



COUNTY OF TULARE  
**BOARD OF RETIREMENT**

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**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF RETIREMENT**  
**REGULAR RETIREMENT BOARD MEETING**  
**Wednesday, March 8, 2023, at 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. by Pete Vander Poel, Chair

**II. ROLL CALL**

Voting Trustees Present: Cass Cook, Gary Reed, Jim Young, Laura Hernandez, Pete Vander Poel, Ty Inman, Roland Hill  
Trustees Absent: Nathan Polk  
Alternate Trustees Present: George Finney  
Voting Alternate Trustees Present: David Vasquez (voting in the absence of Nathan Polk)  
Staff Members Present: Paul Sampietro, Assistant Retirement Administrator  
Melanie Tyler, Secretary II  
Board Counsel Present: Aaron Zaheen, Deputy County Counsel, Makenzie Dunkel, Deputy County Counsel

**III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENT**

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. Please state your name for the record.

Cass Cook introduced Jorge Garcia who will be the new Voting Alternate for Seat 1, effective March 22, 2023.

**V. X-AGENDA ITEMS**

None

**VI. DISABILITIES**

1. Closed session to be held regarding disability matters listed on this agenda.

Closed session was held from 8:33 a.m. To 8:54 a.m. regarding the disability applications of Richard Greenwood and Sheryl Milton.

2. In the matter of the disability application of Richard Greenwood, consider and take action regarding the application for a disability retirement.

Motion to grant a 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: Hernandez

Second: Vasquez

Motion passed unanimously.

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

Report out from Aaron Zaheen, Deputy County Counsel, on the application of Sheryl Milton: The retirement board met in closed session to deliberate upon the draft findings of the board in relation to the disability application of Sheryl Milton. The board held an independent review of the documents and transcripts in this matter pursuant to Government Code 31534(b). After deliberations, this board has proposed to deny the application of Sheryl Milton for the reasons stated in the soon to be adopted Findings of Fact and Statement of Decision.

Motion to adopt the Findings of Fact and Statement of Decision and deny the disability application of Sheryl Milton for the reasons stated in the adopted document. Staff are hereby ordered to serve Sheryl Milton its Findings of Fact and Statement of Decision, upon which time her opportunity for an appeal begins.

Motion: Young

Second: Inman

Motion passed unanimously with one abstention (Hill).

4. Accept as filed the Disability Status Report Overview.

No Action

## **VII. CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. Approve Minutes of the following meetings:
  - a. Retirement Board Minutes of February 22, 2023.
2. Approve payments to:
  - a. KBI Global Investors – invoice for investment management services in the amount of \$77,428.00 for the quarter ended December 31, 2022.
  - b. Nossaman – invoice for legal services to the Board of Retirement in the amount of \$3,849.10 for the period ending January 31, 2023
3. Pension Board Reports and Actions
  - a. Ratify Retirement Administrator actions regarding Retirement Application approvals and Option Selections for the month of February 2023.
  - b. Approve Reports regarding Retirement Applications, Option Selections and Deceased Pensioners and 30-Year Members for the month of February 2023.

Motion to approve Consent Calendar as presented.

Motion: Young

Second: Hernandez

Motion passed unanimously.

### **VIII. ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT**

1. Update by Jim Young regarding the Administrative Committee meeting of February 22, 2023. Discussion and possible action regarding the following items:
  - a. TCERA and TCERA Property, Inc. Quarterly Financial Statements, period ending December 31, 2022.
  - b. Temporary Annuity Benefit Retirement Option

No Action

### **IX. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Discussion and possible action regarding TCERA Board of Retirement Continuing Education Report – January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022.

Mr. Sampietro informed the board that the California state of emergency orders have been lifted and the board will go back to requiring 24 hours of continuing education per year.

Motion to accept the continuing education report as presented.

Motion: Hill

Second: Hernandez

Motion passed unanimously.

### **X. EDUCATION ITEMS**

1. Discussion and possible action regarding available educational events.

No Action

### **XI. UPCOMING MEETINGS**

1. Board of Retirement Meeting March 22, 2023, 8:30 a.m.
2. Board of Retirement Meeting April 12, 2023, 8:30 a.m.
3. Board of Retirement Meeting April 26, 2023, 8:30 a.m.
4. Board of Retirement Meeting May 24, 2023, 8:30 a.m.
5. Trustee Education/Presentation Calendar – Discussion and possible action.

No Action

### **XII. TRUSTEE/STAFF COMMENTS**

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

Ms. Hernandez remarked on the member statements that were just received and requested that the board investigate having an insert added regarding Empower options and other resources so that members can have a full retirement picture.

Mr. Finney reminded the Board that Form 700 is due at the end of the month.

## **XII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:06 a.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Pete Vander Poel', written over a horizontal line.

Pete Vander Poel, Chair