



COUNTY OF TULARE  
**BOARD OF RETIREMENT**

**Leanne Malison**  
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**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF RETIREMENT**  
REGULAR RETIREMENT BOARD MEETING  
**Wednesday, February 26, 2020 @ 8:30 a.m.**  
TCERA Board Room, 136 N. Akers Street, Visalia, CA 93291

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Trustees Present: Cook, Hill, Hernandez, Ross, Reed, Young, Watson, Kehler, Vander Poel (departed 11:00)

Alternates Present: Vasquez, Finney, Sampietro

Others Present: Leanne Malison, Administrator; Mary Warner, Assistant Administrator; Adriana Gonzales-Chang, Retirement Specialist; Jeanette Burks, Retirement Specialist; Melody Manning, Administrative Services Officer; Barbara Grunwald, Marit Erickson and Jennifer Shiffert, Deputy County Counsel; Paul Guerrero, CAO-Administrative Analyst; Scott Whalen, Verus Investments; and Susie Brown, Office Assistant

1. As a courtesy to those in attendance, all individuals are requested to place cell phones and other electronic devices in the non-audible alert mode.
2. Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence

**III. PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. At this time, members of the public may comment on any item not appearing on the agenda. Under state law, matters presented under this item cannot be discussed or acted upon by the Board at this time. For items appearing on the agenda, the public is invited to make comments at the time the item comes up for Board consideration. Any person addressing the Board will be limited to a maximum of five (5) minutes so that all interested parties have an opportunity to speak. Please state your name for the record.

None.

**IV. X-AGENDA ITEMS**

None.

**V. DISABILITIES – Time Certain: 8:30 a.m.**

1. Closed session to be held 8:35 a.m to 8:48 a.m. regarding disability matters listed on this agenda.
2. In the matter of the disability application of Dennis McElhaney, Sr., consider and take action regarding the application for a disability retirement.

Mr. McElhaney, Sr., addressed the Board.

MOTION to grant service connected disability by determining that, based on the medical evidence submitted, the applicant has met the burden of proof on the question of permanent disability and the question of job causation.

Motion: Vander Poel  
Second: Watson  
Motion passed unanimously

3. In the matter of the disability application of Robert Garcia, consider and take action regarding the application for a disability retirement.

MOTION to grant service connected disability retirement by determining that, based on the medical evidence submitted, the applicant has met the burden of proof on the question of permanent disability and the question of job causation.

Motion: Ross  
Second: Watson  
Motion passed unanimously

4. In the matter of the disability application of Lisa Zuniga, consider and take action regarding the application for a disability retirement.

MOTION to affirm the previous Board action to deny the application based on insufficient proof of permanent disability (July 10, 2019) and deny a service connected disability retirement due to the termination, with ineligibility for rehire, of the applicant prior to the filing of the disability application and who is, therefore, ineligible for a disability retirement.

Motion: Young  
Second: Hernandez  
Motion passed unanimously

5. Accept as filed: Disability Status Report Overview.

## **VI. CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. Approve Minutes of the following Meetings:
  - a. Retirement Board Minutes of February 5, 2020.
2. Approve payments to:
  - a. Verus – invoice for investment consulting services for the quarter ended December 31, 2019 in the amount of \$20,390.86.
  - b. Brown Armstrong – invoice for tax return preparation in the amount of \$320.00.

MOTION to approve the Consent Calendar as presented.

Motion: Kehler  
Second: Young  
Motion passed unanimously

## **VII. INVESTMENTS**

1. Presentation from QMA regarding TCERA's investment allocation to large cap core enhanced equity. Discussion and possible action.

Mr. Brad Zenz and Ms. Stacie Mintz made a presentation to the Board. Mr. Zenz offered to consider a performance-based fee for TCERA. The Board directed Scott Whalen to work with QMA to create a proposal for the Board's consideration.

1. Presentation from LMCg Investments regarding TCERA's investment allocation to small cap value equity.

Discussion and possible action.

Mr. Todd Vingers and Ms. Monica Marois made a presentation to the Board. Mr. Vingers offered a fee reduction for TCERA, reducing the management fee from 88bp to 70bp.

MOTION to accept the reduction and direct staff to obtain a revised fee schedule.

Motion: Vander Poel

Second: Ross

Motion passed unanimously

2. Presentation from Verus regarding TCERA's Fourth Quarter 2019 Investment Performance Report.  
Discussion and possible action.

Mr. Scott Whalen made a presentation to the Board, reviewing the December 31, 2019, performance results and the current market outlook.

3. Discussion and possible action regarding TCERA's strategic investment allocation and investment managers, including performance, contracts, and fees.

No action.

Chair authorized 2 hours of continuing education time for the investment presentations.

#### **VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Discussion and possible action regarding SACRS Voting Proxy Form.

MOTION to name Leanne Malison as the SACRS voting delegate and Mary Warner as the alternate voting delegate.

Motion: Kehler

Second: Ross

Motion passed unanimously

2. Discussion and possible action regarding crediting of interest to member accounts and TCERA's reserves for the six-month period ended December 31, 2019.

MOTION to approve a rate of 3.3320% for Tier 1,2 and 3, 3.1603% for Tier 4, maintaining a 3% contingency reserve for all tiers.

Motion: Reed

Second: Kehler

Motion passed unanimously

3. Discussion and possible action regarding Board of Retirement Continuing Education. Education Report for January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019.

Ms. Malison reviewed the report and reminded the Trustees of the education requirements under state law and TCERA policy.

MOTION to approve the report as presented.

Motion: Young  
Second: Hernandez  
Absent: Vander Poel  
Motion passed unanimously

#### **IX. EDUCATION ITEMS**

1. Discussion and possible action regarding all listed educational events.

Trustee Hernandez requested attending the August 25-28, 2020 CALAPRS Principles of Pension Governance Conference, Malibu, CA.

MOTION to approve the request.

Motion: Ross  
Second: Cook  
Absent: Vander Poel  
Motion passed unanimously

#### **X. UPCOMING MEETINGS**

1. February 27, 2020 Administrative Committee meeting @ 3:00 p.m.
2. March 11, 2020 Retirement Board meeting @ 8:30 a.m.
3. March 11, 2020 Investment Committee meeting @ 2:00 p.m.

#### **XI. TRUSTEE / STAFF COMMENTS**

1. Under state law, matters presented under this item cannot be discussed or acted upon by the Board at this time.

#### **XII. COMMUNICATIONS**

None

#### **XIII. ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned in memory of the Porterville firefighters, Captain Ray Figueroa and Firefighter Patrick Jones, at 11:18 a.m.



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Roland Hill, Chair