

**MCERA RETIREMENT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
ADMINISTRATIVE AND INVESTMENT
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2019
MERCED COUNTY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION
3199 M STREET, MERCED, CA 95348**

ROLL CALL: 8:15 A.M.

Board Members Present: Ryan Paskin, Scott Johnston, Al Peterson, David Ness (arrived at 8:18AM), Jason Goins and Scott Silveira, Michael Rhodes, Janey Cabral. **Counsel:** Forrest Hansen. **Staff:** Kristen Santos, Alexis Curry, Mark Harman, Brenda Mojica, Ninebra Maryoonani and Martha Sanchez.

Absent: Karen Adams.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: 11/21/2019.

Motion to approve the November 21, 2019 meeting minutes.

Silveira/Ingersoll U/A (7-0).

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

CLOSED SESSION

The meeting went into closed session.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATIONS: PERSONNEL EXCEPTION

(Govt. Code §54957, 31532; Cal Const. art. I, § 1)

Motion to grant service connected disability and deny non-service connected disability for Ramon Plascencia.

Cabral/Rhodes U/A (8-0).

Report out from prior closed session:

The Board approved to fully replace Mellon International with a 50/50 allocation to GQG International Equity and First Eagle International Value Equity, respectively. As of November 30th, the value of the Mellon International investment was \$89,759,587.48. The final redemption value will be determined at the time of trade and settlement, which is expected to be before the end of December.

The Board approved to terminate Wells Fargo Berkeley Street Emerging Markets strategy with a 70/30 allocation to Artisan Developing World and RWC Emerging Markets Equity, respectively. As of November 30th, the value of the Berkeley Street Investment was \$71,880,657.78. The final redemption value will be determined at the time of trade and settlement, which is expected to be before the end of December.

CONSENT CALENDAR

RETIREMENTS: Pursuant to Govt. Code § 31663.25 or § 31672

All items of earnable compensation for service or disability retirements listed below are in compliance with the pay code schedule approved by the Board of Retirement. The retirement is

authorized; however, administrative adjustments may be necessary to alter the amount due to: audit, late arrival of data, court order, etc.

a. Norman, Lori	Child Support	20 Yrs. Svc.	Eff. 11/09/2019
b. Stokes, Lilian	Health Services	8.12 Yrs. Svc.	Eff. 11/04/2019

YTD fiscal year 2019/2020 retirees: 036* reflects removal of SCD from prior month count

YTD fiscal year 2018/2019 retirees: 101* reflects addition of SCD effective back to prior fiscal year count

YTD fiscal year 2017/2018 retirees: 082

REFUND OF SERVICE PURCHASE: None

DEATH BENEFIT: None

MONTHLY BUDGET REPORT: Submitted

Motion to approve Consent Calendar.

Ness/Ingersoll U/A (8-0).

BOARD ACTION¹/DISCUSSION

1. Discussion and possible action to adopt the draft preliminary findings from the experience study, adjust MCERA's discount rate and adopt MCERA's draft contribution rates – Graham Schmidt and Anne Harper, Cheiron.

The MCERA Board voted to approve the preliminary findings from the experience study and updated proposed assumptions, as presented by Cheiron and approved to lower MCERA's discount rate to 7.0%. Ness/Peterson U/A 8-0

2. Discussion and possible action on quarterly and monthly Investment Performance Report with possible Board action on any funds or managers – Meketa.

No action taken.

3. Discussion and possible action on quarterly performance for alternative investments and any funds or managers – Cliffwater.

No action taken.

4. Discussion and possible action to adopt proposed interest crediting rates for December 31, 2019 – Staff.

Board approved interest crediting rates as of December 31, 2019. Rhodes/Cabral U/A 7-0

5. Discussion on replacing Board's iPads and keyboards – Staff.

Information only.

6. Discussion and possible action to add half time extra help Office Assistant to MCERA – Staff.

Motion to approve Staff's request to County for MCERA to hire an extra help Office Assistant. Ingersoll/Peterson U/A 7-0.

7. Discussion on legislative update (chaptered bills) – Staff.

No action taken.

¹ "Action" means that the Board may dispose of any item by any action, including but not limited to the following acts: approve, disapprove, authorize, modify, defer, table, take no action, or receive and file.

8. Discussion and possible action on update of property purchase located at 690 W. 19th Street, Merced, CA – Staff.

No action taken.

9. Review calendar of any training sessions and authorize expenditures for Trustees and Plan Administrator. Pursuant to Govt. Code §31522.8 and MCERA's Trustees Education and Training Policy requirements. Examples of upcoming training and educational sessions:
- NCPERS Legislative Conference, January 26-28, 2020, Washington, DC.
 - CALAPRS General Assembly, March 7–10, 2020, Rancho Mirage, CA.
 - Advanced Principles of Pension Management for Trustees, March 30– April 1, 2020, Los Angeles, CA.
 - Pension Bridge Annual Conference, April 15-20-10, 2020, San Francisco, CA.
 - NCPERS Trustee Educational Seminal, May 9-10, 2020, Las Vegas, NV.
 - NCPERS Accredited Fiduciary Program (Modules 1&2 and 3&4), May 9-10, 2020, Las Vegas, NV.
 - NCPERS Annual Conference & Exhibition, May 10-13, 2020, Las Vegas, NV.
 - SACRS Spring Conference, May 12-15, 2020, San Diego, CA.
 - KKR's 2020 Global Investor Meeting, July 29 – July 1, 2020, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA.
 - SACRS Public Pension Investment Management Program, July 26-29, 2020, Berkeley, CA.
 - Principles of Pension Governance for Trustees, August 25-28, 2020 Malibu, CA.
 - SACRS Fall Conference, November 10-13, 2020, Indian Wells, CA.

No action taken.

INFORMATION ONLY

- Plan Administrator introduced new MCERA Accountant Ninebra Maryoonani to the MCERA Board.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:55 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Ryan Paskin, Chair



Al Peterson, Secretary



Date