

SCOTT W. JARVIS  
RETIREMENT ADMINISTRATOR

REGINA RODRIGUES  
ASSISTANT RETIREMENT  
ADMINISTRATOR

1221 State Street  
El Centro, CA 92243

Tel. (442) 265-7550  
Fax (442) 265-7545

[icers@co.imperial.ca.us](mailto:icers@co.imperial.ca.us)  
[www.icers.info](http://www.icers.info)



ICERS  
IMPERIAL COUNTY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM

# MINUTES

## REGULAR MEETING OF THE IMPERIAL COUNTY BOARD OF RETIREMENT

December 21, 2022

9:00 A.M.

940 W. Main Street

County Administration Center, Second Floor

El Centro, CA 92243

Chairman Lizarraga summarized the current COVID 19 protocols.

1. The meeting called to order by Chairman Lizarraga at 9:02 a.m.

A. Roll Call

MEMBERS PRESENT: Karen Vogel, Patricia Lizarraga, Suzanne C. Bermudez, Luis A. Plancarte, Norma K. Jauregui, Jose Landeros, Carl L. Armstrong, David H. Prince, A.J. Gaddis

MEMBERS PRESENT VIA TELECONFERENCE: Lizandro Escobosa

MEMBERS ABSENT: Luis A. Plancarte, Carl L. Armstrong

LEGAL REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT: Board General Co-Counsel: Chris Waddell

STAFF PRESENT: Scott W. Jarvis, Retirement Administrator, Regina Rodrigues

CLERK OF THE RETIREMENT BOARD: Kathleen L. Kubler, Retirement Specialist.

OTHERS PRESENT: Andy Yeung, Vice President and Actuary, The Segal Company

**OPEN SESSION**

## B. Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Lizarraga led the Pledge of Allegiance.

## 2. Discussion of the Agenda:

## A. Items pulled from the Action Calendar: None

## B. Items pulled from the Discussion Calendar: None

## C. Items pulled from the Consent Agenda: None

## D. Emergency/Necessity Items added to the Agenda: None

## E. Approval of the Agenda:

**MOTION** by Jauregui, Second by Vogel, to approve the Agenda was carried unanimously by a roll call vote of those present (Vogel, Lizarraga, Bermudez, Jauregui, Landeros, Prince, Escobosa)

## F. Approval of the Consent Agenda:

**MOTION** by Vogel, Second by Landeros, to approve the Consent Agenda was carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present (Vogel, Lizarraga, Bermudez, Jauregui, Landeros, Prince, Escobosa)

## 3. Public Comments:

This is the time for the public to address the Board concerning items that are not on this Agenda, but within the jurisdiction of the Board. Matters on the Action Calendar, Discussion Calendar, or Closed Session Agenda maybe addressed before or during consideration of the Agenda item. Speaking time is limited to three (3) minutes.

**BOARD MEMBER PLANCARTE ARRIVED AT 9:05 A.M.****ACTION CALENDAR**

## 4. Teleconferenced Public Meetings: Submittal of a resolution authorizing ICERS to hold teleconferenced public meetings for a thirty-day period pursuant to AB-361:

**MOTION** by Vogel, Second by Bermudez, and carried unanimously by a roll call vote of those present (Vogel, Lizarraga, Bermudez, Plancarte, Jauregui, Landeros, Prince, Escobosa) the board approved the submittal of a resolution authorizing ICERS to hold teleconferenced public meetings for a thirty-day period, pursuant to AB-361.

## 5. Approval of the Minutes of the November 16, 2022, adjourned regular meeting:

**MOTION** by Jauregui, Second by Bermudez, and carried unanimously by a roll call vote of those present (Vogel, Lizarraga, Bermudez, Plancarte, Jauregui, Landeros, Prince, Escobosa) the board approved the Minutes of the November 16, 2022, adjourned regular meeting.

6. Discussion: Recognition of Service to ICERS' Board of Retirement. Staff to recognize the distinguished service of retiring Trustee: Karen Vogel, Ex-Officio Member:

Chairman Patricia Lizarraga presented Imperial County Treasurer-Tax Collector, Karen Vogel, Ex-Officio Member of the Board of Retirement with a plaque noting her distinguished service on the board of retirement.

Each board member present, as well as attending staff paid tribute to Mrs. Vogel for her experienced leadership, professional insight and personal congeniality.

**BOARD MEMBER LIZANDRO ESCOBOSA LEFT THE MEETING AT 9:19 A.M.**

7. Presentation by Actuary, the Segal Company; Andy Yeung, Vice President and Actuary. The Board will be presented with a review of the Annual Actuarial Valuation and GASB 67 Reports dated June 30, 2022; the recommended contribution rates for the following 2023-2024 fiscal year; and the new Risk Assessment Report as outlined in ASOP 51:

Mr. Yeung discussed the purpose of the report, explained the valuation and assumption reconciliation to determine member and employer contribution rates perceived through considerations of investment returns, member hiring, turnover and retiree and beneficiary deaths.

- A. Discussion/Action: Receive and File the annual Actuarial Valuation and GASB 67 reports as of June 30, 2022:

**BOARD MEMBER ARMSTRONG ARRIVED TO THE MEETING AT 9:59 A.M.**

**MOTION** by Plancarte, Second by Vogel and carried unanimously by a roll-call vote of members present (Vogel, Lizarraga, Bermudez, Plancarte, Jauregui, Landeros, Armstrong, Prince; Absent: Escobosa) the board approved to receive and file the annual Actuarial Valuation and GASB 67 reports effective June 30, 2022.

- B. Discussion/Action: The Board will consider the adoption of contribution rates for fiscal year July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024:

**MOTION** by Plancarte, Second by Vogel and carried unanimously by a roll call vote of members present (Vogel, Lizarraga, Bermudez, Plancarte, Jauregui, Landeros, Armstrong, Prince; Absent: Escobosa) the board adopted the contribution rates for Fiscal Year July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024.

8. Discussion/Action: Election of Retirement Board Officers for 2023:

- A. Chairman:

**MOTION** by Jauregui, Second by Landeros and carried with eight Yes, and one Abstention (Yes: Vogel, Lizarraga, Bermudez, Plancarte, Jauregui, Landeros, Armstrong; Abstain: Prince; Absent: Escobosa) Board Member, County Board Supervisor, Luis A. Plancarte was appointed Chairman of the Retirement Board from January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023.

Discussion/Action: Election of Retirement Board Officers for 2023: (continued)

B. Vice Chairman:

**MOTION** by Lizarraga, Second by Plancarte and carried unanimously by a roll call vote of those present (Vogel, Lizarraga, Bermudez, Plancarte, Jauregui, Landeros, Armstrong, Prince; Absent: Escobosa) Board Member Norma K. Jauregui was appointed Vice Chairman of the Retirement Board from January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023.

C. Secretary:

**MOTION** by Plancarte, Second by Jauregui and carried unanimously by a roll call vote of those present (Vogel, Lizarraga, Bermudez, Plancarte, Jauregui, Landeros, Armstrong, Prince; Absent: Escobosa) Board Member Lizandro Escobosa, was appointed Vice Chairman of the Retirement Board from January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023.

9. Discussion/Action: The Board will consider the adoption of a new logo for ICERS' use:

Mr. Jarvis displayed the logo, which will be incorporated into all correspondence and apparel associated with the retirement system once supplies displaying the current logo/letterhead are exhausted. He also thanked the board and ICERS staff for their participation and contributions of ideas for the design.

**MOTION** by Jauregui, Second by Plancarte and carried unanimously by a roll call vote of those present (Vogel, Lizarraga, Bermudez, Plancarte, Jauregui, Landeros, Armstrong Prince; Absent: Escobosa) the board adopted the ICERS logo.

**MOTION** by Jauregui, Second by Plancarte and carried unanimously by those present (Vogel, Lizarraga, Bermudez, Plancarte, Jauregui, Landeros, Armstrong, Prince; Absent: Escobosa) the board approved the reimbursement to ICERS staff for expenses incurred for design drafting.

10. Discussion/Action: The Board will be provided an update and potential recommendation from the recently formed AdHoc Committee on ICERS'/County of Imperial Relationship Roles review project:

Board Member Plancarte reported that the committee had addressed about 90% of the items of concern, and he expected that the committee will submit a written report of its findings at the January 18, 2023 regularly scheduled meeting.

11. Discussion: The Board will be provided an update to the ongoing Governance Policies and Bylaws revision project:

Mr. Waddell reported that he and Ms. Rogers have provided draft language to ICERS staff for procurement and document retention policies pursuant to the Board's request and that a meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee would be scheduled in the future to discuss same.

In response to an inquiry from Alternate Retiree Member Gaddis concerning the potential need for an anti-nepotism policy, Mr. Waddell advised the Board that he would review existing ICERS policies and county rules regarding nepotism, and then report to the Ad Hoc Committee on whether or not any gaps exist that require further consideration.

**BREAK AT 10:57 A.M. – RETURNED AT 11:09 A.M.****DISCUSSION CALENDAR**

## 12. Reports/Correspondence/Announcements:

## A. Retirement Administrator:

## 1. Investment Graphs:

- a. Market Value Graph of the Retirement System's Assets for November 30, 2022:
- b. Book vs. Market Graph – compares the Market Value of the System's assets to the Book Value of Assets for November 30, 2022:

Mr. Jarvis provided the board with an update of favorable returns for the period.

## 2. 2023 Compensation Limits for Tier 3:

Mr. Jarvis reviewed with the board the 2023 PEPRAs Compensation Limit applicable to Tier 3 members, provided by the California Actuarial Advisory Panel.

## 3. Retirement Board Vacancy:

Mr. Jarvis reviewed the election calendar schedules for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Seat, General Member and the 10<sup>th</sup> Seat, Safety Alternate positions.

## 4. Imperial Valley Telecommunications Authority Board Meeting Update:

Mr. Jarvis indicated that there was nothing to report as the December meeting had been cancelled.

## B. Board Members:

Board Member, Patricia Lizarraga expressed her gratitude to the board for its support during her term as Chairman.

Board Member, Karen Vogel thanked fellow board members and ICERS staff for the support she has received during her years of tenure on the board of retirement.

## C. ICERS Legal Counsel:

## Legislative Update – December 2022:

Mr. Waddell discussed the legislative report provided by SACRS lobbyists that reviewed the initial organizational session of the legislature.

## 13. Convene to Closed Session:

**Pursuant to California Law (Government Code §54963) a person may not disclose any confidential information that has been acquired by being present in a Closed Session. Unlawful disclosure of confidential information is a violation of California Law and could result in discipline and/or referral to the Grand Jury.**

**MOTION** by Jauregui, Second by Vogel to convene into Closed Session carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present (Vogel, Lizarraga, Bermudez, Plancarte, Jauregui, Landeros, Armstrong, Prince; Absent: Escobosa)

**CLOSED SESSION**14. A. Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation  
(Government Code §54956.9(a).) Status report regarding pending disability applications:

## B. ICERS PENDING LITIGATION

Upon advice of its legal counsel, the ICERS Board will recess to Closed Session pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(a) to confer with its attorney regarding pending litigation which has been initiated formally and to which ICERS is a part.

**SAFETY BOARD MEMBER ARMSTRONG RECUSED HIMSELF AT 11:37 AND RETURNED AT 11:47 A.M.**

IMPERIAL COUNTY SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION, et. al., v. County of Imperial; Imperial County Employees' Retirement Association; Board of Administration of County Employees' Retirement System. Imperial County Superior Court Case No. ECU000786

**OPEN SESSION**

## 15. Announcement of Closed Session Action:

Mr. Waddell announced out of closed session that on a **MOTION** by Vogel, Second by Bermudez, the Board approved the Service-Connected Disability Application of Angel F. Morales. Motion carried unanimously by a roll call vote of those present (Vogel, Lizarraga, Bermudez, Plancarte, Jauregui, Landeros, Armstrong, Prince; Absent: Escobosa).

Mr. Waddell provided an update to the board regarding the court case, with no action taken.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

## 16. BUDGET:

Approval of the following Budget claims for the 2022 - 2023 fiscal year, to include Board Members in attendance at the 12/15/2021 meeting; Administrative Budget Expense Summary; and Treasurer's Cash Account Summary per Govt. Code 31580.2 & 31521:

A. Administrative Budgets

B. Treasurer's Cash

## 17. Administrative Agenda:

A. Enrollment of New Employee Member to ICERS: (19)

<u>General Members</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Date</u>
Avila, Jesus	Sheriff's-Corrections	11/04/2022
Brambila, Melanie A	Behavioral Health	11/04/2022
Esparza, Anisa C	Behavioral Health	11/04/2022
Hill, David A	Assessor	11/04/2022
Marquez, Miguel	Sheriff's-Corrections	11/04/2022
Mendoza, Caressa I	Public Health	11/04/2022
Sierra, Sylvia M	Behavioral Health	11/04/2022
Zavalza, Berenice Coral	Behavioral Health	11/04/2022
Andrade, Moses Anthony	Sheriff's	11/18/2022
Fernandez, Ruby Lynn	Sheriff's	11/18/2022
Hernandez, Melina	Child Support Services	11/18/2022
Jimenez, Edlyn	Child Support Services	11/18/2022
Larios, Mario	Sheriff's	11/18/2022
Martinez Lopez, Christian	Sheriff's	11/18/2022
Ramiro, Virginia	Sheriff's	11/18/2022
Ruiz, Daniel	Behavioral Health	11/18/2022
Vazquez, Hector I	Sheriff's	11/18/2022

<u>Safety Members</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Date</u>
Olvera, Shalma V	Juvenile Hall	11/04/2022
Porras, Brian	District Attorney's Office	11/04/2022

B. Terminations: (6)

<u>General Members</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Term Date</u>
Morales, Emily	Social Services	09/19/2022
Reyna Molina, Michelle	Social Services	09/16/2022
Lopez Torres, Erick	Tax Collector	09/23/2022

<u>Safety Member</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Term Date</u>
Hernandez, America	Sheriff's	09/30/2022
Lopez, Erika	Sheriff's	09/22/2022
Robledo Jr., Enrique	Fire	12/02/2021

## C. Service Retirement:

1.	Carpenter, Lorenza Department: Effective Date: Service: Sick Leave: Total:	General Member Library 10/21/2022 18.181851 Years <u>00.373567 Years</u> 18.555418 Years
2.	Duarte, Jose Department: Effective: Service: Sick Leave: Total:	Safety Member Juvenile Hall 11/04/2022 21.428125 Years <u>00.533442 Years</u> 21.961567 Years
3.	Gomez, Carmen Department: Effective Date: Service: Sick Leave: Total:	General Member Social Services 11/04/2022 25.334375 Years <u>00.415740 Years</u> 25.750115 Years
4.	Gudino, Linda Department: Effective Date: Service: Total:	General Member Human Resources/Deferred 11/04/2022 10.448135 Years 10.448135 Years

## D. Medical Leave Buyback:

1.	Alvarado, Albert Department: Service:	General Member Public Works 0.234135 Years
2.	Nunez Trujillo, Rachel Department: Service:	General Member Behavioral Health 0.633183 Years
3.	Vizcarra, Rosa A Department: Service:	General Member Social Services 1.257125 Years

## E. Re-Deposit Buyback:

Rosales-Trujillo, Viridiana Department: Service:	General Member Sheriff's 0.694712 Years
--------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------



F. Make-up Buyback:

Alvarado, Alberto  
Department:  
Service:

General Member  
Public Works  
0.885697 Years

G. 60% Continuance of Service Retirement Allowance per Govt. Code Section 31760.1 & Death Benefit:

Neryan, Karen  
Deceased:

General Member  
11/16/2022

H. Final Payment of Service Retirement Allowance & Death Benefit per Govt. Code Section 31676.11:

Alarcon, Elidia E  
Deceased:

General Member  
11/06/2022

I. Member Service Statistics:

**OTHER ITEMS**

18. Special Training:

ICERS' Previously Approved Training

19. **ADJOURNMENT:**

Chairman Lizarraga adjourned the meeting at 11:49 a.m. to the next regularly scheduled meeting of January 18, 2023.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
PATRICIA LIZARRAGA, Chairman  
\_\_\_\_\_  
LIZANDRO ESCOBOSA, Secretary