



Contra Costa County Employees'
Retirement Association

MINUTES

RETIREMENT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING

January 8, 2020

9:00 a.m.

Board Conference Room

1200 Concord Avenue, Suite 350

Concord, California

Present: Candace Andersen, Donald Finley, Scott Gordon, Louie Kroll, Jay Kwon, David MacDonald, John Phillips, William Pigeon, Mike Sloan, Todd Smithey and Russell Watts

Absent: Jerry Holcombe

Staff: Gail Strohl, Chief Executive Officer; Christina Dunn, Deputy Chief Executive Officer; Timothy Price, Chief Investment Officer; Karen Levy, General Counsel; Wrally Dutkiewicz, Compliance Officer; Anne Sommers, Administrative/HR Manager; Henry Gudino, Accounting Manager; Tim Hoppe, Retirement Services Manager; and Jasmine Lee, Member Services Manager

Outside Professional Support: Representing:

None

1. Pledge of Allegiance

The Board, staff and audience joined in the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

2. Recognition of Elise Diliberto for 5 years of service and Ruchele Durbin for 30 years of service

Smithey recognized and congratulated Elise Diliberto for her 5 years of service and Ruchele Durbin for her 30 years of service.

3. Accept comments from the public

No member of the public offered comment.

4. Approval of minutes

It was M/S/C to approve the minutes of the December 11, 2019 Board meeting. (Yes: Andersen, Finley, Gordon, Kroll, Kwon, MacDonald, Phillips, Smithey and Watts).

5. Routine Items

It was M/S/C to approve the routine items of the January 8, 2020 meeting. (Yes: Andersen, Finley, Gordon, Kroll, Kwon, MacDonald, Phillips, Smithey and Watts)

CLOSED SESSION

The Board moved into closed session pursuant to Govt. Code Section 54957.

The Board moved into open session.

6. It was **M/S/C** to accept the Medical Advisor's recommendation and grant the following disability benefits:
 - a. Jack Sheppard – Service Connected (Yes: Andersen, Finley, Gordon, Kroll, Kwon, MacDonald, Phillips, Smithey and Watts)

7. **Consider and take possible action regarding non-service connected disability retirement allowance of deceased member Saenyuan Pharn**

Hoppe provided background on the events leading up to the death of Mr. Pharn noting that prior to his death, Mr. Pharn had filed a Member Election Form for Non-Service Connected Disability in the Event of Death During Active Membership. The medical records were analyzed by the Board's medical advisor, who concluded that the evidence supported that Mr. Pharn was totally disabled from any employment prior to his death. He recommended the Board grant Mr. Pharn a non-service connected disability retirement, effective July 13, 2018.

After a discussion, it was **M/S** to deny the non-service connected disability retirement.

Pigeon was present for subsequent discussion and voting.

After a lengthy discussion, a substitute motion was **M/S/C** that the member was permanently unable to engage in any substantial gainful employment and to grant a non-service connected disability retirement, effective July 13, 2018, and grant the member's beneficiaries benefits pursuant to Government Code Section 31764, an Optional Settlement 4 allowance. (Yes: Kroll, MacDonald, Pigeon, Smithey and Watts. No: Andersen, Gordon, Kwon and Phillips)

The Board requested a follow-up workshop on this subject be provided for discussion at a future meeting.

8. **Retirement overview session**

Brianne Wilkins, Senior Retirement Counselor, gave a retirement overview presentation being provided to members within CCCERA's retirement system. The topics include key terms used in communicating with members, membership requirements, tiers, contributions, final average salary, service credits, reciprocity and using the calculator on CCCERA's website.

9. **Consider and take possible action to approve the assignment of CCCERA's agreement with LRWL Inc. to Segal Consulting**

Strohl reported that CCCERA was notified on December 9, 2019 of Segal Consulting's intention to purchase LRWL Inc. She stated CCCERA has been assured there will be no change to the services agreed to in the contract and all LRWL Inc. employees and the team assigned to CCCERA will continue to remain the same.

Strohl introduced Chris Fikes from LRWL Inc. who discussed the purchase and transition of LRWL Inc. by Segal Consulting. He also gave an update on the progress made since they began work on the project and noted they are currently on schedule.

After a lengthy discussion, it was M/S/C to approve the assignment of CCCERA's agreement with LRWL Inc. to Segal Consulting. (Yes: Andersen, Gordon, Kroll, Kwon, MacDonald, Phillips, Pigeon, Smithey and Watts)

10. Consider and take possible action to adopt the CCCERA position pay schedules for classifications represented by AFSCME, Local 2700

Strohl reported the position pay schedules are related to the increases in base pay in the Memorandum of Understanding between CCCERA and AFSCME, Local 2700 that was adopted on February 13, 2019 and covers the period of January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2023.

It was M/S/C to adopt the CCCERA position pay schedules for classifications represented by AFSCME, Local 2700. (Yes: Andersen, Gordon, Kroll, Kwon, MacDonald, Phillips, Pigeon, Smithey and Watts)

11. Consider and take possible action to authorize the members of the Audit Committee to participate in the interview of the final candidate(s) for the newly created position of internal auditor

Strohl reported the Audit Committee Charter does not currently include a provision for the Committee to participate in interviews and will be amending the Charter in the future.

It was M/S/C to authorize the members of the Audit Committee to participate in the interview of the final candidate(s) for the newly created position of internal auditor. (Yes: Andersen, Gordon, Kroll, Kwon, MacDonald, Phillips, Pigeon, Smithey and Watts)

12. Consider authorizing the attendance of Board:

- a. There was no action taken on this item. 2020 Risk & Liquidity Forum, Institutional Investor Forums, January 28-29, 2020, San Francisco, CA.

13. Miscellaneous

- (a) Staff Report –

Strohl reported January 1st was the 5-year anniversary of CCCERA becoming an independent employer.


- (b) Outside Professionals' Report -

None

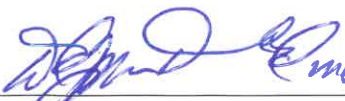
- (c) Trustees' comments –

Phillips reported on the key takeaways from the Markets Group 7th Annual California Institutional Forum that he and Smithey attended.

It was M/S/C to adjourn the meeting. (Yes: Andersen, Gordon, Kroll, Kwon, MacDonald, Phillips, Pigeon, Smithey and Watts)



Todd Smithey, Chairman



David MacDonald, Secretary

