



COUNTY OF TULARE  
**BOARD OF RETIREMENT**

**Leanne Malison**  
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**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF RETIREMENT**  
REGULAR RETIREMENT BOARD MEETING  
**Wednesday, September 13, 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 8:31 a.m. by Pete Vander Poel, Chair.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Voting Trustees Present: Cass Cook, Ty Inman, Gary Reed, Jim Young, Roland Hill, Pete Vander Poel, Nathan Polk  
Voting Alternates Absent: David Vasquez  
Alternates Absent: George Finney, Jorge Garcia  
Staff Members Present: Paul Sampietro, Assistant Retirement Administrator, Melanie Tyler, Secretary II  
Board Counsel Present: Aaron Zaheen, 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.

**V. X-AGENDA ITEMS**

None

**VI. DISABILITIES**

1. Closed session to be held regarding disability matters listed on this agenda.  
Time for closed session was 8:33a.m. through 8:44a.m.
2. In the matter of the disability application of Lance Heiden, consider and take action regarding the application for a disability retirement.

Motion to grant a service-connected disability retirement. 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: Hill

Second: Polk  
Motion passed unanimously.

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

Motion to grant a service-connected disability retirement. 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: Polk  
Second: Young  
Motion passed unanimously.

4. Discussion and possible action regarding the estimated invoice for the ExamWorks fee in the amount of up to \$8,800, for medical review services related to the disability application filed by Raychel Vera.

Mr. Sampietro informed the Board that the estimate for the IME is above the limit that the Retirement Administrator has the authority to approve.

Motion to approve the estimated invoice for the ExamWorks fee in the amount of up to \$8,800 related to the disability application filed by Raychel Vera as presented.

Motion: Hill  
Second: Cook  
Motion passed unanimously.

5. Accept as filed the Disability Status Report Overview.

## **VII. CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. Approve Minutes of the following meetings:
  - a. Retirement Board Minutes of August 23, 2023.
2. Approve payments to:
  - a. Nossaman – invoice for legal services to the Board of Retirement in the amount of \$271.80 for the period ending July 31, 2023
3. Pension Board Reports and Actions
  - a. Ratify Retirement Administrator actions regarding Retirement Application approvals and Option Selections for the month of August 2023.
  - b. Approve Reports regarding Retirement Applications, Option Selections and Deceased Pensioners and 30-Year Members for the month of August 2023.
  - c. Approve reinstatement of deferred status and contributions for member in unclaimed status – Luz Figueroa.
4. Administrative Financial Reports and Actions
  - a. TCERA and TCERA Property, Inc. Preliminary Financial Statements – July 31, 2023.

Motion to approve Consent Calendar as presented.

Motion: Inman  
Second: Polk  
Motion passed unanimously.

## **VIII. ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT**

1. Update by Mr. Young regarding the Administrative Committee meeting of August 23, 2023. Discussion and possible action regarding the following items:
  - a. TCERA and TCERA Property, Inc. Preliminary Fiscal Year-to-Date Financial Statements, period ending June 30, 2023.
  - b. Lobby Furniture and Decorations.

Mr. Young reported that the Preliminary Fiscal Year-to-Date Financial Statements, period ending June 30, 2023, were reviewed and the final statements will be brought before the Board in December. Mr. Young also reported the request for the lobby furniture to be updated and informed the Board that the committee has opted to review the request again after quotes are obtained and monies are allocated for the project in next fiscal-year's budget.

No Action

## **IX. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Discussion and possible action regarding TCERA contingency reserves and rates for crediting interest to TCERA member accounts and reserves for the six-month period ending June 30, 2023.

Mr. Sampietro reviewed the interest-crediting options and highlighted that historically the Board has chosen to maintain the Contingency Reserve at 3%.

Motion to approve rates of interest for member accounts and reserves for the six-month period ending June 30, 2023, at rates calculated to maintain 3% Contingency Reserves for all tiers. Tiers 1, 2, and 3 will be credited with interest of 2.8011% and tier 4 to be credited with interest of 2.3583%

Motion: Reed  
Second: Young  
Motion passed unanimously.

2. Discussion and possible action regarding Resolution Regarding Pay Codes Included as Pensionable Income – County.

Mr. Sampietro presented the new pay codes for training pay that have been created to address time spent on County employee's required job training. Mr. Sampietro explained the difference between the taxable income codes and the non-taxable income codes.

Motion to adopt the Resolution Regarding Pay Codes Included as Pensionable Income, identifying pay codes JTO, JT2, SWC, SW2, TRC and TR2 as pensionable compensation.

Motion: Young  
Second: Inman  
Motion passed unanimously.

3. Discussion and possible action regarding the Temporary Annuity Benefit Request of Orlando Davalos for Board of Retirement Approval.

Motion to approve the request of the Temporary Annuity Benefit for Orlando Davalos' retirement from TCERA.

Motion: Hill  
Second: Reed  
Motion passed unanimously.

## **X. EDUCATION ITEMS**

1. Discussion and possible action regarding payment of SACRS Conference fees for spouse/significant other attendance.

Motion to approve that TCERA covers the cost of the additional fees charged for spouse/significant other attendance at approved conferences.

Motion: Young  
Second: Polk

Ayes: Inman, Reed, Young, Polk, Vander Poel  
Noes: Hill, Cook  
Abstain: None  
Absent: Vasquez

Motion passed. 5/2

2. Discussion and possible action regarding available educational events.

No Action

#### **XI. UPCOMING MEETINGS**

1. Board of Retirement Meeting September 27, 2023, 8:30 a.m.
2. Board of Retirement Meeting October 11, 2023, 8:30 a.m.
3. Administrative Committee Meeting November 15, 2023, 10:00 a.m.
4. Trustee Education/Presentation Calendar – Discussion and possible action.

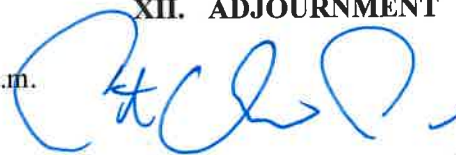
No Action

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

None

#### **XII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:09 a.m.



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Pete Vander Poel, Chair