.

RECOGNITIONS

1. View the latest feature in our 'We Are SBCERA' video series. [24-411](#)

The latest feature in our "We are SBCERA" video series was displayed for public viewing.

CONSENT

Trustee Hatch pulled Item No. 8 from the Consent Calendar to be heard in Open Session.

A motion was made by Rowe, seconded by Waner, to Approve the Consent Calendar as amended. The motion carried by the following vote:

- Ayes:** 9 - Basle, Fiorino, Kennedy, Mason, Rowe, Stafford, Waner, Newcomer, and Bracco
2. Approve minutes of regular meeting conducted on October 3, 2024. [24-412](#)
 3. Approve minutes of Special Board of Retirement Meeting conducted on October 17, 2024. [24-429](#)
 4. Approve minutes of Special Board of Retirement Meeting conducted on October 18, 2024. [24-430](#)
 5. Approve the Nonservice-Connected Disability Retirement with Supplemental Retirement Allowance of Yolanda Cervantez - San Bernardino County - Human Services. [24-405](#)
 6. Approve the Service-Connected Disability Retirement application of Dominic Moody - San Bernardino County - Human Services. [24-410](#)
 7. Approve the Service-Connected Disability Retirement with Supplemental Retirement Allowance of Paul E. Stephens - San Bernardino County - Auditor - Controller/Treasurer/Tax-Collector after adjudication of the administrative fact-finding hearing on the service-connected issue. [23-290.2](#)
 8. Approve and adopt updates to the Investment Policy No. 007 (Due Diligence Policy). [24-306.1](#)

Pierce, staff, reviewed.

A motion was made by Kennedy, seconded by Rowe, that this agenda item be

Approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 9 - Basle, Fiorino, Kennedy, Mason, Rowe, Stafford, Waner, Newcomer, and Bracco

9. Approve and adopt updates to the Investment Policy No. 009 (Proxy Voting Policy). [24-309.1](#)
10. Approve and adopt updates to the Investment Policy No. 014 (Participation on Advisory Committees/Boards). [24-310.1](#)
11. Approve the SBCERA Salary Schedule for All Employees effective December 28, 2024 (the pay period including January 1, 2025), reflecting a 1.4% Cost of Living Adjustment. [24-428](#)

ACTION ITEMS

12. Action on Deferred Items from Consent, if any. [24-413](#)

Item No. 8 was pulled from the Consent Calendar and heard in Open Session. Please see the entry above.

CLOSED SESSION

13. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION [24-440](#)
Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) of Government Code section 54956.9: One Case

No reportable action was taken.

OPEN SESSION

14. Report by Counsel on actions taken in Closed Session. [24-445](#)

Counsel stated that no reportable action was taken on Item No. 13.

ACTION ITEMS

15. Adopt SBCERA Resolution No. 2024-4 - Employer Pay Codes of Employee Compensation. [24-304](#)

McInerney, staff, reviewed.

A motion was made by Rowe, seconded by Waner, that this agenda item be Approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 8 - Basle, Kennedy, Mason, Rowe, Stafford, Waner, Newcomer, and Bracco

Nays: 1 - Fiorino

Trustee Rowe left the meeting at 10:57AM and returned to the meeting at 11:02AM.

16. Approve Segal Consulting's Actuarial Valuation and Review, and related reports, as of June 30, 2024; approve employer and employee contribution rates commencing in July 2025. [24-426](#)

McInerny, staff, reviewed. Todd Tauzer and Molly Calcagno, with Segal, presented.

A motion was made by Basle, seconded by Kennedy, that this agenda item be Approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 8 - Basle, Fiorino, Kennedy, Mason, Stafford, Waner, Newcomer, and Bracco

Absent: 1 - Rowe

Trustee Rowe left the meeting at 12:14PM

17. Approve and adopt updates to Actuary & Audit Policy No. 002 (Interest Crediting Procedures and Undesignated Excess Earnings Allocation). [24-281.1](#)

McInerny, staff, reviewed. Todd Tauzer and Molly Calcagno of Segal presented on Interest Crediting and Contra Account.

A substitute motion was made by Trustee Stafford, seconded by Fiorino, to deny the redline changes to Actuary & Audit Policy No. 002 (Interest Crediting Procedures and Undesignated Excess Earnings Allocation). Trustee Stafford withdrew her motion.

For clarification, McInerny, staff, suggested an amendment under the glossary for Contra Account to read "is applied to the other valuation reserves".

A motion was made by Kennedy, seconded by Waner, that this agenda item be Approved as amended to include staff edits. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 8 - Basle, Fiorino, Kennedy, Mason, Stafford, Waner, Newcomer, and Bracco

Absent: 1 - Rowe

18. Approve the creation of a Master Custodial Account (MCA) with AS Birch Grove, subject to final negotiation of legal documents. [24-308.1](#)

A motion was made by Fiorino, seconded by Waner, that this agenda item be Approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 7 - Basle, Fiorino, Kennedy, Stafford, Waner, Newcomer, and Bracco

Nays: 1 - Mason

Absent: 1 - Rowe

INFORMATION ITEMS

19. Presentation by NEPC of their Quarterly Investment Performance Review for the period ending September 30, 2024. [24-431](#)

Sam Austin with NEPC presented.

Trustee Mason left the meeting at 1:18PM.

20. Calendar Year 2025 Pensionable Compensation Limit for Tier 2 Members. [24-442](#)

McInerny, staff, presented.

21. Action Item on the Agenda at the SACRS Business Meeting to be held at the upcoming Fall Conference on November 15, 2024. [24-444](#)

Cherney, staff, reviewed.

RECEIVE AND FILE

22. Report on the Investment Committee meeting conducted on October 10, 2024. [24-439](#)

Received and filed.

23. Service Retirements and Effective Date Change Approved by the Chief Executive Officer. [24-406](#)

Received and filed.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS

24. Chief Executive Officer. [24-414](#)

Cherney, staff, reported.

25. Chief Investment Officer. [24-432](#)

Pierce, staff, reported.

TRUSTEE ATTENDANCE REPORTS

26. Report by the Trustees concerning conferences and other meetings attended (as specified by Education & Training Policy No. 003 - "Trustee Travel and Expense Policy"). [24-415](#)

Trustees reported on their attendance.

CLOSED SESSION

Trustee Kennedy left the meeting at 1:58PM.

27. Review and determine the Service-Connected Disability Retirement with Supplemental Retirement Allowance of Richard A. Roberts - San Bernardino County - ARMC. [24-376](#)

A motion was made by Bracco, seconded by Waner, to find that Richard A. Roberts is permanently incapacitated for the performance of duties and a nonservice-connected disability should be granted. Mr. Roberts is not capable of

gainful employment; therefore, granting the supplemental disability retirement allowance. Staff shall initiate disability benefit payments with an effective date of August 27, 2022, the day after the last day of regular compensation. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 5 - Basle, Fiorino, Stafford, Waner, and Newcomer

Nays: 1 - Bracco

Absent: 3 - Kennedy, Mason, and Rowe

Other Closed Session Matters:

28. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED [23-404.1](#)
LITIGATION
Initiation of litigation pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9: one case.

Action taken in closed session will be reported at a later date.

OPEN SESSION

29. Report by Counsel on actions taken in Closed Session. [24-416](#)

Counsel reported on actions taken in Closed Session and stated that action taken on Item No. 28 will be reported at a later date.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Trustee Stafford suggested that staff and the actuaries find a way to fund a supplemental COLA and bring to the Board for discussion. Trustee Fiorino suggested the creation of a watch list for under performing managers.

ADJOURN

Board Chair Bracco adjourned the meeting at 2:42 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

MARC BRCCO, Board Chair

DEBBY CHERNEY, Board Secretary

DATED: _____