



**STANISLAUS COUNTY  
EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION**  
1010 10th Street, Suite 5800  
P.O. Box 859  
Modesto, CA 95353-0859

Phone (209) 525-6393  
Fax (209) 525-4334  
www.stancera.org  
e-mail: retirement@  
mail.co.stanislaus.ca.us

**PLEASE POST FOR EMPLOYEE VIEWING**

**BOARD OF RETIREMENT MINUTES**

**March 8, 2000**

**Members Present:** Nick Blom, Maria DeAnda, Wes Hall, Thomas Keating, Joash Paul, Al Sarina, Virgil Thompson, Steve Yauch, and Tom Watson

**Members Absent:** Lyn Bettencourt

**Others Present:** Victoria Halliday, Robert Harmon, Lois Ertel; Billy Walls, member

1. Meeting called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Chairman Joash Paul.
2. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
Board members were asked to turn in their FPPC Form 700 as soon as possible as they have to be filed by April 1, 2000.
3. **PUBLIC COMMENT**  
None
4. **CONSENT ITEMS**

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

Motion carried.

- a. Approval of the February 22, 2000 Regular Session Minutes.
- b. Approval of Service Retirement(s) - Sections 31760.1 and 31810
  1. Philip Lustri, Public Defender's Office, Effective 03-01-00
  2. Peter Pokorra, Probation Dept., Effective 03-07-00
  3. Carolyn Lucido, T/TC-Collection Division, Effective 03-10-00
  4. Gordon Dewers, Environmental Resources/Parks, Effective 03-11-00
  5. Bonnie Kyle, Community Services Agency, Effective 03-16-00
  6. Robert Kelley, AG Commissioner, Effective 03-17-00
  7. Curtis List, Building & Grounds, Effective 03-18-00
  8. Marilyn Johnson, Community Services Agency, Effective 03-23-00
  9. Jack Flinn, Central Services, Effective 03-24-00
  10. Alan Fontes, District Attorney's Office, Effective 03-25-00
  11. Clarence W. Black, Probation Dept., Effective 03-31-00
  12. John Forth, District Attorney's Office, Effective 03-31-00

Board of Retirement Minutes  
March 8, 2000

4. **CONSENT ITEMS -Continued**

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

13. Roger Green, Community Services Agency, Effective 03-31-00
14. Gayle Ivy, Dept. of Mental Health, Effective 03-31-00
15. Celesta Michael, Sheriff's Office, Effective 03-31-00
16. John Saylor, Sheriff's Office, Effective 03-31-00
17. Michael Schaffran, Public Health, Effective 03-31-00
18. Judy Stillwell, Superior Court, Effective 03-31-00
19. Charlotte B. Wallis, Community Services Agency, 03-31-00
20. Daryl Weitzl, Planning Dept., Effective 03-31-00

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

1. Steven O'Connor, Public Defender's Office, Effective 09-15-95
2. Gustavo Flores, Probation Dept., Effective 11-10-99
3. Ra Pouv, Probation Dept., Effective 01-03-00
4. Cyndi Ott-Girdner, Auditor-Controller's Office, Effective 1-15-00
5. Phyllis J. Bristow, Community Services Agency, Effective 02-01-00
6. Julie A. Jacobson, Probation Dept., Effective 02-08-00
7. Paul Kirchoff, Animal Services, Effective 03-16-00

d. Approval of Refund for Deferred Retirement Member(s) - Section 31701

1. George J. Flores
2. Richard T. Heckathorn
3. Rhonda McKinney
4. Kathrene Willcox

5. **CLOSED SESSION:**

Motion was made by Wes Hall and seconded by Steve Yauch to adjourn to closed-session at 2:05 p.m.

Motion carried.

Nick Blom arrived at 2:05 p.m.

Closed Session Findings:

After returning to regular session at 2:30 p.m., the Administrator read the findings of the closed session:

- a. The application of Frances H. Bryant for a non-service connected disability retirement benefit was granted effective July 28, 1999.

Board of Retirement Minutes

March 8, 2000

Page 3

5. **CLOSED SESSION-Continued:**

Closed Session Findings-Continued:

- b. The application of Vicki Jean Clay for a non-service connected disability retirement benefit was granted effective August 11, 1999. (Note: Due to a clerical error, an incorrect date was verbally reported at the meeting.)
- c. The application of Billie Hockenhull for a non-service connected disability retirement benefit was granted effective July 27, 1999, and his application for service connected disability retirement benefits was denied.
- d. The application of James E. Northern for a service connected disability retirement benefit was granted effective September 15, 1999, with appropriate call back due to his age, and revision if he is rehabilitated within StanCERA covered employment.
- e. The application of Vernay L. Taylor-Boddie for a service connected disability retirement was approved effective March 9, 2000, with appropriate call back due to her age, and revision if she is rehabilitated within StanCERA covered employment.
- f. The application of Billy D. Walls for a non-service connected disability retirement benefit was granted effective October 4, 1999.

6. **ADMINISTRATOR**

- a. In an Information System update, Tom Watson reported that three payrolls have been done successfully on the new system. However, there are still things to be done with the payroll portion of the new system. The specifications for the rest of the system will not be done until June or July at the earliest, and it will probably take six months to complete this process.
- b. In an update on staffing in the Retirement Division, Tom Watson reported there are seven full time positions consisting of the Assistant Administrator, two Confidential Assistant V, two Confidential Assistant IV, one Confidential Assistant III, and one Confidential Assistant II. A recent recruitment resolved the Confidential V positions with Michele Silva and new hire Rochelle Evans (starting 3/13/00) filling these positions. A current recruitment is being conducted to fill the open Confidential Assistant IV position which will not be completed until about mid-May. Dawn Lea is a Confidential Assistant IV, Lois Ertel is a Confidential Assistant III and Karen Valdez is a Confidential Assistant II. When a full staff is in existence, Tom Watson will introduce them to the Board.
- c. The Board would like the Administrator to further pursue the possibility of having the CEO/Risk Management division present something on their recently developed Disability Management Program at the SACRS Fall 2000 Conference.
- d. In an update on County/Union Negotiations, Tom Watson reported that an interest was expressed in changing Tier 2 members from a three year to a one year final average salary computation to determine retirement benefits as is used for Tier 1 members. Mike Moehle from Buck Consultants attended this meeting to obtain information for an actuarial study to determine the cost. If this benefit should be

6. **ADMINISTRATOR-Continued**

- d. implemented, approximately two-thirds of the current membership would be recipients of this benefit. This is just one of the items being discussed for possible use of the remaining approximate \$9.3 million set aside by the Retirement Association to benefit Stanislaus County employee members. Robert Harmon reported the City of Ceres would like to know the cost for them to provide this benefit to their Tier 2 members and asked if it would be possible to include them in any actuarial study.

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

- a. Benefits Committee-Wesley Hall, Chairman  
No report.
- b. Bylaws Committee-Steve Yauch, Chairman  
No report.
- c. Due Diligence Committee-Lyn Bettencourt, Chairman  
No report.
- d. Education Committee-Virgil Thompson, Chairman  
Virgil Thompson reported the SACRS Symposium on D.R.O.P. (Deferred Retirement Options Program) , which was also attended by Tom Watson, Thomas Keating, and Wes Hall, was very informative. It was an intensive all day session which was very educational and covered a very complicated program. Tom Watson asked them to look at the tax implications and get an IRS opinion. The SACRS legislative committee might introduce something in the legislature, with more information expected in the future on this program.

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

Virgil Thompson asked how many were planning to accept the invitation from Therese McKeown of MFS Institutional Advisor, Inc. for dinner on March 11, 2000 at the CALAPRS General Assembly. Wes Hall, Al Sarina, and Virgil Thompson, with spouses, will attend this dinner and asked staff to RSVP in the affirmative to Therese McKeown.

Wes Hall will see that Board members receive the quarterly RESCO Newsletter and advised staff to submit any information they would like to share with retirees for possible inclusion in this newsletter. Robert Harmon told Wes he would include this newsletter on the StanCERA web site if they submit a copy on a file disc.

Steve Yauch reported the appreciation and thanks expressed by the SCEA union representative for the information he and retirement staff have provided them. He also complimented staff for the “good job” in presenting the recent Pre-Retirement Seminar. He has heard many positive comments from members.

Robert Harmon said the survey responses to the Pre-Retirement Seminar all rated the presentation as good and excellent. Another seminar will be presented in the Fall. Robert has also worked with Thomas Keating on plans to have retirement staff present to provide

8. **MEMBERS FORUM-Continued**

information and answer questions on retirement issues at an all day fair for the City of Ceres

employees on April 25, 2000. Although this service has been offered, City of Ceres employees do not receive the individual “new hire” counsel which is given to Stanislaus County employees.

Nick Blom attended a conference in Washington D.C. at which he heard former Stanislaus County CEO, Phil Rosenberg, speak. He said it was an excellent speech which provided good information. (Phil Rosenberg is often called the “H.R. Doctor”.)

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Watson, Secretary  
Board of Retirement

APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
MICHAEL KRAUSNICK  
County Counsel

---

Victoria Halliday, Deputy County Counsel