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ICERS

IMPERIAL COUNTY EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE IMPERIAL COUNTY BOARD OF RETIREMENT

March 20, 2024

9:00 A.M.

940 W. Main Street

County Administration Center, Second Floor
El Centro, CA 92243

1. The meeting called to order by Chair Jauregui at 9:08 a.m.

- A. Roll Call

MEMBERS PRESENT: Suzanne Bermudez, Mario Salinas, Patricia Lizarraga, Norma K. Jauregui, Luis A. Plancarte, Jose Landeros David H. Prince, Argelia Gaddis

MEMBERS ARRIVING AFTER ROLL CALL: Jennifer Benavidez

MEMBERS ABSENT: Carl L. Armstrong

LEGAL REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT: Board General Co-Counsel: Chris Waddell; ICERS Disability Counsel: Vivian Shultz

STAFF PRESENT: Scott W. Jarvis, Retirement Administrator; Regina Rodrigues, Assistant Retirement Administrator; Angie Aguilera, Retirement Financial Officer

CLERK OF THE RETIREMENT BOARD: Cristina Solis Vargas, Retirement Administrative Assistant

OTHERS PRESENT: Linea Secure, Peter Dewar, President; Juan Ridaura, Program Analyst III; Wilma Rose McKenzie.

OPEN SESSION

- B. Pledge of Allegiance

Trustee Landeros 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 Bermudez, Second by Salinas, to approve the Agenda carried unanimously by those present.

- F. Approval of the Consent Agenda:

MOTION by Lizarraga, Second by Plancarte, to approve the Consent Agenda carried unanimously by those present.

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 may be addressed before or during consideration of the Agenda item. Speaking time is limited to three (3) minutes.

Mr. Jarvis formally introduced Angie Aguilera as ICERS' new Assistant Retirement Administrator. Ms. Aguilera expressed gratitude for the opportunity and looks forward to her new role at ICERS.

Clerk of the Retirement Board reported no emails or phone calls received.

ACTION CALENDAR

- 4. Discussion: Recognition of Service to ICERS. Staff to recognize the distinguished service of retiring Regina Rodrigues, Assistant Retirement Administrator, Juan Ridaura, Program Analyst III.

The Board recognized Assistant Retirement Administrator, Regina Rodrigues and Program Analyst III, Juan Ridaura for their Retirement. The Board and Staff expressed their gratitude for their service to ICERS and wished them luck.

TRUSTEE BENAVIDEZ ARRIVED AT 9:34 AM

BREAK FROM 9:49 AM TO 9:54AM

- 5. 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 Prince second by Plancarte to convene into Closed Session carried unanimously by those present.

CLOSED SESSION

6. A. Meeting closed pursuant to Government Code § 54957(b) to consider and take Action on the Hearing Officer's Proposed Findings of Fact and Recommended Decision after Remand in the Application for Service-Connected Disability Retirement filed by applicant Wilma Rose McKenzie.
- B. Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (Government Code §54956.9(a).) Status report regarding pending disability applications.

OPEN SESSION

7. Announcement of Closed Session Action:

Mr. Waddell announced that the following actions were taken in Closed Session:

On **MOTION** by Prince, Second by Bermudez the Board voted to approve the Hearing Officer's Proposed Findings of Fact and Recommended Decision after Remand in the application for Service – Connected Disability Retirement filed by applicant Wilma Rose McKenzie. Motion carried by roll call vote.

On **MOTION** by Salinas, Second by Plancarte the Board voted unanimously to grant the application of Lorena Sanchez for Service-Connected Disability Retirement.

On **MOTION** by Plancarte, Second by Landeros the Board voted unanimously to grant the application of Patricia Cruz for Service-Connected Disability Retirement.

On **MOTION** by Plancarte, Second by Benavidez the Board voted unanimously to deny the application of Israel Castro for Service-Connected Disability Retirement.

BREAK FROM 10:54 AM TO 11:07 AM

5. 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 Plancarte second by Bermudez to convene into Closed Session carried unanimously by those present.

CLOSED SESSION

6. C. THREAT TO PUBLIC SERVICES OR FACILITIES

Consultation with ICERS' Cybersecurity Consultant, Peter Dewar – President, Linea Secure LLC., pursuant to Government Code §54957(a).

TRUSTEE BENAVIDEZ RECUSED HERSELF FROM 11:51 AM TO 11:58AM

Closed Session (Continued):

D. 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.

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

TRUSTEE BENAVIDEZ LEFT THE MEETING AT 12:00 PM

OPEN SESSION

7. Announcement of Closed Session Action:

Mr. Waddle announced that in closed session the Board received a briefing from cyber security consultant, Peter Dewar.

Mr. Waddell also reported that an update regarding the status of the Deputy Sheriffs' case was provided with no reportable action taken.

ACTION CALENDAR

8. Approval of the Minutes of the February 21, 2024 adjourned regularly scheduled meeting.

MOTION by Lizarraga, Second by Bermudez to approve the Minutes of the February 21, 2024 adjourned regularly scheduled meeting. Motion carried unanimously by those present.

9. Discussion/Action: The Board will consider a change request from its Pension System provider, JEA, based upon ICERS' updated Actuarial assumptions for optional forms of benefits and retirement age factors.

MOTION by Bermudez, Second by Prince to approve JEA's change request to update PENFAX with the appropriate assumption changes suggested by Segal. Motion carried unanimously by those present.

10. Discussion/Action: The Board shall appoint a Voting Delegate and a Voting Delegate Alternate for the SACRS 2024 Spring Conference.

MOTION by Jauregui, Second by Bermudez to appoint Trustees Landeros as Voting Delegate and Retirement Administrator, Scott Jarvis, as Alternate Voting Delegate at the SACRS 2024 Spring Conference, and approved the delegates vote as "informed but uninstructed". Motion carried unanimously by those present.

DISCUSSION CALENDAR

Item 11 is for discussion only. Items requiring action will be placed on a future agenda.

11. Reports/Correspondence/Announcements:

A. Retirement Administrator:

1. Investment Graphs:

- a. Market Value Graph of the Retirement System's Assets for February 29, 2024
- b. Book vs. Market Graph – compares the Market Value of the system's assets to the Book Value of Assets for February 29, 2024

Mr. Jarvis updated the Board on ICERS' portfolio performance activity for the current period.

2. Annual filing of Statement of Economic Interests, Form 700 Disclosure

Mr. Jarvis reminded the Board to complete Form 700 by April 1, 2024.

3. SACRS Spring 2024 Conference in Santa Barbara, CA

Mr. Jarvis encouraged the Board to attend the 2024 SACRS Spring Conference taking place in Santa Barbara, CA from May 7th through May 10th.

4. Imperial Valley Telecommunications Authority Board Meeting Update

Mr. Jarvis provided a summary of the recent, quarterly IVTA meeting.

B. Board Members

CALAPRS – General Assembly Report

Trustee Jauregui shared her experience at the 2024 CALAPRS General Assembly with the Board and Staff.

C. ICERS Legal Counsel:

Legislative review

Mr. Waddell reported on the most recent legislation and announced there will be more to report at the next meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

Retirement Administrator recommends approval of Items 12 through 13

12. BUDGET:

Approval of the following Budget claims for the 2023-2024 fiscal year, to include Board Members in attendance at the 3/20/2024 meeting; Administrative Budget Expense Summary; and Treasurer's Cash Account Summary per Govt. Code 31580.2 & 31521:

A. Administrative Budgets

B. Treasurer's Cash

13. Administrative Agenda:

A. Enrollment of New Employee Members to ICERS: (23)

<u>General Members</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Date</u>
Equihua, Aaron	Behavioral Health	02/09/2024
Estrada, Kassandra N	Behavioral Health	02/09/2024
Gallardo, Suzette	Behavioral Health	02/09/2024
Guillen Beatriz G	Social Services	02/09/2024
Mosquera, Elysse R	Public Health	02/09/2024
Rosales, Luisa L	Social Services	02/09/2024
Salerno, William A	Public Defender	02/09/2024
Saucedo, Michelle A	Social Services	02/09/2024
Wagner, Randy M	Public Defender	02/09/2024
Aros, Denise	Behavioral Health	02/23/2024
Arredondo, Ariana	Behavioral Health	02/23/2024
Beal, Mercedes M	Behavioral Health	02/23/2024
Benitez, Jose Jair	Behavioral Health	02/23/2024
Bernal, Jose Ismael	Behavioral Health	02/23/2024
Fimbres, Cindy	Social Services	02/23/2024
Galvan, Rachael U	Social Services	02/23/2024
Nunez, Aisha Ab	Sheriff's	02/23/2024
Nuno, Diana	Social Services-BJMRH	02/23/2024
Perry Lopez, Angela Paige	Social Services	02/23/2024
Sanchez, Carlos	Social Services	02/23/2024
Soto, Victor A	Social Services-BJMRH	02/23/2024
Velasquez, Maricruz	Behavioral Health	02/23/2024
Zavala, Melanie	Behavioral Health	02/23/2024

B. Terminations: (13)

<u>General Members</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Term Date</u>
Arvizu Torres, Ian	Behavioral Health	08/14/2023
Casillas, Mariana	Social Services	06/22/2017
Diaz, Julio	Public Health	12/13/2023
Estrada, Janet	Human Resources	10/17/2023
Kopchak, Ryan	Public Defender	01/05/2024
Ortiz, Dara	Social Services	12/22/2023
Ortiz-Diaz, Anna	Behavioral Health	11/02/2023
Robles, Cynthia	Behavioral Health	11/06/2023
Ruiz, Aksel	Social Services	11/01/2023
Sandoval, Michael	Sheriff's	05/24/2023
Siqueiros, Edgard	ICWED	12/29/2023
Tamay, Marissa	Superior Court	10/30/2023
Vancuren-Wendell, Whitney	Superior Court	06/30/2017

C. Service Retirement:

1. Godinez, Albert A	General Member
Department:	Planning & Development
Effective Date:	01/17/2024
Service:	18.623543Years
Sick Leave:	<u>00.269745 Years</u>
Total:	18.893288 Years

Service Retirement (Continued):

2.	Rocha, Myrella	General Member
	Department:	Behavioral Health
	Effective Date:	01/12/2024
	Service:	30.461832 Years
	Sick Leave:	<u>00.063394 Years</u>
	Total:	30.525226 Years

D. Non-Vested:

1.	Andrade, Moses Anthony	General Member
	Department:	Sheriff's
	Effective:	05/25/2023
	Service:	00.514423 Years
	Sick Leave:	<u>00.019913 Years</u>
	Total:	00.534336 Years
2.	Areyan, Rosa	General Member
	Department:	Behavioral Health
	Effective:	08/12/2022
	Service:	00.038462 Years
	Sick Leave:	<u>00.003548 Years</u>
	Total:	00.042010 Years
3.	Delgado, Heriberto	General Member
	Department:	Assessor
	Effective:	12/08/2022
	Service:	00.971274 Years
	Sick Leave:	<u>00.005490 Years</u>
	Total:	00.976764 Years
4.	Dorantes, Norma	General Member
	Department:	Behavioral Health
	Effective:	12/16/2022
	Service:	00.782572 Years
	Sick Leave:	<u>00.001971 Years</u>
	Total:	00.784543 Years
5.	Hernandez, Sergio	General Member
	Department:	Behavioral Health
	Effective:	08/13/2022
	Service:	01.761779 Years
	Sick Leave:	<u>00.017856 Years</u>
	Total:	01.779635 Years
6.	Martinez, Christa	General Member
	Department:	Public Health
	Effective:	09/21/2022
	Service:	00.707091 Years
	Sick Leave:	<u>00.006404 Years</u>
	Total:	00.713495 Years

