



San Bernardino County Employees'
Retirement Association

BOARD OF RETIREMENT

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

Trustee in-person access: 348 W. Hospitality Lane, 1st Floor, San Bernardino, CA 92408

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, July 1, 2021

9:00 AM

Hybrid:
In person (Trustees only)/Online

Trustees Present:

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

Others Present:

DEBBY CHERNEY, Chief Executive Officer
BARBARA HANNAH, Chief Counsel
COLIN BISHOP, Chief of Member Services
DAVID LANTZER, Senior Staff Counsel
AMY MCINERNY, Chief Financial Officer
DONALD PIERCE, Chief Investment Officer
CHRISTA JAMES, Recorder
SAM AUSTIN, NEPC
SIDNEY HUTLQUIST, City of Barstow
LANCE MOHR, MD
JUANITA VASQUEZ, Member
DARCY WIGINGTON, Retiree

Absent:

JOHN JOHNSON, Alternate Ex-Officio Member

CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Board Chair Waner called the meeting to order at 9:02 AM.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Sunnie Mills provided written Public Comment, which was read into the record.

RECOGNITIONS

1. Present resolution honoring fallen officer Sergeant Dominic Vaca. [21-020](#)

Vice Chair Bracco presented a resolution in honor of Sergeant Dominic Vaca.

CONSENT

Staff pulled Item No. 4 from the agenda. Trustee Fiorino pulled Item No. 10 and Trustee Mason Pulled Item No. 2 from the Consent Calendar to be heard in Open Session.

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

Ayes: 9 - Waner, Bracco, Rutherford, Basle, Fiorino, Kennedy, Mason, Stafford, and Williams

2. Approve minutes of regular meeting of June 3, 2021. [19-1487](#)

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

Ayes: 8 - Waner, Bracco, Rutherford, Basle, Fiorino, Kennedy, Stafford, and Williams

Abstain: 1 - Mason

3. Approve Service Retirements. [19-1486](#)

4. Approve the Service-Connected Disability Retirement application of John R. Chamberlin - County of San Bernardino - County Fire [19-1497](#)

Staff pulled Item No. 4 from the agenda.

5. Approve the Non-Service-Connected Disability Retirement with Supplemental Retirement Allowance of Vivian F. Croox - County of San Bernardino - Arrowhead Regional Medical Center. [19-1502](#)

6. Approve the Non-Service-Connected Disability Retirement with Supplemental Retirement Allowance of Miguel Mejia - County of San Bernardino - Purchasing [19-1501](#)

7. Approve the Non-Service-Connected Disability Retirement with Supplemental Retirement Allowance of Roseana C. Sasaninia - County of San Bernardino - Arrowhead Regional Medical Center. [19-1484](#)

8. Approve the Service-Connected Disability Survivorship of Dominic Vaca - County of San Bernardino - Sheriff. [19-1496](#)

9. Approve the attendance and related expense of Louis Fiorino, Jared Newcomer, and Janice Rutherford to the Value Edge 2021 Public Funds Forum to be held in San Diego, CA, on October 26-28, 2021. [21-012](#)

10. Ratify travel expenses for Trustees & CEO for the Quarter Ended March 31, 2021. [19-1434](#)

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

Ayes: 9 - Waner, Bracco, Rutherford, Basle, Fiorino, Kennedy, Mason, Stafford, and Williams

11. Approve the Staff Position Classifications pursuant to the approved FY 2021-22 Annual Budget, and Approve the Updated SBCERA Salary Schedule. [21-014](#)
12. Adopt SBCERA Resolution No. 2021-5 - Employer Pay Codes of Employee Compensation. [19-1433](#)
13. Approve and adopt updates to General Policy No. 010 (Pre-Funding Of Contributions). [19-1479.1](#)
14. Approve and adopt updates to Administration Policy No. 019 (Capital & Controlled Assets). [19-1480.1](#)
15. Approve and adopt updates to Administration Policy No. 013 (Expenditure Budget Approval). [19-1481.1](#)

ACTION ITEMS

16. Action on Deferred Items from Consent, if any. [19-1488](#)
Staff pulled Item No. 4 from the agenda. Trustee Fiorino pulled Item No. 10 and Trustee Mason Pulled Item No. 2 from the Consent Calendar to be heard in Open Session. See entries above.
17. Approve the request to extend employment of Sidney Hultquist from July 1, 2021 to September 30, 2021 because an extreme necessity exists to continue the retiree's employment beyond the 18-month limit, and thus the standards of SBCERA Board Benefits Policy No. 032 "Retirees Returning to Work," have been met. [21-008](#)

Bishop, staff, reviewed. Darcy Wigington and Sidney Hultquist provided comment.

A motion was made by Bracco, seconded by Rutherford, that this agenda item be Approved as amended to include a six (6) month extension. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 7 - Waner, Bracco, Rutherford, Basle, Kennedy, Stafford, and Williams

Nays: 2 - Fiorino, and Mason

18. Approve and adopt updates to General Policy No. 006 (Board of Retirement Elections). [21-019](#)

Hannah and Cherney, staff, reviewed.

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

Ayes: 9 - Waner, Bracco, Rutherford, Basle, Fiorino, Kennedy, Mason, Stafford, and Williams

19. Select an Investment Consultant and Approve a Professional Services Contract for Investment Consulting Services with either NEPC, LLC or [19-1470.1](#)

Verus for a term of five years with a two-year optional extension period in the average sum of approximately \$1.3 million per year, effective January 1, 2022.

Pierce, staff, reviewed.

A motion was made by Rutherford, seconded by Stafford, to select NEPC as SBCERA's Investment Consultant and to Approve a Professional Services Contract for Investment Consulting Services with NEPC, LLC for a term of five years with a two-year optional extension period in the average sum of approximately \$1.3 million per year, effective January 1, 2022. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 6 - Waner, Bracco, Rutherford, Basle, Kennedy, and Stafford

Nays: 3 - Fiorino, Mason, and Williams

Trustee Bracco left the meeting at 11:06 AM.

20. 2021 Asset Allocation Review and Asset Liability Study. [19-1463.1](#)

Pierce, staff, reviewed. Allan Martin and Sam Austin of NEPC presented.

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

Ayes: 7 - Waner, Rutherford, Basle, Kennedy, Stafford, Williams, and Newcomer

Nays: 2 - Fiorino, and Mason

INFORMATION ITEMS

21. Report on the Budget vs Actual Review - For the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2021 as of the Third Quarter ending March 31, 2021. [19-1436](#)

McInerney, staff, reviewed.

RECEIVE AND FILE

22. Report on the Investment Committee meeting conducted June 8, 2021. [19-1495](#)
Received and Filed.
23. Report on the Administrative Committee meeting conducted June 17, 2021. [21-010](#)
Received and Filed.
24. Report on the Audit Committee meeting conducted June 17, 2021. [21-011](#)
Received and Filed.
25. Report on the Special Investment Committee meeting conducted June 23, 2021. [19-1499](#)
Received and Filed.
26. Closing Report on the Tenant Improvement Project at 348 W. Hospitality Lane. [19-1455](#)
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Received and Filed.

27. Financial Statement Audit for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2021. [19-1477.1](#)

Received and Filed.

28. Mondrian Emerging Markets Portfolio Review. [19-1464.1](#)

Received and Filed.

CLOSED SESSION

29. Review and determine the Service-Connected Disability Retirement with Supplemental Retirement Allowance of Juanita Vasquez - County of San Bernardino - Facilities Management. [19-808.1](#)

A motion was made by Stafford, seconded by Mason, to Approve the Staff Recommendation granting Ms. Vasquez a service connected disability retirement. Ms. Vasquez is capable of gainful employment; therefore, deny the supplemental disability retirement allowance. Staff shall initiate disability benefit payments with an effective date of September 15, 2018, the day after the last day of regular compensation. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 5 - Waner, Rutherford, Mason, Stafford, and Newcomer

Nays: 4 - Basle, Fiorino, Kennedy, and Williams

Other Closed Session Matters:

30. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION [21-015](#)
Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision of Section 54956.9: one case.

Action on Item No. 30 will be reported at a later date.

OPEN SESSION

31. Report by Counsel on actions taken in Closed Session. [19-1489](#)

Hannah, staff, stated that action on Item No. 30 will be reported at a later date.
Lantzer, staff, reported on action taken on Item No. 29.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS

32. Chief Executive Officer. [21-007](#)

Cherney, staff, reviewed.

33. Chief Counsel. [21-013](#)

Hannah, staff, reported.

34. Chief Investment Officer. [19-1491](#)

Pierce, staff, reported.

TRUSTEE ATTENDANCE REPORTS

35. Report by the Trustees concerning conferences and other meetings attended (as specified by Education & Training Policy No. 003 - "Trustee Travel and Expense Policy"). [19-1490](#)

Trustee Williams reported on his attendance.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Trustee Newcomer suggested an item regarding demand of overpayment repayment time frame. Trustee Newcomer also suggested that SBCERA organize a Trustee Training Session concerning investment related topics (credit 101, why are we at 33%, asset allocation/classes, ESG, consultant overview, etc.).

ADJOURN

Board Chair Waner adjourned the meeting at 2:16 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

NEAL WANER, Board Chair

DEBBY CHERNEY, Board Secretary

DATED: _____