VENTURA COUNTY EMPLOYEES’ RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION

BOARD OF RETIREMENT

DISABILITY MEETING

May 4, 2015

MINUTES

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Tracy Towner, Chair, Alternate Safety Employee Member
William W. Wilson, Vice Chair, Public Member
Peter C. Foy, Public Member
Joseph Henderson, Public Member
Mike Sedell, Public Member
Deanna McCormick, General Employee Member
Craig Winter, General Employee Member
Chris Johnston, Safety Employee Member
Arthur E. Goulet, Retiree Member
Will Hoag, Alternate Retiree Member

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Steven Hintz, Treasurer-Tax Collector

STAFF PRESENT: Lori Nemiroff, Assistant County Counsel
Julie Stallings, Chief Operations Officer
Vickie Williams, Retirement Benefits Manager
Donna Edwards, Retirement Benefits Specialist
Stephanie Caiazza, Program Assistant
Dan Gallagher, Chief Investment Officer

PLACE: Ventura County Employees' Retirement Association
Second Floor Boardroom
1190 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93003

TIME: 9:00 a.m.
ITEM:

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Towner called the Disability Meeting of May 4, 2015, to order at 9:00 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Towner amended the agenda by switching items “V.E.” and “V.F.”. Chair Towner stated that the amendment was necessary because the applicant’s attorney for Case 11-021 indicated that he may be late or absent for the meeting due to illness.

The following motion was made:

MOTION: Approve the agenda, as amended.

Moved by Henderson, seconded by Sedell.

Vote: Motion carried
Yes: Goulet, Foy, Johnston, Sedell, Winter, Henderson, McCormick, Wilson
No:  -
Absent: Hintz

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Business Meeting of April 20, 2015.

The following motion was made:

MOTION: Approve.

Moved by Henderson, seconded by Goulet.

Vote: Motion carried
Yes: Goulet, Foy, Johnston, Sedell, Winter, Henderson, McCormick, Wilson
No:  -
Absent: Hintz
IV. RECEIVE AND FILE PENDING DISABILITY APPLICATION STATUS REPORT

MOTION: Approve.

Moved by Goulet, seconded by Henderson.

Vote: Motion carried
Yes:  Goulet, Foy, Johnston, Sedell, Winter, Henderson, McCormick, Wilson
No:  -
Absent: Hintz

V. APPLICATIONS FOR DISABILITY RETIREMENT

A. Application for Service Connected and Non-Service Connected Disability Retirement, Andrew W. Poland; Case No. 13-005.


Paul Hilbun and John Gilman, Attorney at Law, were present on behalf of County of Ventura Risk Management. The applicant, Andrew Poland, was also present.

Both parties declined to make a statement.

Staff clarified that the hearing officer’s original report contained incorrect references to OCERS instead of VCERA and the corrected report that was submitted to the Board was meant to replace the original report within the case record.

The following motion was made:

MOTION: Approve the Hearing Officer’s recommendation and grant the applicant, Andrew Poland, a non-service connected disability retirement.

Moved by Wilson, seconded by Johnston.

Vote: Motion carried
Yes:  Goulet, Foy, Johnston, Sedell, Winter, Henderson, McCormick, Wilson
No:  -
Absent: Hintz
B. Application for Service Connected Disability Retirement, Ignacio Godinez; Case No. 14-023.

1. Application for Service Connected Disability Retirement and Supporting Documentation.


Janet Chu-Hooker and Michael Youril, Attorney at Law, were present on behalf of Ventura Regional Sanitation District (VRSD). The applicant, Ignacio Godinez, was also present.

The representatives from VRSD declined to make a statement. The applicant gave a brief statement describing his background and condition.

Trustee Goulet commented that the report from VRSD was comprehensive and well-done.

The following motion was made:

**MOTION:** Grant the applicant, Ignacio Godinez, a service connected disability retirement.

Moved by Goulet, seconded by McCormick.

Vote: Motion carried
Yes: Goulet, Foy, Johnston, Sedell, Winter, Henderson, McCormick, Wilson
No: -
Absent: Hintz

The parties agreed to waive preparations of Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.

C. Application for Service Connected Disability Retirement, RayMel Lloyd; Case No. 14-024.

1. Application for Service Connected Disability Retirement and Supporting Documentation.


Janet Chu-Hooker and Michael Youril, Attorney at Law, were present on behalf of Ventura Regional Sanitation District. The applicant, RayMel Lloyd, was also present.
Trustee Goulet stated that he found the report to be deficient and noted that it did not include a description of how the accident occurred.

The applicant summarized the events of the accident for the Board.

Trustee Goulet requested further clarification of the records submitted by VRSD.

Following discussion by the Board and Mr. Youril, the following motion was made:

**MOTION:** Request that VRSD submit a revised report with additional supporting documentation, and continue this matter at the July 6, 2015 disability meeting or at a preceding meeting if the materials are submitted early.

Moved by Henderson, seconded by Johnston.

Vote: Motion carried
Yes: Goulet, Foy, Johnston, Sedell, Winter, Henderson, McCormick, Wilson
No: -
Absent: Hintz

D. Application for Non-Service Connected Disability Retirement, Cynthia Lazenby; Case No. 14-026.

1. Application for Non-Service Connected Disability Retirement and Supporting Documentation.


Paul Hilbun was present on behalf of County of Ventura Risk Management. The applicant, Cynthia Lazenby, was also present.

Both parties declined to make statements.

The following motion was made:

**MOTION:** Grant the applicant, Cynthia Lazenby, a non-service connected disability retirement.

Moved by Wilson, seconded by McCormick.
Vote: Motion carried  
Yes: Goulet, Foy, Johnston, Sedell, Winter, Henderson, McCormick, Wilson  
No: -  
Absent: Hintz

The parties agreed to waive preparations of Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.

E. Michael Wheat v. Board of Retirement of VCERA, Ventura County Superior Court Case No. 56-2013-00440045-CU-WM-VTA

1. Memorandum from County Counsel dated April 24, 2015
2. Notice of Entry of Judgement and Issuance of Writ of Mandate, dated April 9, 2015
3. Minute Order dated December 19, 2014
4. Hearing Notice Served on April 8, 2015

Paul Hilbun and Derek Straatsma, Attorney at Law, were present on behalf of County of Ventura Risk Management.

Following the issuance of judgment on the applicant’s petition for writ of mandate, Ms. Nemiroff recommended that the Board grant the applicant a service connected disability.

The following motion was made:

**MOTION**: Grant the applicant, Michael Wheat, a service connected disability retirement.

Moved by Wilson, seconded by McCormick.

Vote: Motion carried
Yes: Goulet, Foy, Johnston, Sedell, Winter, Henderson, McCormick, Wilson
No: -
Absent: Hintz

F. Application for Service Connected Disability Retirement, Karen Anderson; Case No. 11-021.

1. Proposed Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Recommendation, submitted by Hearing Officer Kenneth A. Perea,
dated March 18, 2015.


The applicant’s attorney was not present due to illness. The following motion was made:

**MOTION**: Continue this matter at the June 1, 2015 disability meeting.

Moved by Goulet, seconded by McCormick.

Vote: Motion carried
Yes: Goulet, Foy, Johnston, Sedell, Winter, Henderson, McCormick, Wilson
No: -
Absent: Hintz

VI. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. Approval of Assignment of Contract from Schott & Lites to California Strategies & Advocacy, LLC

1. Staff Letter

2. Press Release


After discussion by the Board, the following motion was made:

**MOTION**: Approve assignment of the contract for advocating VCERA’s proposed CERL Legislation (AB 1291) to California Strategies and Advocacy, LLC. and delegate authority to the Chair to approve and execute an assignment agreement.

Moved by Goulet, seconded by Sedell.

Vote: Motion carried
Yes: Goulet, Foy, Johnston, Sedell, Winter, Henderson, McCormick, Wilson
No: -
Absent: Hintz

The following motion was made:

MOTION: Approve.

Moved by Henderson, seconded by Winter.

Vote: Motion carried
Yes: Goulet, Foy, Johnston, Sedell, Winter, Henderson, McCormick, Wilson
No: -
Absent: Hintz

C. Pension Bridge Report, Submitted by Trustee McCormick and Trustee Goulet

The following motion was made:

MOTION: Receive and file.

Moved by Henderson, seconded by Winter.

Vote: Motion carried
Yes: Goulet, Foy, Johnston, Sedell, Winter, Henderson, McCormick, Wilson
No: -
Absent: Hintz

D. Ventura County Employees’ Retirement Information System (VCERIS) Pension Administration Project

1. Staff Letter

2. VCERIS Project Quarterly Status Update

Brian Colker of Linea Solutions, Inc. was present to provide the Board with a status update on the VCERIS Pension Administration Project.

After discussion by the Board and Mr. Colker, the following motion was made:

MOTION: Receive and file.

Moved by Henderson, seconded by Sedell.
Vote: Motion carried
Yes: Goulet, Foy, Johnston, Sedell, Winter, Henderson, McCormick, Wilson
No: -
Absent: Hintz

VII. INFORMATIONAL


VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

IX. STAFF COMMENT

None.

X. BOARD MEMBER COMMENT

Chair Towner welcomed Dan Gallagher, VCERA’s new Chief Investment Officer.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:41 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

LINDA WEBB, Retirement Administrator

Approved,

TRACY TOWNER, Chairman