



STANISLAUS COUNTY
EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION
1010 10th Street, Suite 5800
P.O. Box 3150
Modesto, CA 95353-3150

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

PLEASE POST FOR EMPLOYEE VIEWING

Revised

BOARD OF RETIREMENT MINUTES

JANUARY 12, 2005

Members Present: Nick Blom, Maria DeAnda, Gary Dial, Gordon Ford, Darin Gharat, Wes Hall, and Ron Martin

Members Absent: Mike Fisher and Linda Stotts-Burnett

Others Present: Jamie Borba, Ed Burroughs, Kelly Cerny, Thomas Nelson, and Tom Watson

1. Meeting called to order at 2:01 p.m. by Chair Gary Dial.
2. Moment of Silence Observed for Officers Howie Stevenson and Sam Ryno, Ceres Police Department

3. **Rotation of Officers**

Pursuant to Bylaws Section 1.5, Gary Dial is Chair for the 2005 Retirement Board and Nick Blom, Vice Chair.

4. **Announcements**

Tom Watson, Administrator shared a December 2004, Plansponsor article regarding defined benefit plans.

Gary Dial, Chair noted Retirement Board Committee Assignments had been made for 2005 and all Retirement Board members received a printed copy of the Committee Assignments.

5. **Comments**

Thomas Nelson, Active Member, gave a brief overview of his work history at Behavioral Health and Recovery Services. This was in regards to his application for his Service-Connected Disability Retirement. Mr. Nelson did not seek an open session hearing.

6. **Consent Items**

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

Motion carried.

- a. Approval of the December 8, 2004 Regular and Closed Session Minutes
- b. Approval of Service Retirement(s) – Sections 31499.14. 31760.1 and 31810
 1. Janet Bailey, effective 01-04-05
 2. Paul Caruso, Effective 01-04-05
 3. Karen Mitchell, Effective 12-18-04
 4. Verna Moeck, Effective 01-08-05
 5. Becky Ochoa, Effective 01-19-05
 6. Patricia Paul, Effective 01-04-05
 7. Michael Sierra, Effective 01-01-05
 8. Carolyn Taylor, Effective 01-04-05
 9. James Wheelless, Effective 01-15-05
- c. Approval of Deferred Retirement(s) – Sections 31700
 1. Victoria Halliday, Effective 12-31-04
 2. David Pavao, Effective 09-10-04
 3. Emron Qarqat, Effective 02-15-02
- d. Approval of Deferred Refund(s) – Section 31700
 1. Daphne Wilson
 2. Catherine Hemphill
 3. Maria G. Smith
- e. Approval of Death Benefit(s) – Section 31781
 1. Celeste Mason, December 2004, Active Member, Options Pursuant to Government Code Sections 31781, 31781.1 and 31781.3
 2. Rosemary Martinez-Limon, Deceased December 25, 2004, Active Member, Options Pursuant to Government Code Sections 31781, 31781.1 and 31781.3

Thomas Nelson left at 2:15 p.m.

7. **Closed Session**

Motion was made by Wes Hall and seconded by Ron Martin to adjourn to Closed Session at 2:15 p.m.

After returning to regular session at 2:23 p.m., Tom Watson, Retirement Administrator read the findings of the closed session.

7. **Closed Session – Continued-**

The application of Clarise D. Gonzales for a Service-Connected Disability Retirement benefit was granted effective June 28, 2004, with medical call back at the discretion of the Administrator.

The application of Thomas J. Nelson for a Service-Connected Disability Retirement benefit was granted effective March 11, 2004, with medical call back at the discretion of the Administrator.

Two retirees who receive disability retirement were reviewed for their medical conditions. The Retirement Board found the retirees continue to be permanently disabled to perform their former job duties.

8. **Administrator**

- a. Discussion and Acceptance of Purchasing Card Internal Audit for the period of July 1, 2003, to November 23, 2004.

Tom Watson stated Natalie Elliott, Confidential Assistant V, utilized policies and procedures of the Auditor's Office, as well as the County Travel Policy to compile this internal report.

After discussion, motion was made by Ron Martin and seconded by Wes Hall to accept and approve the Purchasing Card Internal Audit for the period of July 1, 2003 through November 23, 2004.

Motion carried.

- b. Discussion and Approval of any exception to the County Travel or Purchasing Policies as approved reasonable expenditures of the Retirement Association for the period of July 1, 2003, through November 23, 2004.

The Retirement Board found that all expenses were deemed reasonable and acceptable. The By-laws were amended in December 2004 to provide for future travel expenditures to be approved as deemed reasonable by the Retirement Board Chair and Retirement Administrator. Darin Gharat recommended staff seek clarification prior to submitting documentation. Wes Hall recommended educating/emphasizing the travel policy as necessary. Tom Watson, Retirement Administrator, and Gary Dial, Retirement Chair, will review expenses to maintain reasonable expenses.

- c. Proposed Retirement Administrator's 2005 Goals.

Motion made by Darin Gharat and seconded by Nick Blom to accept the Retirement Administrator's 2005 Goals as presented (see attachment).

Motion carried.

8. **Administrator – Continued-**

- d. Retirement Administrator's 2005 Requested Vacation, and Attendance at SACRS Executive Committee Sessions as SACRS Treasurer.

Motion made by Ron Martin and seconded by Wes Hall to accept the Retirement Administrator's requested vacation leave and attendance at the SACRS Executive Committee Sessions.

Motion carried.

- e. Discussion and Input on Draft 2005 Calendar for Retirement Board and Administrative activities.

In addition to the ongoing activities of the Retirement Association, three (3) dates for the Independence Committee meetings were noted, March 9, June 28, and September 27, 2005; two (2) dates for the 2005 Strategic Planning Sessions, Administrative - September 15, 2005, and Investment - September 28, 2005; two (2) dates for the Disability Retirement Accountability Committee meetings, February 22 and May 24, 2005. The Board members would like reminders of upcoming meetings as they occur.

Motion was made by Wes Hall and seconded by Ron Martin to approve the 2005 Calendar for Retirement Board and administrative activities.

Motion carried.

Maria DeAnda arrived at 3:11 p.m.

9. **Correspondence**

- a. Victoria Halliday sent a thoughtful thank-you card.
- b. Over 20 retirees sent nice thank-you notes and letters for the special one-time cost of living adjustment (COLA).
- c. RESCO sent a Christmas card thanking staff for their service in 2004.
- d. CALAPRS Applications for Principles of Pension Management, at Stanford University Law School, March 22-25, 2005, were distributed and newer Trustees were encouraged to register and attend.

10. **Committee Reports and Recommendations for Action**

STANDING COMMITTEES

1. Benefits Committee - Wes Hall, Chair
2. Bylaws Committee – Ron Martin, Chair
3. Due Diligence Committee – Nick Blom, Chair
4. Education Committee – Maria DeAnda, Chair

10. **Committee Reports and Recommendations for Action – Continued-**

AD-HOC COMMITTEES

1. Independence Committee – Darin Gharat, Chair
2. Disability Retirement Accountability Committee – Mike Fisher, Chair

There were no reports from the Committees.

11. **Members' Forum (Information and Future Agenda Requests Only)**

Gordon Ford, Treasurer-Tax Collector, asked if the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) is going to the Government Financial Officers Association. Tom Watson, Administrator stated no. This is the second year with a complete CAFR. Gordon Ford, asked about the Alternate Retirement Credit (ARC) time. The Retirement Board does not support this due to hidden unfunded liabilities for the employer. The Retirement Board has cautioned the Board of Supervisors about this and no action has been taken at this time. This issue itself is a benefit issue to be determined through negotiations between the Board of Supervisors and the employees' unions.

Wes Hall stated the disability retirement applications in process are less than 15, and this is the lowest number in years.

Wes Hall, Ron Martin, and Darin Gharat commended Tom Watson, Administrator, for providing goals for 2005, along with the 2005 vacation and SACRS Executive Committee attendance request.

Darin Gharat thanked Kathy Herman for providing the TACS information.

Wes Hall would like pictures and information from new staff and Retirement Board members for the RESCO newsletter. He will need the photos and information by January 24, 2005.

12. **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 3:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Watson, Retirement Administrator

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
MICHAEL KRAUSNICK
County Counsel

Ed Burroughs, Deputy County Counsel

Attachment