

**SANTA BARBARA COUNTY  
EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM**

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**Gregory E. Levin, CPA  
Chief Executive Officer**



**BOARD OF RETIREMENT**

Chair- Frederick Tan  
Vice Chair- Harry E. Hagen  
Secretary-Michael Vidal  
Trent Benedetti  
Zandra Cholmondeley  
Steve Lavagnino  
Ted Sten  
Xiaoli Zhang-King  
**Alternates**  
Gary Blair  
Ryan Sullivan

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**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF RETIREMENT  
November 17, 2021  
Coastal Room, Employees' University  
267 Camino del Remedio  
Santa Barbara, CA 93110**

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e) as amended by Assembly Bill 361 modifying the Brown Act's requirement of in person public meetings, the Board meeting was held via remote video conference. CEO Gregory Levin facilitated the meeting from the in-person meeting location. Trustees, staff, consultants, and members of the public participated in the meeting remotely from multiple locations. Members of the public were provided access to the meeting by a YouTube link and were provided multiple means to provide public comment.

**Roll Call at 9:03 a.m.**

Members Present: Cholmondeley, Hagen, Lavagnino, Sten, Tan, Vidal  
Members Absent: Benedetti, Zhang-King  
Alternates Present: Blair, Sullivan  
Counsel Present: Blakeboro, Leiderman, Krengel  
Clerk Present: Couture

Alternate Trustee Sullivan voted as the 2nd Member (General Elected Member) pending election of a successor. Trustee Zhang-King joined the meeting at 9:30 a.m. Trustee Vidal departed the meeting at 1:10 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance led by CEO.

## BOARD

### 1. **Reconsideration of Resolution Authorizing Teleconference Meetings**—Staff

Presentation by Gregory Levin, SBCERS CEO on the authorization of teleconference meetings.

**DISCUSSION:** SBCERS CEO Gregory Levin presented the item.

**MOTION:** Reconsider the circumstances outlined in Board Resolution 2021-09 regarding the current declared COVID-19 state of emergency enabling the Board to hold meetings via teleconference pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e);

Find that the COVID-19 state of emergency remains active, and continues to directly impact the ability of members to meet safely in person, and State or local officials continue to recommend measures to promote social distancing; and

Authorize remote teleconference meetings of its legislative bodies for the period of November 17, 2021 through December 16, 2021, pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e)(3).

Motion: Hagen

Second: Sten

Approved by roll call vote.

Yes: Cholmondeley, Hagen, Lavagnino, Sten, Sullivan, Tan, Vidal

Absent: Benedetti, Zhang-King

## PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

## MINUTES

A-1. Approve Minutes of October 27, 2021 Regular Board meeting.

**MOTION:** Approve Minutes of October 27, 2021 Regular Board meeting.

Motion: Cholmondeley

Second: Lavagnino

Approved by roll call vote 7-0.

Yes: Cholmondeley, Hagen, Lavagnino, Sten, Sullivan, Tan, Vidal

Absent: Benedetti, Zhang-King

**CONSENT**

**C-1. Adopt Retirement Report**

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Total Service Credit</u>	<u>Sick Leave Credit (incl. in Total)</u>	<u>ARC</u>
D R	Frank Alvarez	Public Health	10.91002	0.06571	
	Erlinda Brooks	Social Services	29.15561	0.00179	
	Michael Escobar	Public Works	24.95354	0.26766	
	Linda Fredrickson	DRO-A	13.41092	0.00000	
	Martin Johnson	Fire	35.32640	1.00000	
Dis.	Christopher MaCauley	Sheriffs	12.73778	0.00000	
	Stephen Mason	Planning & Development	36.42945	1.00000	
R	Rob Perry	Social Services	8.15626	0.25989	
D	Laurie A. Richards	General Services	6.56735	0.06996	
D R	Pamela Richardson	Public Health	1.40606	0.00836	

D=Deferred      R=Reciprocal      Dis. = Disability      Dis. Pend = Disability Pending

<u>Beneficiary on Payroll</u>	<u>Decedent Retiree</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Retirement Date</u>	<u>Date of Death</u>
Georgia Elevatorski	Edward Elevatorski	Public Works	03/15/1986	09/12/2021
Mary Kessler	James Willcutt	Sheriffs	03/31/2000	08/23/2021
Linda Llamas	David Llamas	Probation	05/26/2004	07/31/2021
Colleen Murr	James Murr	Probation	03/31/2006	08/04/2021
Annabella Nylander	Douglas Nylander	Fire	08/18/2003	10/06/2021
Malvin Parr	Barbara Parr	Court	12/08/2003	07/31/2021
Rosa Suarez	Justo Suarez Jr.	Behavioral Wellness	09/27/2008	09/01/2021
Lawrence Tate	Cathleen Tate	District Attorney	03/09/2017	04/11/2021
Linda Ward	William Ward	Fire	12/28/1998	08/09/2021

C-2. **Travis Simmons**—Grant Referee Catherine Harris’ request for an extension of her jurisdiction to conduct the evidentiary hearing.

**MOTION:** Amend item C-1 (shown in red) and approve item C-2.

Motion: Cholmondeley

Second: Hagen

Approved by roll call vote 7-0.

Yes: Cholmondeley, Hagen, Lavagnino, Sten, Sullivan, Tan, Vidal

Absent: Benedetti, Zhang-King

## BOARD

2. **Member Appeals in re Alameda Decision**—Staff and Counsel

Introduction of member appeal process in re Alameda Decision by Gregory Levin, SBCERS CEO, Harvey Leiderman SBCERS Fiduciary Counsel, Cristal Rodriguez, and Kaleigh Ganske.

**DISCUSSION:** Gregory Levin, Harvey Leiderman, Cristal Rodriguez, and Kaleigh Ganske presented the item and responded to questions from the Board.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Elizabeth Tourgeman, Attorney for Appellants, Santa Barbara County Firefighters Inc., and Local 2046, Bryan Fernandez, Local 2046 President, and Jacob Kalinski, Attorney for Appellants and Deputy Sheriffs Association, addressed the Board.

The Board took no action.

3. **David Sadecki**—Appeal of Staff Determination in Administrative Review of Benefit Adjustment Pursuant to Alameda Decision—Staff

**DISCUSSION:** SBCERS Staff Cristal Rodriguez and Kaleigh Ganske presented the item and responded to questions from the Board. The Appellant was present and responded to questions from the Board.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Bryan Fernandez and Jacob Kalinski addressed the Board. Peter Ysebrands, Appellant in item 6, addressed the Board.

**MOTION:** Affirm staff's decision as final to adjust David Sadecki's monthly retirement benefit pursuant to the Alameda Decision.

Motion: Lavagnino

Second: Sten

Approved by roll call vote 7-1.

Yes: Cholmondeley, Hagen, Lavagnino, Sten, Sullivan, Tan, Vidal

No: Zhang-King

Absent: Benedetti

4. **David Zaniboni**—Appeal of Staff Determination in Administrative Review of Benefit Adjustment Pursuant to Alameda Decision—Staff

**DISCUSSION:** SBCERS Staff Cristal Rodriguez and Kaleigh Ganske presented the item. The Appellant was present and addressed the Board.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Paul Weirum, Appellant in item 12, and Jacob Kalinski addressed the Board. SBCERS Fiduciary Counsel Harvey Leiderman and SBCERS Tax Counsel Jenni Kregel answered questions from public comment.

**MOTION:** Affirm staff’s decision as final to adjust David Zaniboni’s monthly retirement benefit pursuant to the Alameda Decision.

Motion: Lavagnino  
Second: Hagen

Approved by roll call vote 7-1.

Yes: Cholmondeley, Hagen, Lavagnino, Sten, Sullivan, Tan, Vidal

No: Zhang-King

Absent: Benedetti

5. **Sabin Perkins**—Appeal of Staff Determination in Administrative Review of Benefit Adjustment Pursuant to Alameda Decision—Staff

**DISCUSSION:** SBCERS Staff Cristal Rodriguez and Kaleigh Ganske presented the item. The Appellant was present and addressed the Board.

**MOTION:** Affirm staff’s decision as final to adjust Sabin Perkins’ monthly retirement benefit pursuant to the Alameda Decision.

Motion: Hagen  
Second: Cholmondeley

Approved by roll call vote 7-1.

Yes: Cholmondeley, Hagen, Lavagnino, Sten, Sullivan, Tan, Vidal

No: Zhang-King

Absent: Benedetti

6. **Peter Ysebrands**—Appeal of Staff Determination in Administrative Review of Benefit Adjustment Pursuant to Alameda Decision—Staff

**DISCUSSION:** SBCERS Staff Cristal Rodriguez and Kaleigh Ganske presented the item and responded to questions from the Board.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Sabin Perkins, Appellant in item 5, addressed and responded to questions from the Board.

**MOTION:** Affirm staff’s decision as final to adjust Peter Ysebrands monthly retirement benefit pursuant to the Alameda Decision.

Motion: Vidal  
Second: Hagen

Approved by roll call vote 7-1.

Yes: Cholmondeley, Hagen, Lavagnino, Sten, Sullivan, Tan, Vidal

No: Zhang-King

Absent: Benedetti

7. **Scott Jopes**—Appeal of Staff Determination in Administrative Review of Benefit Adjustment Pursuant to Alameda Decision—Staff

**DISCUSSION:** SBCERS Staff Cristal Rodriguez and Kaleigh Ganske presented the item and responded to questions from the Board.

**MOTION:** Affirm staff's decision as final to adjust Scott Jopes' monthly retirement benefit pursuant to the Alameda Decision.

Motion: Cholmondeley

Second: Sten

Approved by roll call vote 7-1.

Yes: Cholmondeley, Hagen, Lavagnino, Sten, Sullivan, Tan, Vidal

No: Zhang-King

Absent: Benedetti

8. **Randall Harris**—Appeal of Staff Determination in Administrative Review of Benefit Adjustment Pursuant to Alameda Decision—Staff

**DISCUSSION:** SBCERS Staff Cristal Rodriguez and Kaleigh Ganske presented the item and responded to questions from the Board. The Appellant was present and addressed the Board.

**MOTION:** Affirm staff's decision as final to adjust Randall Harris' monthly retirement benefit pursuant to the Alameda Decision.

Motion: Vidal

Second: Cholmondeley

Approved by roll call vote 7-0.

Yes: Cholmondeley, Hagen, Lavagnino, Sten, Sullivan, Tan, Vidal

Absent: Benedetti, Zhang-King

9. **Paul Christensen**—Appeal of Staff Determination in Administrative Review of Benefit Adjustment Pursuant to Alameda Decision—Staff

**DISCUSSION:** SBCERS Staff Cristal Rodriguez and Kaleigh Ganske presented the item and responded to questions from the Board.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Randall Harris, Appellant in item 8, addressed and answered questions from the Board.

**MOTION:** Affirm staff's decision as final to adjust Paul Christensen's monthly retirement benefit pursuant to the Alameda Decision.

Motion: Sullivan

Second: Sten

Approved by roll call vote 7-0.

Yes: Cholmondeley, Hagen, Lavagnino, Sten, Sullivan, Tan, Vidal

Absent: Benedetti, Zhang-King

2. **Member Appeals in re Alameda Decision**—Staff and Counsel

Introduction of member appeal process in re Alameda Decision by Gregory Levin, SBCERS CEO, Harvey Leiderman SBCERS Fiduciary Counsel, Cristal Rodriguez, and Kaleigh Ganske.

**DISCUSSION:** Gregory Levin, Harvey Leiderman, Cristal Rodriguez, and Kaleigh Ganske re-opened the item and responded to questions from the Board.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Bryan Fernandez, Elizabeth Tourgeman, Santa Barbara County Chief Deputy Craig Bonner, and Jacob Kalinski addressed the Board.

The Board took no action.

10. **Gregg Weitzman**—Appeal of Staff Determination in Administrative Review of Benefit Adjustment Pursuant to Alameda Decision—Staff

**DISCUSSION:** SBCERS Staff Cristal Rodriguez and Kaleigh Ganske presented the item and responded to questions from the Board. The Appellant was present and addressed the Board.

**MOTION:** Affirm staff's decision as final to adjust Gregg Weitzman's monthly retirement benefit pursuant to the Alameda Decision.

Motion: Sullivan

Second: Hagen

Approved by roll call vote 7-1.

Yes: Cholmondeley, Hagen, Lavagnino, Sten, Sullivan, Tan, Vidal

No: Zhang-King

Absent: Benedetti

11. **Louis Jon Simon**—Appeal of Staff Determination in Administrative Review of Benefit Adjustment Pursuant to Alameda Decision—Staff

**DISCUSSION:** SBCERS Staff Cristal Rodriguez and Kaleigh Ganske presented the item and responded to questions from the Board.

**MOTION:** Affirm staff’s decision as final to adjust Louis Jon Simon’s monthly retirement benefit pursuant to the Alameda Decision.

Motion: Cholmondeley

Second: Sten

Approved by roll call vote 7-1.

Yes: Cholmondeley, Hagen, Lavagnino, Sten, Sullivan, Tan, Vidal

No: Zhang-King

Absent: Benedetti

12. **Paul Weirum**—Appeal of Staff Determination in Administrative Review of Benefit Adjustment Pursuant to Alameda Decision—Staff

**DISCUSSION:** SBCERS Staff Cristal Rodriguez and Kaleigh Ganske presented the item and responded to questions from the Board. The Appellant was present and addressed the Board.

**MOTION:** Affirm staff’s decision as final to adjust Paul Weirum’s monthly retirement benefit pursuant to the Alameda Decision.

Motion: Cholmondeley

Second: Sten

Approved by roll call vote 6-1.

Yes: Cholmondeley, Hagen, Lavagnino, Sten, Sullivan, Tan

No: Zhang-King

Absent: Benedetti, Vidal

The meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

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Clerk



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Chair

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Secretary