

**SAN MATEO COUNTY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION
FEBRUARY 25, 2025 – REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

2502.1.0 Call to Order, Roll Call and Miscellaneous Business

Call to Order: Alma Salas, Chair, called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Retirement to order at 10:00 a.m.

Roll Call:

Present: Sandie Arnott, Laurel Finnegan, Kurt Hoefer, Kimathi Marangu, Katherine O'Malley, Elaine, Orr, Rachel Perkel, Robert Raw, and Alma Salas.

Absent: None.

Alternates: April DeCarsky and Nicole McKay.

Staff: Michael Coultrip, Scott Hood, Jenny Lukan, Elizabeth LeNguyen, JulieAnne Nagal, Doris Ng, Paul Okada, and Gladys Smith.

Consultants and speakers: John Nicolini (Verus).

2502.2.1 Oral Communications from the Board: Mr. Hoefer expressed thanks for the card following his surgery.

2502.2.2 Oral Communications from the Public: None.

2502.3.1 Approval of Board Meeting Minutes from January 28, 2025: Ms. Salas asked if there were any changes or corrections, or objections, to the minutes from the regular meeting held on January 28, 2025. Mr. Hood presented one correction to the Board regarding missing absent names in item C2. Rob Raw and Kurt Hoefer should have been listed as absent.

Action: Ms. Arnott moved to approve the corrected minutes from the January 28, 2025 regular Board meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Marangu and carried with a vote of 7-0-2, with trustees Arnott, Finnegan, Marangu, O'Malley, Orr, Perkel, and Salas all in favor; none opposed; Hoefer and Raw abstained.

Trustees Hoefer and Raw were absent at the January regular meeting, so Mr. Okada repeated that he researched voting eligibility for regular Board Meetings and concluded that Board Members can vote on the approval of minutes for regular Board Meetings they were not present for, and they are not required to abstain.

2502.4.0 Approval of the Consent Agenda: Ms. Salas asked if there were any items to be removed for discussion from the Consent Agenda. No items were removed.

Action: Mr. Hoefer moved to approve the items on the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Mr. Marangu and carried with a vote of 9-0-0, with trustees Arnott, Finnegan, Hoefer, Marangu, O'Malley, Orr, Perkel, Raw, and Salas all in favor; none opposed; none abstained.

2502.4.1 Disability Retirements:

- a) The Board found that **Jennifer Faumuina** (1) is not permanently disabled from substantially performing her usual and customary duties as a Deputy Probation Officer III and (2) denied her application for a service-connected disability retirement.

- b) The Board found that **William Passmore** (1) is permanently incapacitated from the performance of his usual and customary duties as a Deputy Sheriff, (2) found that his disability was the result of an injury arising out of and in the course of his employment and (3) granted his application for a service-connected disability retirement.

2502.4.2 **Survivor Death Benefits:** None.

2502.4.3 **Service Retirements:**

Name	Effective Retirement Date	Department
Abalos, Christopher	December 31, 2024	Probation
Aguerre, Haydee	December 3, 2024	Assessor's Office
Bambic, Salina	December 8, 2024	Deferred - Human Services Agency
Becker, Frances	August 1, 2024	San Mateo County Health
Bischoff, Ursula	December 2, 2024	Deferred - Human Services Agency
Bridges, Marian	January 1, 2025	Family Health Services
Cloney, Christopher	December 24, 2024	Deferred - Sheriff's Office
Doyle, Cindy	January 1, 2025	San Mateo County Health
Francisco, Deking	January 1, 2025	Human Services Agency
Hirsch, Emily	January 1, 2025	Deferred - Human Services Agency
Lamica, Suzanne	November 1, 2024	Deferred - SamCERA
LaPerle, James	December 30, 2024	Deferred - San Mateo County Health
Medina, Michael	January 1, 2024	Sheriff's Office
Patino, Jose	December 13, 2024	Environmental Health Services
Peterson, David	December 31, 2024	Human Services Agency
Poss, Nancy	December 4, 2024	Agriculture
Rueppel, Erik	December 28, 2024	Sheriff's Office
Sabel, John	December 31, 2024	Sheriff's Office
Sisneros, Elise	December 10, 2024	Public Safety Communications
Stelmack, Richard	December 3, 2024	Behavioral Health
Valdez, Yadira	December 7, 2024	Family Health Services

2502.4.4 **Continuances:**

Survivor's Name	Beneficiary of:
Welsh, Judith	Welsh, Hyacinth
Wright, Marlene	Wright, John

2502.4.5 **Deferred Retirements:**

Name	Retirement Plan Type
Alvarado-Gonzalez, Roberto	G4, Vested Auto Defer – Code 31700
Amadi, Victor	P7/S7, Vested – Reciprocity
Huang, Derek	G5, Vested
Morales, Briana	S7, Vested
Leiva, Demetrius	G7, Vested - Reciprocity
Quintanilla-Recinos, Ana	G4, Vested Auto Defer – Code 31700
Yankee, Matthew	G5, Vested Auto Defer – Code 31700

2502.4.6 **Member Account Refunds:**

Name	Retirement Plan Type
Arroliga Diaz, Jose	G7, Non-vested
Fox, Matthew	S5, Non-vested
Hambarchyan, Arpine	G7, Non-vested
Jung, Wonbin	G7, Non-vested
McInnis, Owen	G7, Non-vested
Verdin-Reyes, Alondra	G7, Non-vested
Wilson-Locke, Nancy	G7, Vested

2502.4.7 **Member Account Rollovers:**

Name	Retirement Plan Type
Ahrens, Alex	S7, Non-vested
Armstrong, Phyllis	G7, Non-vested
Bader, Darren	G4, Vested
Barnes, Clayton	G7, Non-vested
Huynh, Anh	G7, Non-vested
Kang, Andrew (FBO: Kang, Suzanna)	G7, Vested
Lustenberger, Fred	G7, Non-vested
Nunez, Sylvia	G4, Non-vested
Philip, Brian	S5, Non-vested
Vadlamani, Sanjay	G7, Non-vested
Wilson-Locke, Nancy	G7, Vested

2502.4.8 **Member Account Redeposits:** None.

2502.4.9 **Acceptance of Trustees' Reports of Education Activities:** The Board accepted the submitted report for educational activities attended by Mr. Raw.

2502.4.10 **Acceptance of Semi-Annual Compliance Certification Statements for the Period Ended December 31, 2024:** The Board accepted the semi-annual Compliance Certification Statements for SamCERA's non-alternative investment managers, as of December 31, 2024.

2502.4.11 **Acceptance of Preliminary Semi-Annual Financial Report for Period Ended December 31, 2024:** The Board accepted the Preliminary Semi-Annual Financial Report for the Six-Months ended December 31, 2024.

2502.4.12 **Acceptance of Preliminary Semi-Annual Budget Report for Period Ended December 31, 2024:** The Board accepted the Preliminary Semi-Annual Budget-to-Actual Report for the Six-Months ended December 31, 2024.

2502.4.13 **Reaffirm Securities Litigation Policy:** The Board reaffirmed the Board of Retirement Securities and Other Investments-Related Legal Actions Policy.

2502.5.1 **Consideration of Agenda Items, if any, Removed from the Consent Agenda:** None.

2502.5.2 **Reports on Quarterly Funding Progress for the Period Ended December 31, 2024:** Mr. Hood reported on the quarterly funding update for the period ended December 31, 2024, which showed projected funded ratio and employer contribution rate. This item was informational and for discussion only, no action was taken.

- 2502.6.1 **Report on Preliminary Monthly Portfolio Performance for the Period Ended January 31, 2025:** Mr. Coultrip reported that SamCERA's preliminary return for January was 2.0%, bringing the preliminary trailing twelve-month net return ending January to 11.2%. SamCERA's estimated market value as of January was \$6.9 billion, while the actuarial funded ratio as of June 30, 2024, was 87.6%. This item was informational and for discussion only, no action was taken.
- 2502.6.2 **Report on Quarterly Investment Performance for the Period Ended December 31, 2024:** Mr. Coultrip reported that the 4th quarter net total return for the SamCERA portfolio was -0.9%, which was 1.4% below the 0.5% policy benchmark return. Mr. Nicolini from Verus presented the Verus Quarterly Performance Report Ending December 31, 2024 to the Board. This item was informational and for discussion only, no action was taken.
- 2502.7.1 **Report on March 25, 2025 Board-Staff Retreat Planning:** Mr. Hood reviewed the draft agenda for the March Board-Staff retreat with the Board. This item was informational and for discussion only, no action was taken.
- 2502.7.2 **Discussion of SamCERA's Portable Electronic Devices Policy:** Mr. Hood reported to the Board that staff is in the process of drafting amendments to SamCERA's Portable Electronic Devices Policy regarding personal devices, which will be brought to the Board at a future meeting. The Board discussed issues relating to the security of personally owned devices as opposed to devices provided by SamCERA or the use of hard copies. This item was informational and for discussion only, no action was taken.
- 2502.8.1 **Chief Executive Officer's Report:** Mr. Hood reported to the Board that SamCERA will going through the Request for Proposal (RFP) process for a consultant to help with the RFP process for a new pension system. Ms. Perkel asked for a list of the technology vendors to be on the look-out for at conferences. Mr. Hood reported that the next SamCERA Staff Retreat will be in-person in May. Mr. Hood also reported that at next month's Board-Staff Retreat there will be amendment to the regulations that the Audit Committee discussed at their meeting. Mr. Hood reported that next week is CALAPRS General Assembly in Napa. Lastly, Mr. Hood reminded the Board that its Form 700 season, the deadline is April 1st.
- 2502.8.2 **Assistant Executive Officer's Report:** Ms. Smith reported to the Board that there will be two upcoming special elections, one for the retired seat and one for the alternate retired seat, and she received the elections calendar from the Elections Office. Ms. Smith is waiting on the election notice and once received, it will be posted in the retiree newsletter that goes out to all the retirees. Ms. Smith also reported that Supervisor Canepa will be reappointing Mr. Marangu and Mr. Hoefer to their respective Board seats at a May Board of Supervisor's meeting. Lastly, Ms. Smith reported that the current agreement with SamCERA's financial education provider, Financial Knowledge Network (FKN), ends in June and SamCERA will be asking the Board to approve an agreement with FKN since the last RFP process, they were the only one who responded.
- Ms. Lukan reported on upcoming education opportunities including IFEBP Investment Institute in Fort Myers, FL in April, SACRS Spring in Rancho Mirage in May, IFEBP Washington Legislative Update in Washington, DC in May, NCPERS Annual Conference with NAF and TEDS preconferences in Denver in May, and CALAPRS Trustees Round Table, which is virtual in May, and she will send an email with all the information mentioned. Ms. Lukan also reported that the registrations for IFEBP Fall have been processed, however the hotel assignments have not yet been made.
- 2502.8.3 **Chief Investment Officer's Report:** Mr. Coultrip reported to the Board that staff potentially will be bringing two recommendations in closed session next month. Mr. Coultrip also reported that staff is performing due diligence for an absolute return manager search. Lastly, Mr. Coultrip reported a

rebalancing action in which SamCERA sold \$60 million (or 1% of the portfolio) of equity exposure and increased cash by 1%.

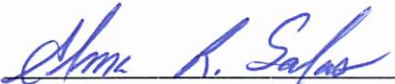
2502.8.4 **Chief Legal Counsel's Report:** Mr. Okada reported to the Board that he received a draft of ACERA's (Alameda County) amicus brief in the LACERA vs. Los Angeles case. Mr. Okada will review and will reach out to the Board before determining whether or not to join.

C1 **Consideration of Disability Items, if any, removed from the Consent Agenda:** None.

2502.9.0 **Reports on Actions Taken in Closed Session:** None.

2502.10 **Adjournment:** Ms. Salas adjourned the meeting at 11:09 p.m. in memory of the deceased members listed below.

Sullivan, Adrienne	January 6, 2025	Courts
Hamel, Jeanne	January 11, 2025	Probation
Wertz, Merrilee	January 23, 2025	San Mateo County Health
Hildebrand, Ralph	January 25, 2025	Sheriff's Office
Marsh, Robert	February 1, 2025	Public Works



Alma R. Salas
Board Chair