

VENTURA COUNTY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION

BOARD OF RETIREMENT

DISABILITY MEETING

October 3, 2016

MINUTES

DIRECTORS Tracy Towner, Chair, Alternate Safety Employee Member
PRESENT: William W. Wilson, Vice Chair, Public Member
Steven Hintz, Treasurer-Tax Collector
Craig Winter, General Employee Member
Arthur E. Goulet, Retiree Member
Robert Bianchi, Alternate Public Member

DIRECTORS Peter C. Foy, Public Member
ABSENT: Will Hoag, Alternate Retiree Member
Chris Johnston, Safety Employee Member
Mike Sedell, Public Member

STAFF Lori Nemiroff, Assistant County Counsel
PRESENT: Linda Webb, Retirement Administrator
Shalini Nunna, Retirement Benefits Manager
Vickie Williams, Retirement Benefits Manager
Donna Edwards, Retirement Benefits Specialist
Stephanie Caiazza, Retirement Benefits Specialist
Chris Ayala, Program Assistant

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 October 3, 2016, to order at 9:01 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Towner stated that the agenda should be amended to remove item V.A., Application for Service Connected Disability for Ramirez, Scott D.; Case No. 15-013, which will instead be heard at the November Disability Meeting.

MOTION: Approve the agenda as amended.

Moved by Wilson, seconded by McCormick.

Vote: Motion carried

Yes: Goulet, Bianchi, Hintz, McCormick, Winter, Wilson, Towner

No: -

Absent: Foy, Hoag, Johnston, Sedell

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Disability Meeting of September 12, 2016.

Trustee Goulet commented that the minutes had an error in Item V.C. regarding the Mr. Hilbun's title of, Attorney at Law.

MOTION: Approve with correction.

Moved by Goulet, seconded by Wilson.

Vote: Motion carried

Yes: Goulet, Bianchi, Hintz, McCormick, Winter, Wilson, Towner

No: -

Absent: Foy, Hoag, Johnston, Sedell

B. Business Meeting of September 19, 2016.

Trustee Goulet commented that Trustee Towner would have been eligible to vote only prior to Trustee Johnston's arrival and that Trustee Hoag was not eligible to vote, being that he is an alternate member and would only be allowed if Trustee Goulet was not present.

MOTION: Approve with correction.

Moved by Goulet, seconded by McCormick

Vote: Motion carried

Yes: Goulet, Bianchi, Hintz, McCormick, Winter, Wilson, Towner

No: -

Absent: Foy, Hoag, Johnston, Sedell

IV. RECEIVE AND FILE PENDING DISABILITY APPLICATION STATUS REPORT

MOTION: Receive and File.

Moved by Wilson, seconded by Goulet.

Vote: Motion carried

Yes: Goulet, Bianchi, Hintz, McCormick, Winter, Wilson, Towner

No: -

Absent: Foy, Hoag, Johnston, Sedell

V. APPLICATIONS FOR DISABILITY RETIREMENT

- A. Application for Service Connected Disability Retirement, Ramirez, Scott D.;
Case No. 15-013

This item was moved to the November Disability Meeting.

The Board advanced to agenda item V.B.

1. Application for Service Connected Disability Retirement
2. Medical Analysis and Recommendation by County of Ventura, Risk Management, to grant Applicant's Application for Service Connected Disability Retirement, including supporting documentation
3. Hearing Notice, dated September 13, 2016

- B. Application for Service Connected Disability Retirement, Cooper, Leonard A.; Case No. 14-008

The Board advanced to agenda item VII.A "Linea Project Update/Closeout"

1. Staff Letter
2. Proposed Findings of Fact and Recommended Decision, dated May 27, 2016, by Catherine Harris, Hearing Officer
3. Applicant's request to be granted a Non-Service Connected Disability Retirement in lieu of the Service Connected Disability Retirement
4. Response to Hearing Officer's Proposed Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Recommended Decision received from Stephen D. Roberson, Attorney for County of Ventura, Risk Management, received July 1, 2016 and July 21, 2016
5. Hearing Notice, dated September 12, 2016

Trustee Goulet inquired if Risk Management would oppose the recommended action.

Mr. Hilbun stated that Risk Management would agree to the board's decision.

Chair Towner inquired as to the position of Mr. Cooper.

Ms. Edwards replied that Mr. Cooper was now seeking a Non-Service Connected Disability Retirement and had filed an application to reflect this.

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

MOTION: Adopt the recommendation of the Hearing officer to deny the Application of Service Connected Disability.

Moved by Wilson, seconded by Bianchi

Vote: Motion carried

Yes: Goulet, Bianchi, Hintz, McCormick, Winter, Wilson, Towner

No: -

Absent: Foy, Hoag, Johnston, Sedell

MOTION: Approve Application for Non-Service Connected Disability Retirement.

Moved by Wilson, seconded by Bianchi

Vote: Motion carried

Yes: Goulet, Bianchi, Hintz, McCormick, Winter, Wilson, Towner

No: -

Absent: Foy, Hoag, Johnston, Sedell

Following the vote on this item, the Board advanced to agenda item IX. "Public Comment"

VI. OLD BUSINESS

None

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Linea Project Update/Closeout

1. Project Report from Linea

Brian Colker from Linea was present to present both the 2nd quarter and final project report for the PAS project implementation. He acknowledged the efforts of VCERA team members, and summarized the work accomplished thus far. He discussed things still to come, such as system stabilization, enhancements and the remediation of outstanding defects. He indicated that the intent at Go-Live was to remediate the material defects by the end of the warranty period, but based on the number of the defects still outstanding as well as the new ones identified since Go-Live, this was unlikely to be achieved. He acknowledged that the number of defects and their corresponding work-arounds were problematic and that Linea had been in discussion with Vitech regarding a plan and timeline for completion remediation efforts in a reasonable amount of time. Mr. Colker reported that Vitech had recently committed to adding 1 ½ resources to the existing team increase the pace of remediation. Mr. Colker said that Linea had proposed a plan to eliminate the material defects within a 12 months after the end of the warranty period.

Mr. Goulet said that the timeline of 12 months from the end of the warranty period was too long and made him very uncomfortable. Mr. Colker responded that Vitech had not responded to Linea's proposed timeline; he also said that more defects would likely be identified before the end of the warranty and that for every defect, retesting by VCERA staff was necessary and thus requiring resources on both sides.

Mr. Colker mentioned that was still a great deal still to come. There are certain cyclical processes that had not yet been performed in V3, such as the need for changes related to IRS regulations, pending enhancements, the beneficiary data import, and the transition of system admin & query running to VCERA staff.

Trustee Goulet commented that he would like the calculations for the roll-up of hours for Ms. Cummings in the transition from Change Order #6 to Change Order #7 to be presented for the board.

Ms. Webb stated that she would work with Mr. Colker in getting the calculations for the board.

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

MOTION: Receive and File.

Moved by Hintz, seconded by Bianchi

Vote: Motion carried

Yes: Goulet, Bianchi, Hintz, McCormick, Winter, Wilson, Towner

No: -

Absent: Foy, Hoag, Johnston, Sedell

B. Request for Approval of the Addition of a Half-Time (.5 FTE) Staff Position of Program Administrator II

1. Staff Letter

Ms. Webb stated VCERA administration, particularly in light of the new AB 1291 appointments, was in need of additional administrative support and staff was requesting a half-time position to meet this need. She also stated VCERA would be beginning the process with Ventura County, Human Resources on the classification and recruitment.

Trustee Goulet inquired why the board would need to ask the County of Ventura anything in regards to this position. Ms. Webb replied she anticipated the County would agree with the proposed classification, but that hypothetically HR could respond that it disagreed. Chair Towner commented that VCERA would only be inquiring about the classification, not the approval of the position itself.

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

MOTION: Approve.

Moved by Wilson, seconded by Winter

Vote: Motion carried

Yes: Goulet, Bianchi, Hintz, McCormick, Winter, Wilson, Towner

No: -

Absent: Foy, Hoag, Johnston, Sedell

C. Request for Retirement Administrator, Linda Webb to Attend NEPA Conference, October 24 – 25, 2016, Newport Beach, CA

1. Staff Letter

Ms. Webb stated that she would normally not be attending this conference, but since C.O.O., Julie Stallings would be attending the Vitech conference and with no communications position within VCERA to attend that she as requested to represent VCERA. She said that based on both the close proximity and strong agenda, she believed it was in VCERA's best interest to attend the Monday & Tuesday sessions.

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

MOTION: Approve.

Moved by Wilson, seconded by Winter

Vote: Motion carried

Yes: Goulet, Bianchi, Hintz, McCormick, Winter, Wilson, Towner

No: -

Absent: Foy, Hoag, Johnston, Sedell

VIII. INFORMATIONAL

Letter from Retired Member, June S. Lovell, dated August 23, 2016

The Board advanced to agenda item V.B. "Application for Service Connected Disability Retirement, Cooper, Leonard A.; Case No. 14-008 "

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

X. STAFF COMMENT

Ms. Webb reminded the board that with the Nossaman Fiduciaries Forum and the SACRS conference approaching to please contact Mr. Ayala if they plan to attend.

XI. BOARD MEMBER COMMENT

Trustee Winter inquired about a response from Vitech regarding the inability to hire Mr. Christofferson for the IT Manager position with VCERA.

Ms. Webb stated that she had received e-mails and phone calls regarding this matter, but no formal written response to the Board had been received

Chair Towner stated that Vitech has offered to assist VCERA in finding a candidate for IT Manager position. Trustee Goulet responded that he believed that Vitech should have sent a letter regarding this matter.

Trustee Bianchi inquired about the ILPA materials that were provided separately from the agenda. Ms. Webb stated those materials were provided by C.I.O., Dan Gallagher, and specific questions should be directed to him.

Chair Towner commented if the Board had an annual ILPA membership, it would reduce the cost of sending a trustee for further education.

Ms. Webb commented that if any of the board members were interested in a class from ILPA, that they should let her know so that she can have it agendized.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:43 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



LINDA WEBB, Retirement Administrator

Approved,



TRACY TOWNER, Chairman

