

**KERN COUNTY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION (KCERA)
BOARD OF RETIREMENT**

11125 River Run Boulevard, Bakersfield, California

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

**Board of Retirement Meeting
May 7, 2025**

8:30 a.m.

Board Members: Vice-Chair Contreras (Alternate), Chair Couch, Franey, Gill, Hughes, Kaufman, Kratt, Nunneley (Alternate), Sanders, Seibly (Alternate), Whitezell, (3rd Member Vacant)

ROLL CALL (IN PERSON)

Present: Couch, Gill, Kratt, Nunneley, Sanders, Seibly, Whitezell

Absent: Contreras, Franey, Hughes, Kaufman

SALUTE TO FLAG – TRUSTEE ROBB SEIBLY

MOMENT OF SILENCE

NOTE: The vote is displayed in bold below each item. For example, Hughes-Kratt denotes Trustee Joseph D. Hughes made the motion and Trustee Rick Kratt seconded the motion.

AB 2449 REMOTE APPEARANCE(S)

Items 1 and 2 withdrawn from agenda. No trustees appeared via teleconference.

CONSENT MATTERS

All consent matter items listed below with an asterisk () were considered to be routine and non-controversial by staff and approved by one motion, unless otherwise noted.*

TRUSTEE JORDAN KAUFMAN ARRIVED AT 8:31 A.M.

- *3. Application for service-connected disability pension benefits for Leslie Harbour, Sheriff (Safety) – **ADOPTED RECOMMENDATION OF SDAG TO GRANT SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITY PENSION**

Kratt-Sanders – 7 Ayes

Trustee Robb Seibly voted in place of Trustee Phil Franey

- *4. Application for service-connected disability pension benefits for Darrell Sutherland, Sheriff (Safety) – ADOPTED RECOMMENDATION OF SDAG TO GRANT SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITY PENSION AND REQUIRE MEMBER TO UNDERGO MEDICAL EXAMINATION IN TWO YEARS PER CAL. GOV. CODE §31279 ET SEQ. AND MEDICAL ADVISOR RECOMMENDATION

Kratt-Sanders – 7 Ayes

Trustee Robb Seibly voted in place of Trustee Phil Franey

- *5. Application for service-connected disability pension benefits for Michael Wells, Fire (Safety) – ADOPTED RECOMMENDATION OF SDAG TO GRANT SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITY PENSION

Kratt-Sanders – 7 Ayes

Trustee Robb Seibly voted in place of Trustee Phil Franey

- *6. Application for non-service-connected disability pension benefits for Sheldon Hill, Sheriff (General) – ADOPTED RECOMMENDATION OF SDAG TO GRANT NON-SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITY PENSION, REQUIRE MEMBER TO UNDERGO MEDICAL EXAMINATION IN ONE YEAR PER CAL. GOV. CODE §31279 ET SEQ. AND MEDICAL ADVISOR RECOMMENDATION, AND AWARD MEMBER SUPPLEMENTAL DISABILITY RETIREMENT ALLOWANCE PER CAL. GOV. CODE §31725.65 ET SEQ.

Kratt-Sanders – 7 Ayes

Trustee Robb Seibly voted in place of Trustee Phil Franey

- *7. Summary of proceedings of the following meetings:

- March 26, 2025 Administrative Committee
- March 28, 2025 Finance Committee
- March 31, 2025 Investment Committee
- April 9, 2025 Board of Retirement

RECEIVED AND FILED

Kratt-Sanders – 7 Ayes

Trustee Robb Seibly voted in place of Trustee Phil Franey

- *8. Report from the KCERA office on members retired from service for the month of April 2025 – RATIFIED

Kratt-Sanders – 7 Ayes

Trustee Robb Seibly voted in place of Trustee Phil Franey

- *9. Report from the KCERA office on deceased retirees for the month of April 2025 – RECEIVED AND FILED

Kratt-Sanders – 7 Ayes

Trustee Robb Seibly voted in place of Trustee Phil Franey

- *10. Report of current disability retirement applications and appeals of KCERA Board decisions for the period ending April 30, 2025 – RECEIVED AND FILED

Kratt-Sanders – 7 Ayes

Trustee Robb Seibly voted in place of Trustee Phil Franey

- *11. Securities Lending Earnings Summary Report for the period ending March 31, 2025 from Deutsche Bank – RECEIVED AND FILED

Kratt-Sanders – 7 Ayes

Trustee Robb Seibly voted in place of Trustee Phil Franey

- *12. KCERA asset allocation, cash flow position, investment fees cash flow, and operating expense budget status reports for the month of March 2025 – RECEIVED AND FILED

Kratt-Sanders – 7 Ayes

Trustee Robb Seibly voted in place of Trustee Phil Franey

- *13. KCERA Class Action Proceeds Report from January 1 – March 31, 2025 from the Northern Trust Company – RECEIVED AND FILED

Kratt-Sanders – 7 Ayes

Trustee Robb Seibly voted in place of Trustee Phil Franey

- *14. Invitation from ILPA for Chief Investment Officer Daryn Miller to attend the ILPA Members' Conference, June 3-5, 2025, in Chicago, Illinois – RECEIVED AND FILED

Kratt-Sanders – 7 Ayes

Trustee Robb Seibly voted in place of Trustee Phil Franey

- *15. SACRS Business Meeting 2025 Packet for SACRS business meeting on May 16, 2025 in Rancho Mirage, California – RECEIVED AND FILED

Kratt-Sanders – 7 Ayes

Trustee Robb Seibly voted in place of Trustee Phil Franey

PUBLIC COMMENTS

16. The public is provided the opportunity to comment on agenda items at the time those agenda items are discussed by the Board. This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons to address the Board on any matter not on this agenda but under the jurisdiction of the Board. Board members may respond briefly to statements made or questions posed. They may ask a question for clarification and, through the Chair, make a referral to staff for factual information or request staff to report back to the Board at a later meeting. Speakers are limited to two minutes. Please state your name for the record prior to making a presentation – NONE

INVESTMENT MATTERS

17. Discussion and appropriate action on securitized recommendations presented by Chief Investment Officer Daryn Miller, Senior Investment Analyst Jack Bowman, Scott Whalen, Verus, and the Investment Committee – CHIEF INVESTMENT OFFICER DARYN MILLER, HEARD; SENIOR INVESTMENT ANALYST JACK BOWMAN HEARD; SCOTT WHALEN, VERUS, HEARD; TRUSTEE JOHN SANDERS HEARD

TRUSTEE PHIL FRANNEY ARRIVED AT 8:36 A.M.

TRUSTEE JOSEPH D. HUGHES ARRIVED AT 8:38 A.M.

APPROVED SCHRODER INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT AND GUGGENHEIM PARTNERS INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT, LLC, AS SECURITIZED PRODUCTS INVESTMENT MANAGERS; AUTHORIZED CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO SIGN, SUBJECT TO LEGAL ADVICE AND REVIEW

Sanders-Kratt – 8 Ayes

18. Discussion and appropriate action on active U.S. large cap equity recommendation presented by Chief Investment Officer Daryn Miller, Senior Investment Analyst Rafael Jimenez, Investment Analyst Melekte Yohannes, Brian Kwan, Verus, and the Investment Committee – CHIEF INVESTMENT OFFICER DARYN MILLER, HEARD; SENIOR INVESTMENT ANALYST RAFAEL JIMENEZ HEARD; BRIAN KWAN, VERUS, HEARD; TRUSTEE JOHN SANDERS HEARD

APPROVED CHILTON CAPITAL MANAGEMENT AS INVESTMENT MANAGER OF THE CHILTON CAPITAL HIGH CONVICTION EQUITY STRATEGY; AUTHORIZED CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO SIGN, SUBJECT TO LEGAL ADVICE AND REVIEW

Sanders-Franey – 8 Ayes

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

19. Review and discussion of the Annual KCERA Human Resources Report presented by Chief Executive Officer Dominic Brown and the Administrative Committee – CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER DOMINIC BROWN HEARD; CHAIR DAVID COUCH HEARD; TRUSTEES PHIL FRANNEY, AJAIB GILL, JOSEPH D. HUGHES, JOHN SANDERS, AND TYLER WHITEZELL HEARD

RECEIVED AND FILED; REFERRED MATTER TO ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE TO REVIEW

Franey-Hughes – 8 Ayes

20. Annual Business Plan presented by Chief Executive Officer Dominic Brown – CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER DOMINIC BROWN HEARD

HEARD PRESENTATION

21. Discussion and review of proposed third-party election administrator and revisions to KCERA's Elections Procedures Policy presented by Chief Executive Officer Dominic Brown, Senior Communications Manager Jeremy Rowell, and the Administrative Committee – CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER DOMINIC BROWN HEARD; ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES OFFICER AIMEE MORTON HEARD; SENIOR COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER JEREMY ROWELL HEARD; CHAIR DAVID COUCH HEARD; TRUSTEE JORDAN KAUFMAN HEARD

APPROVED PROPOSED THIRD-PARTY ELECTION ADMINISTRATOR AND REVISIONS TO KCERA'S ELECTIONS PROCEDURES POLICY; AUTHORIZED CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO SIGN, SUBJECT TO LEGAL ADVICE AND REVIEW

Franey-Kaufman – 8 Ayes

22. Discussion and appropriate action on review of the KCERA Board of Retirement CERL Regulations presented by Chief Executive Officer Dominic Brown, Deputy Chief Legal Officer Kristen McDonald, and the Administrative Committee – CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER DOMINIC BROWN HEARD; DEPUTY CHIEF LEGAL OFFICER KRISTEN MCDONALD HEARD

ADOPTED PROPOSED CHANGES AND DIRECTED STAFF TO SUBMIT TO THE KERN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR FINAL APPROVAL

Franey-Whitezell – 8 Ayes

23. Discussion and appropriate action regarding options to fill the vacancy of the Third Member (General) seat due to the resignation of Trustee Deon Duffey – CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER DOMINIC BROWN HEARD

DIRECTED STAFF TO ADMINISTER ELECTION FOR REMAINING TERM AND SUBSEQUENT TERM OF THIRD MEMBER SEAT

Franey-Sanders – 8 Ayes

24. Proclamation of May 4-10, 2025 as Public Service Recognition Week – SENIOR COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER JEREMY ROWELL HEARD; CHAIR DAVID COUCH HEARD; TRUSTEES RICK KRATT AND ROBB SEIBLY HEARD

ADOPTED PROCLAMATION

Whitezell-Kratt – 8 Ayes

STAFF REPORTS

25. Report from Chief Executive Officer

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER DOMINIC BROWN REPORTED THE FOLLOWING:

- STAFFING UPDATE
- KERN360 PLANNING MEETINGS AND TESTING
- RETIREMENT ACTIVITY UPDATE
- DISABILITY ACTIVITY UPDATE
- PUBLIC SERVICE RECOGNITION WEEK
- ASK JAN CHATBOT MONITORING
- OPERATIONS ACTIVITY
- MEMBER OUTREACH AND EDUCATION
- UPCOMING EVENTS

TRUSTEE RICK KRATT HEARD

26. Report from Chief Investment Officer

CHIEF INVESTMENT OFFICER DARYN MILLER REPORTED THE FOLLOWING:

- REBALANCING – APRIL ACTIVITY
- POSITIONING – ACTUAL VS. POLICY TARGET
- KEY INITIATIVES
- INVESTMENT COMMITTEE MEETINGS
- DELEGATION
- CLOSED INVESTMENTS

27. Report from Chief Legal Officer

CHIEF LEGAL OFFICER JENNIFER ZAHRY REPORTED THE FOLLOWING:

- LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

TRUSTEES PHIL FRANNEY AND RICK KRATT HEARD

COMMITTEE REPORTS

28. Report from Committee Chairs:

- a. Administrative Committee: SEIBLY – ITEMS TO COME TO COMMITTEE
- b. Finance Committee: FRANNEY – MEETING TO BE SCHEDULED
- c. Investment Committee: SANDERS – NONE

29. Administrative Appeal of Julie Jamison regarding request for transfer of escheated contributions and interest to member account – CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER DOMINIC BROWN HEARD; CHIEF LEGAL OFFICER JENNIFER ZAHRY HEARD; DEPUTY CHIEF LEGAL OFFICER KRISTEN MCDONALD HEARD; CHAIR DAVID COUCH HEARD; TRUSTEES PHIL FRANNEY AND ROBB SEIBLY HEARD

PUBLIC COMMENT: JULIE JAMISON, MEMBER, HEARD

HEARD STATEMENTS; RECEIVED ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

TRANSFER ESCHEATED FUNDS TO MS. JAMISON'S KCERA ACCOUNT, WITHOUT INTEREST (WHICH WILL REINSTATE HER FORMER TIER I MEMBERSHIP STATUS), FINDING THAT MS. JAMISON HAS ACKNOWLEDGED SHE UNDERSTANDS AND ACCEPTS THE CONSEQUENCES OF SWITCHING FROM TIER II TO TIER I AS SET FORTH IN THE JANUARY 31, 2025 KCERA INITIAL BENEFIT DETERMINATION LETTER

Franey-Sanders – 8 Ayes

ITEM 30 (WHICH ALSO SHOULD HAVE BEEN NUMBERED ITEM 29, AS IT INVOLVED THE SAME ISSUE) REMOVED FROM AGENDA. BOARD DECLINED TO DISCUSS MATTER IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.

ITEM 31 (WHICH ALSO SHOULD HAVE BEEN NUMBERED ITEM 29, AS IT INVOLVED THE SAME ISSUE) REPORTED OUT AS PART OF AGENDA ITEM 29

REFERRALS TO STAFF, ANNOUNCEMENTS OR REPORTS

32. On their own initiative, Board members may make a brief announcement, refer matters to staff (subject to KCERA's rules and procedures), or make a brief report on their own activities – NONE

NEW BUSINESS

33. Consider, discuss, and take possible action to agendaize one or more items for future meetings of the Board of Retirement – NONE
34. ADJOURNED – 10:23 A.M.



Secretary, Board of Retirement



Chair, Board of Retirement