



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, March 7, 2024

9:00 AM

Board Room

Trustees Present:

MARC BRACCO, Safety Member (Chair)
LOUIS FIORINO, General Member
MICHAEL KENNEDY, Appointed Member
ENSEN MASON, Treasurer
ERIC RALEY, General Member
DAWN ROWE, Appointed Member
DAWN STAFFORD, Retired Member
JARED NEWCOMER, Alternate Safety Member
HARRY HATCH, Alternate Retired Member

Others Present:

DEBBY CHERNEY, Chief Executive Officer
BARBARA HANNAH, Chief Counsel
STACEY BARNIER, Director of HR and Risk Management
COLIN BISHOP, Chief of Member Services
DAVID LANTZER, Sr. Staff Counsel
AMY MCINERNY, Chief Financial Officer
DON PIERCE, Chief Investment Officer
CHRISTA JAMES, Clerk of the Board
ANTHONY FRIESNER, Member
CARL HAMMERSKJOLD, Esq.
LANCE MOHR, M.D.
JANE OATMAN, Esq.
TODD SEAVER, Esq.
ROBERT VACCARI, Member
JEFFREY WAINSTEIN, M.D.

Absent:

JEAN-RENE BASLE, Appointed Member (Vice-Chair)
NEAL WANER, Appointed Member
JOHN JOHNSON, Alternate Ex-Officio Member

CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM. Chair Bracco led the Pledge of Allegiance and announced protocol regarding Public Comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public Comment was provided.

CONSENT

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

Ayes: 7 - Fiorino, Kennedy, Mason, Raley, Rowe, Stafford, and Bracco

1. Approve minutes of regular meeting conducted on February 1, 2024. [24-047](#)
2. Approve the Service-Connected Disability Retirement application of Benjamin Alvarez - San Bernardino County - Sheriff. [24-005](#)
3. Approve the Service-Connected Disability Retirement application of Rick W. Boucher - San Bernardino County - County Fire. [24-008](#)
4. Approve the Service-Connected Disability Retirement application of Rielly O. Clancy - San Bernardino County - Sheriff. [24-038](#)
5. Approve the Service-Connected Disability Retirement application of Greg Gallagher - San Bernardino County - County Fire. [24-033](#)
6. Approve the Service-Connected Disability Retirement application of Armando Hernandez - San Bernardino County - County Fire. [24-056](#)
7. Approve the Nonservice-Connected Disability Retirement with Supplemental Retirement Allowance of Gregory Paul Rehome - San Bernardino County - Transitional Assistance Department. [24-057](#)

ACTION ITEMS

8. Action on Deferred Items from Consent, if any. [24-063](#)

No items deferred from the Consent Calendar.

9. Approve the 2024 performance evaluation process and timing for the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Counsel. [24-022](#)

Barnier, 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: 7 - Fiorino, Kennedy, Mason, Raley, Rowe, Stafford, and Bracco

INFORMATION ITEMS

10. Report on the Budget vs Actual Review - For the Fiscal Year Ending [23-540](#)

June 30, 2024 as of December 31, 2023.

McInerney, staff, reviewed.

RECEIVE AND FILE

11. Report on the Investment Committee meeting conducted on February 8, 2024. [24-051](#)

Received and filed.

12. Securities Lending Report for FY 2023. [24-030.1](#)

Received and filed.

13. Service Retirements and Effective Date Change Approved by the Chief Executive Officer. [24-053](#)

Received and filed.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS

14. Chief Executive Officer. [24-066](#)

Cherney, staff, reported.

15. Chief Counsel. [24-062](#)

Hannah, staff, reported.

16. Chief Investment Officer. [24-052](#)

Pierce, staff, reported.

CLOSED SESSION

17. Review and determine the Service-Connected Disability Retirement application of Paul Bader - San Bernardino County - Sheriff. [24-046](#)

A motion was made by Kennedy, seconded by Rowe, to Approve the staff recommendation finding that Paul Bader is permanently incapacitated for the performance of duties and a disability retirement should be granted. Mr. Bader's disability is service-connected, therefore, granting a service-connected disability benefit. Staff shall initiate disability benefit payments with an effective date of December 19, 2022, date of application. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 7 - Fiorino, Kennedy, Mason, Raley, Rowe, Stafford, and Bracco

18. Review and determine the Service-Connected Disability Retirement application of Jeffrey A. Dart - San Bernardino County - County Fire. [24-055](#)

A motion was made by Rowe, seconded by Raley, to Approve the staff

recommendation finding that Jeffrey A. Dart is permanently incapacitated for the performance of duties and a disability retirement should be granted. Mr. Dart's disability is service-connected, therefore, granting a service-connected disability benefit. Staff shall initiate disability benefit payments with an effective date of March 8, 2023, date of application. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 7 - Fiorino, Kennedy, Mason, Raley, Rowe, Stafford, and Bracco

19. Approve and adopt the proposed findings and the recommendations of the referee regarding the Service-Connected Disability Retirement benefit of Anthony Friesner - San Bernardino County - Sheriff. [23-344.1](#)

A motion was made by Rowe, seconded by Stafford, to Approve the staff recommendation approving and adopting the hearing officer's decision to deny Mr. Friesner a Service-Connected Disability Retirement. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 7 - Fiorino, Kennedy, Mason, Raley, Rowe, Stafford, and Bracco

20. Review and determine the Service-Connected Disability Retirement with Supplemental Retirement Allowance of Arlene F. Stubblefield - San Bernardino County - Human Services. [24-004.1](#)

A motion was made by Stafford, seconded by Rowe, to Approve the staff recommendation finding that Arlene F. Stubblefield is permanently incapacitated for the performance of duties and a non-service connected disability retirement should be granted. Ms. Stubblefield is not capable of gainful employment; therefore, granting the supplemental disability retirement allowance. Staff shall initiate disability benefit payments with an effective date of July 15, 2022, date of application. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 7 - Fiorino, Kennedy, Mason, Raley, Rowe, Stafford, and Bracco

21. Review and determine the Service-Connected Disability Retirement application of Robert A. Vaccari - San Bernardino County - Sheriff. [24-039](#)

A motion was made by Kennedy, seconded by Rowe, to Approve the staff recommendation finding that Robert A. Vaccari is permanently incapacitated for the performance of duties and a disability retirement should be granted. Mr. Vaccari's disability is service-connected, therefore, granting a service-connected disability benefit. Staff shall initiate disability benefit payments with an effective date of May 16, 2023, date of application. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 7 - Fiorino, Kennedy, Mason, Raley, Rowe, Stafford, and Bracco

Other Closed Session Matters:

22. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION [24-058](#)
Name of case: Service Employees International Union Local 721 v. San Bernardino County Employees' Retirement Association (LA-CE-1578-M, LA-CE-1610-M, LA-CE-1677-M).

No reportable action was taken.

23. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION [24-059](#)
Name of case: San Bernardino County Employees' Retirement Association v. Service Employees International Union Local 721 - Unfair Labor Practice (LA-CO-284-M).

No reportable action taken.

24. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION [24-060](#)
Name of case: Group of Employees of San Bernardino County
Employees' Retirement Association v. Service Employees
International Union Local 721 - Decertification Petition (LA-DP-469-M).

No reportable action taken.

Trustee Rowe left the meeting at 10:22 AM.

25. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION [24-072](#)
(Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9)

Case name unspecified: Disclosure would jeopardize existing
settlement negotiations.

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

Ayes: 6 - Fiorino, Kennedy, Mason, Raley, Stafford, and Bracco

Absent: 1 - Rowe

OPEN SESSION

26. Report by Counsel on actions taken in Closed Session. [24-064](#)

Counsel stated that no reportable action was taken on Item No's. 22-24, and that
the action taken in Item No 25 would be reported at a later date.

TRUSTEE ATTENDANCE REPORTS

27. Report by the Trustees concerning conferences and other meetings [24-065](#)
attended (as specified by Education & Training Policy No. 003 -
"Trustee Travel and Expense Policy").

Trustees reported on their attendance.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

No future agenda items were suggested.

ADJOURN

Board Chair Bracco adjourned at 10:55 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

MARC BRACCO, Board Chair

DEBBY CHERNEY, Board Secretary

DATED: _____