



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 2, 2023

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
VERE WILLIAMS, General 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, Senior Staff Counsel
AMY MCINERNY, Chief Financial Officer
DONALD PIERCE, Chief Investment Officer
CHRISTA JAMES, Clerk of the Board
SAM AUSTIN, NEPC
KEVIN BRAGG, Member
MELANIE CHANEY, Esq.
CHRISTOPHER COMBS, Member
EUNICE MURRAY, Member
SHOAIB NAQVI, M.D.
PAULA SHINE, Member

Absent:

JOHN JOHNSON, Alternate Ex-Officio Member
JARED NEWCOMER, Alternate Safety Member
NEAL WANER, Appointed Member

CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Board Chair Bracco announced Trustee Jared Newcomer's absence, as he is performing evacuations in the San Bernardino Mountains and unable to physically or virtually attend today's meeting.

Board Chair Bracco announced that Trustee Vere Williams is unable to attend today's meeting in-person due to the snow conditions, and on March 1, 2023 Governor Newsom declared a State of Emergency which states in part, "storms damaged and forced the closure of Federal and State highways, and roads have stranded residents and motorists in impacted communities." San Bernardino County is one of those communities impacted. Under the Brown Act, the Board has the discretion to permit a trustee to attend remotely. Trustee Vere Williams requests for the SBCERA Board to allow him to participate in the meeting remotely due to emergency circumstances.

A motion was made by Kennedy, seconded by Fiorino, to Approve the virtual attendance of Trustee Vere Williams to the March 2, 2023 Board of Retirement meeting due to emergency circumstances. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

John Michaelson, with RESBC, provided comment regarding Item No.13.

CONSENT

Trustee Mason pulled Item No. 1, Trustee Basle pulled Item No. 8, and Trustee Hatch pulled Item No's. 9 &10 from the Consent Calendar to be heard in Open Session.

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

Ayes: 8 - Basle, Fiorino, Kennedy, Mason, Rowe, Stafford, Williams, and Bracco

Trustee Rowe left the meeting at 9:58 AM.

1. Approve minutes of regular meeting conducted on February 2, 2023. [23-083](#)

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

Ayes: 6 - Basle, Fiorino, Kennedy, Stafford, Williams, and Bracco

Absent: 1 - Rowe

Abstain: 1 - Mason

2. Approve Service Retirements and Change Effective Date. [23-085](#)

3. Approve the Non-Service-Connected Disability Retirement with Supplemental Retirement Allowance of Michelle Dehoog - San Bernardino County - Human Services. [23-086](#)
4. Approve the Non-Service-Connected Disability Retirement with Supplemental Retirement Allowance of Miranda E. Dayton - San Bernardino County - Human Services. [23-055](#)
5. Approve the Service-Connected Disability Retirement application of Mark W. Gordon - San Bernardino County - Sheriff. [23-063](#)
6. Approve the Non-Service-Connected Disability Retirement with Supplemental Retirement Allowance of Joseph K. Morrison - San Bernardino County - Public Defender. [23-087](#)
7. Approve the Service-Connected Disability Retirement with Supplemental Retirement Allowance of Regina Parham - San Bernardino County - Arrowhead Regional Medical Center. [23-088](#)

Trustee Fiorino left the meeting at 10:17 AM.

8. Approve and adopt updates to Benefits Policy No. 032 (Retirees Returning to Work). [23-068.1](#)

Hannah & Bishop, staff, reviewed. The Board suggested that the following language be added to the policy, "limitations as stated in Government Code Section 7522.56 are not applicable to volunteer services".

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

Ayes: 6 - Basle, Kennedy, Mason, Stafford, Williams, and Bracco

Absent: 2 - Fiorino, and Rowe

9. Approve and adopt Benefits Policy No. 033 (Felony Forfeiture of Benefits). [23-066.1](#)

Hannah & Bishop, staff, reviewed.

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

Ayes: 6 - Basle, Kennedy, Mason, Stafford, Williams, and Bracco

Absent: 2 - Fiorino, and Rowe

Trustee Fiorino returned to the meeting at 10:23 AM.

10. Approve and adopt Administration Policy No. 021 (Handling of Personally Identifiable Information (PII)). [23-065.1](#)

Michael, staff, reviewed.

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

Ayes: 6 - Basle, Kennedy, Mason, Stafford, Williams, and Bracco

Absent: 1 - Rowe

Abstain: 1 - Fiorino

ACTION ITEMS

11. Action on Deferred Items from Consent, if any. [23-093](#)

Trustee Mason pulled Item No. 1, Trustee Basle pulled Item No. 8, and Trustee Hatch pulled Item No's. 9 & 10 from the Consent Calendar to be heard in Open Session. Please see entries above.

12. Approve the 2023 performance evaluation process and timing for the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Counsel. [23-059.1](#)

Barnier, staff, reviewed.

A motion was made by Stafford, seconded by Kennedy, that this agenda item be Approved as amended, with the addition of an "overall" section for each review as well as the requirement to include a ranking and comments supporting each section ranking on the performance evaluation forms. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 5 - Basle, Fiorino, Kennedy, Stafford, and Bracco

Nays: 2 - Mason, and Williams

Absent: 1 - Rowe

13. Deny a Supplemental Ad Hoc Cost-of-Living Increase for Retirees based on a lack of funding source. [23-091](#)

This item was heard after the Consent Calendar. McNerny, staff, reviewed. Trustee Stafford read a statement to the Board.

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

Ayes: 8 - Basle, Fiorino, Kennedy, Mason, Rowe, Stafford, Williams, and Bracco

INFORMATION ITEMS

14. Comprehensive Credit Portfolio Review. [23-008.1](#)

Pierce, staff, and Sam Austin with NEPC presented.

15. Calendar Year 2023 Pensionable Compensation Limit for Tier 2 Members. [23-090](#)

McNerny, staff, presented.

Trustee Stafford left the meeting at 11:50 AM.

RECEIVE AND FILE

16. Securities Lending Report for FY 2022. [23-010.1](#)
Received and filed.
17. Report on the Investment Committee meeting conducted February 9, 2023. [23-074](#)
Received and filed.
18. Report on the Executive Committee meeting conducted on February 15, 2023. [23-082](#)
Received and filed.
19. Report on the Administrative Committee meeting conducted on February 16, 2023. [23-081](#)
Received and filed.

CLOSED SESSION

20. Review and determine the Service-Connected Disability Retirement with Supplemental Retirement Allowance of Kevin W. Bragg - San Bernardino County - Probation. [23-054](#)
A motion was made by Hatch, seconded by Kennedy, to amend the staff recommendation finding that Mr. Kevin Bragg is permanently incapacitated for the performance of duties and that a disability retirement be granted. Mr. Bragg is capable of gainful employment; therefore, denying the supplemental disability retirement allowance. The motion failed by the following vote:
Ayes: 3 - Kennedy, Hatch, and Bracco
Nays: 4 - Basle, Fiorino, Mason, and Williams
Absent: 3 - Rowe, and Stafford
A motion was made by Mason, seconded by Fiorino, to Approve the staff recommendation finding that Mr. Kevin W. Bragg is not permanently incapacitated for the performance of duties; therefore, a disability retirement should be denied. Also, finding that Mr. Bragg is capable of gainful employment; therefore, denying the supplemental disability retirement allowance. The motion carried by the following vote:
Ayes: 4 - Basle, Fiorino, Mason, and Williams
Nays: 3 - Kennedy, Hatch, and Bracco
Absent: 2 - Rowe, and Stafford

Trustee Mason left the meeting at 12:44 PM.

21. Review and determine the Service-Connected Disability Retirement with Supplemental Retirement Allowance of Christopher Combs - San Bernardino County - Probation. [23-089](#)

A motion was made by Hatch, seconded by Williams, to Continue this item for six (6) months. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 6 - Basle, Fiorino, Kennedy, Williams, Hatch, and Bracco

Absent: 3 - Mason, Rowe, and Stafford

22. Review and determine the Service-Connected Disability Retirement with Supplemental Retirement Allowance of Eunice Murray - San Bernardino County - Preschool Services. [23-042](#)

A motion was made by Hatch, seconded by Williams, to Approve staff recommendations 1, 2 & 4, and amend staff recommendation 3 finding that Ms. Eunice Murray is permanently incapacitated for the performance of duties and a service-connected disability retirement should be granted. Ms. Murray is not capable of gainful employment; therefore, grant the supplemental disability retirement allowance. Staff shall initiate disability benefit payments with an effective date of January 13, 2022, date of application. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 4 - Basle, Williams, Hatch, and Bracco

Nays: 2 - Fiorino, and Kennedy

Absent: 3 - Mason, Rowe, and Stafford

23. Review and determine the Service-Connected Disability Retirement with Supplemental Retirement Allowance of Paula Renee Shine - San Bernardino County - Preschool Services. [22-508.2](#)

A motion was made by Hatch, seconded by Kennedy, to Approve the staff recommendation finding that Ms. Paula Renee Shine is not permanently incapacitated for the performance of duties; therefore, a disability retirement should be denied. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 6 - Basle, Fiorino, Kennedy, Williams, Hatch, and Bracco

Absent: 3 - Mason, Rowe, and Stafford

Other Closed Session Matters:

24. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS (Government Code section 54957.6) [23-096](#)
Agency designated representatives: Debby Cherney, Stacey Barnier
Employee Organization: Service Employees International Union Local 721

This Item was heard at the beginning of the meeting. No reportable action was taken.

OPEN SESSION

25. Report by Counsel on actions taken in Closed Session. [23-094](#)

Counsels reported on actions taken in Closed Session and stated that no reportable action was taken on Item No. 24.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS

26. Chief Investment Officer.

[23-075](#)

Pierce, staff, reported.

TRUSTEE ATTENDANCE REPORTS

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

[23-095](#)

Trustees Newcomer and Williams were unable to attend the trainings due to weather conditions.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Trustee Fiorino suggested the following future agenda items:

1. Review investment managers to see if SBCERA has investments in mainland China with companies that are in the defense, arms, or semiconductor industries.
2. Review SBCERA's property manager contract and find a local property manager.
3. Discuss allowing disability candidates to present in-person.
4. Evaluate all outstanding recommendations for future agenda items.

ADJOURN

Board Chair Bracco adjourned the meeting at 2:03 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

MARC BRACCO, Board Chair

DEBBY CHERNEY, Board Secretary

DATED: _____