

MINUTES

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MARIN COUNTY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION (MCERA)**

**One McInnis Parkway, 1st Floor
Retirement Board Chambers
San Rafael, CA**

August 14, 2024 – 9:00 a.m.

This meeting was held at the address listed above and was accessible via videoconference and conducted in accordance with Government Code section 54953 and 54954.2.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Murphy called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Cooper, Gladstern, Martinovich, Murphy, Poole, Silberstein, Vasquez, Werby,
Jones (alternate retired, Shaw (ex officio alternate)

ABSENT: None

**CONSIDER ANY BOARD MEMBER REQUESTS TO TELECONFERENCE FOR
“JUST CAUSE” OR “EMERGENCY,” AS SET FORTH ON THIS AGENDA BELOW**

No Board members requested to teleconference.

MINUTES

It was M/S Gladstern/Silberstein to approve the June 18, 2024 Investment Committee Meeting Minutes as submitted. The motion passed by a vote of 8-0 as follows:

AYES: Cooper, Gladstern, Martinovich, Murphy, Poole, Silberstein, Vasquez, Werby

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

It was M/S Werby/Silberstein to approve the June 20-21, 2024 Strategic Workshop Minutes as submitted. The motion passed by a vote of 8-0 as follows:

AYES: Cooper, Gladstern, Martinovich, Murphy, Poole, Silberstein, Vasquez, Werby
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

It was M/S Silberstein/Gladstern to approve the July 10, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes as submitted. The motion passed by a vote of 8-0 as follows:

AYES: Cooper, Gladstern, Martinovich, Murphy, Poole, Silberstein, Vasquez, Werby
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

A. OPEN TIME FOR PUBLIC EXPRESSION

Note: The public may also address the Board regarding any agenda item when the Board considers the item.

Open time for public expression, from three to five minutes per speaker, on items not on the Board Agenda. While members of the public are welcome to address the Board during this time on matters within the Board's jurisdiction, except as otherwise permitted by the Ralph M. Brown Act (Government Code Sections 54950 et seq.), no deliberation or action may be taken by the Board concerning a non-agenda item. Members of the Board may (1) briefly respond to statements made or questions posed by persons addressing the Board, (2) ask a question for clarification, or (3) provide a reference to staff for factual information.

No members of the public provided comment.

B. BOARD OF RETIREMENT MATTERS

1. Administrator's Report
Administrator's Update
 - a. Administrator's Report

Retirement Administrator Jeff Wickman reported the Fund's preliminary net fiscal year return as of June 30, 2024 is 8.70%. The Fund returned 8.46% gross over 30 years, 7.65% net over 29 years, 7.18% net over 20 years, 7.14% net over 10 years, and 7.31% net over 5 years. Final fiscal year returns will be available in about one month once private equity returns as of June 30, 2024 are available.

Two new leases have been signed with existing second floor tenants. Perroti & Carrade will be expanding their space and KCC is reducing space. As a result of the space reduction there will be a new suite added to the second floor.

MCERA has renewed cybersecurity insurance with the same \$5 million limit at a small reduction from the prior year's premium.

b. Staffing Update

Mr. Wickman introduced Chuck McBride, MCERA's new Chief Financial Officer (CFO), to the Board. Mr. McBride's has extensive experience in local agencies as CFO and assistant City Manager positions. The Administrator thanked Mr. McBride for joining the MCERA team.

Lori Detwiler, Retirement Benefits Technician, is MCERA's new Disability Coordinator. A recruitment to fill the vacant Benefit Technician position as a result of Linda Martinez departure is underway.

c. Facility Use Report

No facility usage in the period to report.

d. Future Meetings

- August 14, 2024 Ad Hoc Strategic Workshop Education Committee
- August 21, 2024 Finance and Risk Management Committee
- September 11, 2024 Board

2. Standing Committee Report – Audit Committee

a. Annual Financial Audit Scope of Services and Processes

Audit Committee Chair Mina Martinovich reported at the Audit Committee's July 10, 2024, meeting Brown Armstrong Engagement Partner Neeraj Datta and Quality Control Partner Andy Paulden presented the scope of services for the annual financial audit of June 30, 2024 financial statements. Mr. Datta reported to the Committee that the audit planning stage is close to completion. Interim Fieldwork begins in early September and closes with an Interim Status update meeting with the Audit Committee. Final Fieldwork Planning occurs in October when confirmation replies are due to the auditor and MCERA provides initial financial reports. In early November the draft GASB 67/68 Report is incorporated into the financial statements. The final annual financial audit results will be presented to the Audit Committee on December 2 and to the Retirement Board at its December 11, 2024 meeting. The audit includes testing controls over financial reporting and focuses on areas of significant risk, such as revenue recognition, management override of controls, investments and related earnings, participant data, employer and employee contributions, and benefit payments.

b. Audit Committee 2024 Audit Schedule

The 2024 Audit Schedule was discussed above.

3. Trustee Comments

a. Educational Training: Reports by Trustees and Staff

No educational events were scheduled during the period.

b. Other Comments

No discussion.

C. NEW BUSINESS

1. Actuarial Audit (ACTION)

Consider and take possible action on staff recommendation to retain a firm to conduct an audit of MCERA's Actuarial Valuation and Experience Study

Mr. Wickman said it is good practice to conduct a periodic review of consulting actuary Cheiron's work, including the Experience Study. Based on their prior work for MCERA Mr. Wickman recommends that the Board authorize staff to engage in a contract with Milliman to conduct the audit.

Trustee Martinovich asked if there were any findings of concern resulting from prior audits. In response, Mr. Wickman said in the most recent actuarial audit there were no changes based on reasonableness standards. In the prior 2012 audit, Milliman did make material recommendations. During both prior engagements Cheiron has worked cooperatively with Milliman, he said.

It was M/S Werby/Cooper to retain Milliman to conduct an audit of MCERA's Actuarial Valuation and Experience Study as of June 30, 2023 in accordance with acceptable contract negotiations. The motion passed by a vote of 8-0 as follows:

AYES: Cooper, Gladstern, Martinovich, Murphy, Poole, Silberstein, Vasquez, Werby
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

Chair Murphy directed deliberations to **Agenda Item C.3, Future Meetings.**

3. Future Meetings

Consider and discuss agenda items for future meetings

No discussion.

D. OTHER INFORMATION

1. Training Calendar (ACTION)

The Administrator presented and discussed updates to the monthly Training Calendar for the Board's consideration. Trustee Cooper plans to attend the NCPERS Public Pension Funding Forum next week. In October, Trustees Jones and Silberstein will attend the Nossaman Pensions, Benefits & Investments Fiduciaries' Forum. The California Retired County Employees Association (CRCEA) holds its fall Conference in November. Mr. Wickman and Trustees Cooper and Werby will bring attendance at the fall SACRS Conference to five. In the spring of 2025 CalAPRS General Assembly days were changed to Sunday through Wednesday and the location was moved to Napa. Finally, the spring SACRS Conference was added.

It was M/S Werby/Gladstern to approve the Training Calendar as submitted. The motion passed by a vote of 8-0 as follows:

AYES: Cooper, Gladstern, Martinovich, Murphy, Poole, Silberstein, Vasquez, Werby
 NOES: None
 ABSTAIN: None
 ABSENT: None

E. CONSENT CALENDAR (ACTION)

The monthly Consent Calendar was presented for the Board’s consideration.

It was M/S Gladstern/Werby to approve the Consent Calendar as submitted. The motion passed by a vote of 8-0 as follows:

AYES: Cooper, Gladstern, Martinovich, Murphy, Poole, Silberstein, Vasquez, Werby
 NOES: None
 ABSTAIN: None
 ABSENT: None

**CONSENT CALENDAR
 MCERA BOARD MEETING, WEDNESDAY, August 14, 2024**

July 2024

RETURN OF CONTRIBUTIONS		
Forest Blue	Partial Refund - Correction	\$ 1,243.32
David Foehner	Full Refund - Termination	\$ 86,553.98
Joseph Gallardo	Partial Refund - Correction	\$ 1,556.46
Deborah LaRue	Full Refund - Termination	\$ 39,019.97
Pooja Mhatre	Full Refund - Termination	\$ 33,371.70

BUYBACKS	
Tyler Burgess	\$ 19,764.83
Tiffany Hendrix	\$ 8,822.60
Rachel Kallok	\$ 29,594.43
Lee Lancaster	\$ 37,699.62
Talia Smith	\$ 17,478.57
Laila Salaam	\$ 695.24

NEW RETIREES	
Kelly Albrecht	City of San Rafael
Jason Baker	Marin Superior Court

Kelly George	County of Marin - Sheriff
Sylvia Gonzalez-Shelton	City of San Rafael
Pradesh Manirojana	County of Marin - Health & Human Services
Jane Missakian	County of Marin - Health & Human Services
Fredrick Mosher	County of Marin - Probation
Rebecca Wightman	Marin Superior Court

DECEASED RETIREES

Bruce Abbott	County of Marin - Assessor-Recorder-County Clerk
Aino Burns	County of Marin - Beneficiary
James Byrnes	County of Marin - Fire
Ralph Chubb	City of San Rafael
Mehmet Cuhadaroglu	County of Marin - Information Services & Technology
John Diego	City of San Rafael
Kathleen Fitzhugh Remitz	County of Marin - Library
Manuel Galindo	County of Marin - Sheriff/Coroner
Jerome Kirkpatrick	County of Marin - Beneficiary
Leapha Morse	County of Marin - Beneficiary
Marilyn Robbins	County of Marin - Beneficiary
Norman Schuster	County of Marin - Sheriff/Coroner
Barbara Terhorst	County of Marin - Sheriff/Coroner

Chair Murphy recessed Open Session and directed deliberations to **Agenda Item C.2, Public Employee Performance Evaluation**, in Closed Session.

Chair Murphy recessed Closed Session and reconvened the meeting in Open Session. Trustees Cooper and Werby were absent.

2. Public Employee Performance Evaluation

Title: Retirement Administrator (CLOSED SESSION pursuant to Government code section 54957(b)(1))

Chair Murphy reported there was no reportable action on this agenda item.

There being no further business, Chair Murphy adjourned the meeting at 10:53 a.m.


 Laurie Murphy, Board Chair


 Kelsey Poole, Secretary