



**STANISLAUS COUNTY
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BOARD OF RETIREMENT MINUTES

October 11, 2000

Members Present: Lyn Bettencourt, Nick Blom, Wes Hall, Al Sarina, Virgil Thompson, Steve Yauch and Tom Watson

Members Absent: Maria De Anda

Others Present: Victoria Halliday, Lois Ertel; Biserka Garotic, member

1. Meeting called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Chairman Lyn Bettencourt.

2. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Retirement office has cassettes of the SACRS Fall Conference, 1999 and the SACRS Spring Conference, 2000 available for check out to any interested parties.

Robert Harmon called earlier in the day to report his presentation at the conference in Florida went well. Response was good and he has met some interesting people.

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

4. **CONSENT ITEMS**

Motion was made by Wes Hall and seconded by Nick Blom to approve the following items as listed.

Motion carried.

a. Approval of the September 26, 2000 Regular Session Minutes.

b. Approval of Service Retirement(s) - Sections 31499.14, 31760.1 and 31810

1. Gary Beebout, Ag. Commissioner, Effective 08-01-00
2. Russell Bye, Public Works, Effective 09-08-00
3. Karla Doane, Health Services Agency, Effective 09-30-00
4. Denise Nichelson, City of Ceres, Effective 09-30-00
5. Rosary Vasquez, Health Services Agency, Effective 10-07-00
6. Gary Kailes, Probation Dept., Effective 10-18-00

4. **CONSENT ITEMS-Continued**

c. Approval of Deferred Retirement(s) - Section 31700

1. Liann Noble, Community Services Agency, Effective 07-10-00
2. Vivian H. Bias, Community Services Agency, Effective 09-20-00

Administrator's item "a" was taken at this time as a courtesy to the CEO/Risk Management Division personnel.

In an update on the Disability Management Program, David Dolonar reported that they have completed their staff recruitment as of August 1, 2000, and are now ready to pursue full implementation of this program. David Dolonar and Peggy Huntsinger are Certified Professional Disability Managers and find it exciting that this program is being used as a benchmark by other counties. There are about 400 new claims filed each year, with 547 currently being processed. The sheriff's office with 50% of the claims is a focus for reduction by identifying problem areas. David Dolonar states that they are now managing cases and want to move to a loss prevention strategy with an emphasis on safety education throughout all County departments.

Peggy Huntsinger presented a comprehensive review of the Disability Management Program since its inception in March of 1999. A history of this program, the benefits for both employer and employee, the key elements, and statistical data comparing prior years with the current year gave a good picture of what has been accomplished to date, as well as goals for the future.

After David Dolonar explained the presentation planned for the SACRS Conference, Board members provided a few suggestions on items which would be of particular interest. David Dolonar will provide a history of the program, Peggy Huntsinger will give details on the program, and Victoria Halliday will give the perspective from an attorney's point of view. Board members expressed their appreciation of the information provided.

5. **CLOSED SESSION:**

Motion was made by Virgil Thompson and seconded by Wesley Hall to adjourn to closed-session at 3:00 p.m.

Motion carried.

Closed Session Findings:

After returning to regular session at 3:35 p.m., the Administrator read the findings of the closed session:

- a. The application of Candy Dionne for a service connected disability retirement benefit was denied.

Closed Session Findings-Continued:

- b. The application of Paul Ulyak for a service connected disability retirement benefit was denied.
- c. The application of Ronald D. Backer for a service connected disability retirement benefit, with appropriate supplemental disability allowance in accordance with the 1937 Act, was set for further investigation, to be brought back by January 2001. Pending the results of the service connected application, a non-service connected disability retirement benefit was granted (after application for same) effective May 3, 2000.
- d. The application of Biserka (Pearl) Garotic for a service connected disability retirement was granted effective September 9, 2000, with vocational rehabilitation benefits pursuant to the 1937 Act.
- e. The application of Judy P. Richmond for a service connected disability retirement benefit was granted effective March 31, 2000 with appropriate medical review and vocational rehabilitation benefits pursuant to the 1937 Act.
- f. The application of David M. Woods for a service connected disability retirement benefit was granted effective October 12, 2000, with appropriate supplemental disability allowance and medical review in accordance with the 1937 Act.

6. **ADMINISTRATOR**

- b. A schedule was presented to the Board of the election process for filling the vacancy of the Alternate Safety member representative. Motion was made by Nick Blom and seconded by Al Sarina to approve the Notice of Election schedule for the Alternate Position for Seat Number 7, Safety Member Representative to the Board of Retirement.

Motion carried.

Al Sarina will be the Board representative for canvassing the vote.

- c. On June 14, 2000 the Board of Retirement approved the recommendation of the Administrator to notify and return members granted Tier 1 status based on the "San Diego" decision (the portion which affected those with reciprocity) to a Tier 2 status because of a reversal by the Appellate Court on appeal. These members would not be required to make up any additional member contributions nor would this affect any member who has already retired. All newly hired members will be placed in Tier 2. Prior to the enactment of this motion, the Board asked the Administrator to write to the Board of Supervisors to inform them of this issue and ask if they wish to approve the increased benefit if these particular members are allowed to remain on a Tier 1 status. If no response was received by July 31, 2000, the retirement staff would be instructed to follow through with the notification of these 11 members. This has been continued twice since July 31, 2000 due to the lack of success of the Administrator to get this information to the Board of Supervisors.

6. **ADMINISTRATOR-Continued**

- c. A copy of the agenda item with all relevant information, including the actuarial study, will be given to Nick Blom as a member of the Board of Supervisors for further investigation. This issue will be put on the November 28, 2000 agenda.

7. **COMMITTEE REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION**

- a. Benefits Committee-Wesley Hall, Chairman
Wes Hall reported the open enrollment for retiree health benefits is set for November 8 and 9, 2000. Because of confidentiality restrictions, Kaiser Permanente was told they would need to either contact RESCO for information or have StanCERA mail any information to retirees.

- b. Bylaws Committee-Steve Yauch, Chairman

The Bylaws do not address how the terms would be continued when the current Chairman is unable to complete a term. It is therefore proposed to amend Section 1.5 by adding the following: "If the unexpired term is for less than 9 months, then the successor shall also hold office for their normal term immediately following the completion of the unexpired term. If the unexpired term is for 9 months or more, the successor shall only hold office for the completion of the unexpired term."

Motion was made by Tom Watson and seconded by Virgil Thompson to approve the amendment to Section 1.5 of the Bylaws as proposed.

Motion carried.

- c. Due Diligence Committee-Wesley Hall, Chairman

This committee met at 10:00 a.m. on September 28, 2000, with Jennifer Cooper of Cooper Consultants, Inc. This firm works with funds to: 1) determine their consultant requirements; 2) assist in obtaining/changing consultants; 3) evaluating consultant independence; 4) evaluating how a consultant can "add value" to a fund; and 5) making due diligence visits to consultants on behalf of funds. They also provide services for full searches, short searches, finalist presentations with evaluations, and accompany the fund on due diligence site visits. The committee invited Ms. Cooper to submit a proposal for a short search including finalist presentations and due diligence visits as necessary. Ms. Cooper will work with Robert Harmon on submitting a proposal to the committee for subsequent discussion and action by the Board. This committee will meet again on October 19, 2000 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 5610 at 1010 10th Street.

In answer to Virgil Thompson's question, Victoria Halliday confirmed the Chairman of the Board is an Ex-officio member of all committees. Committees should be restricted to three Board members to comply with the Brown Act.

7. **COMMITTEE REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION-Continued**

d. Education Committee-Virgil Thompson, Chairman

Virgil Thompson, Chairman, has prepared a calendar of available events for continuing education through December 2001, with copies provided to all Board members. This will give them an opportunity to plan ahead for these conferences. As new opportunities or specific dates become available, this calendar will be updated. It was suggested names of those attending be included on this calendar. Staff will provide a form for reporting hours of continuing education to Board members with trip authorizations, as well as an "Exemption Certificate for Government Agencies" for hotel-motel transient occupancy tax waiver.

8. **MEMBERS FORUM (Information and Future Agenda Requests Only)**

Al Sarina complimented staff on the "Goldenyears" newsletter.

Wes Hall asked if a date for the Strategic Planning Sessions had been set. It was suggested the Board consider meeting at a more remote location to prevent distractions of work, family and friends. This will be on the agenda on 10/24/00 with Board members asked to bring ideas for discussion at this time.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Watson, Secretary
Board of Retirement

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
MICHAEL KRAUSNICK
County Counsel

Victoria Halliday, Deputy County Counsel