Contra Costa County Employees' Retirement Association

RETIREMENT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING
March 19, 2025
9:00 a.m.

Board Conference Room
1200 Concord Avenue, Suite 350
Concord, California

BOARD MEMBER CANDACE ANDERSEN PARTICIPATED IN THE BOARD MEETING VIA TELECONFERENCE AT THE LOCATION LISTED BELOW.

TELECONFERENCE LOCATION:
1516 KAMOLE STREET
HONOLULU, HI 96821

Present: Candace Andersen, Dennis Chebotarev, Donald Finley, Scott Gordon, Jerry Holcombe, Louie Kroll, Jay Kwon, David MacDonald, Dan Mierzwa, John Phillips, Mike Sloan, and Samson Wong.

Absent: None

Staff: Christina Dunn, Chief Executive Officer; Colin Bishop, Deputy Chief Executive Officer; Karen Levy, General Counsel; and Erica Grant, Human Resources Manager

Outside Professional Support:	Representing:
Aaron Mucha	Sagitec
Jessie Rivera	Segal Consulting

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

2. **Accept comments from the public**
   No member of the public offered comment.

3. **Recognition of Shannon Langston for 10 years of service**
   Gordon recognized Shannon Langston for 10 years of service.

4A. Consider and take possible action on Consent Items

It was **M/S/C** to approve all consent items. (Yes: Andersen, Chebotarev, Gordon, Holcombe, Kroll, MacDonald, Phillips, and Wong).

4B. Consider and take possible action on Consent Items previously removed, if any

No action taken on this item.

Mierzwa was present for subsequent discussion and voting.

5. Consider and take possible action to adopt the CCCERA Strategic Plan for 2025-2028

It was **M/S/C** to adopt the CCCERA Strategic Plan for 2025-2028. (Yes: Andersen, Chebotarev, Gordon, Holcombe, Kroll, MacDonald, Mierzwa, Phillips, and Wong).

6. Consider and take possible action on SACRS voting proxy form

It was **M/S/C** to appoint Sloan as the Voting Delegate and MacDonald as the alternate, at the upcoming SACRS Conference. (Yes: Andersen, Chebotarev, Gordon, Holcombe, Kroll, MacDonald, Mierzwa, Phillips, and Wong).

7. Pension administration system project update

Mucha, Rivera, and Dunn gave an update on the Pension administration project.

8. Report from Investment Committee Chair on February 26, 2025 meeting

MacDonald reported on the February 26, 2025, Investment Committee meeting.

9. Consider authorizing the attendance of Board:

a. It was **M/S/C** to authorize the attendance of 1 Board member at the CRCEA Spring Conference April 13-16, 2025, Ventura, CA. (Yes: Andersen, Chebotarev, Gordon, Holcombe, Kroll, MacDonald, Mierzwa, Phillips, and Wong).

It was the consensus of the Board to move to Closed Session.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board moved into closed session pursuant to Govt. Code Section 54957 to consider recommendations from the medical advisor and/or staff regarding disability retirement applications.

The Board moved into open session and reported the following:

11. Disability Applications:

It was **M/S/C** to accept the Medical Advisor's recommendation and grant the following disability benefits:

Kroll recused himself from Item 11.a and was not present for subsequent discussion and voting.

a. Gregory Haskett – Service Connected (Yes: Andersen, Chebotarev, Finley, Gordon, MacDonald, Mierzwa, Phillips, and Sloan. No: Holcombe).

Kroll was available for subsequent discussion and voting.

b. Mike Quesada – Service Connected (Yes: Andersen, Chebotarev, Gordon, Holcombe, Kroll, MacDonald, Mierzwa, Phillips, and Wong).

12. The Board will continue in closed session pursuant to Govt. Code Section 549569(d)(1) to confer with legal counsel regarding pending litigation:

Bailey v. CCCERA, et al., Contra Costa County Superior Court, Case No. N23-0680

It was **M/S/C** to authorize the engagement of Vivian Shultz to represent CCCERA in the Bailey lawsuit. (Yes: Andersen, Chebotarev, Gordon, Holcombe, Kroll, MacDonald, Mierzwa, Phillips, and Wong).

13. The Board continued in closed session pursuant to Govt. Code Section 54957 to evaluate the performance of the following public employee:

Title: Chief Executive Officer

There was no reportable action on this item.

14. The Board further continued in closed session pursuant to Govt. Code Section 54956.9(d)(1) to confer with legal counsel regarding pending litigation:

a. CPPIB Credit Investments II Inc., et al. v. Lions Gate Entertainment Corporation, et al., Supreme Court of the State of New York, County of New York, No. 654398/2024.

There was no reportable action on this item.

b. CCCERA, et al. v. Valeant Pharms. Int'l, Inc., et al., United States District Court, New Jersey (3:17-cv-12088)

There was no reportable action on this item.

10. Reports

a. Trustee reports on meetings, seminars, and conferences – Phillips, MacDonald and Andersen reported out on the CALAPRS General Assembly, March 3-5, 2025, Napa CA. All of the attendees spoke favorably of the conference.

b. Staff reports – Dunn reported that March 2025 retirements are currently at 116 applications; compared to last year's 111 applications.

The next meeting is currently scheduled for April 2, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.

It was **M/S/C** to adjourn the meeting in remembrance of John Eugene Murdock, former Chief of Contra Costa County Sheriff's Office Forensic Services Division.

(Yes: Andersen, Chebotarev, Gordon, Holcombe, Kroll, MacDonald, Mierzwa, Phillips, and Wong)

Scott W. Gordon, Chairperson

Jerry R. Holcombe, Secretary