

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors
Retired Employees of Alameda County
Monday September 13, 2021, 9:30 A.M.**

Zoom Video Conferencing Board Meeting

Marian Breitbart, President of the Board, called the meeting to order at 9:30 A.M.

Roll Call: Marian Breitbart, Paul Reeves, Suman Sharma, Connie Land, Renaye Johnson, and Linda Slater were present. Betty Tse, ACERA Chief Investment Officer, Clint Kuboyama, ACERA Investment Officer, Mike Fara, ACERA Representative, Nancy Reilly REAC Member and ACERA Retiree Alternate, Charo Panesi-Guerra, REAC Member and Administrative Assistant, and Pete Albert ACRE Board President, were present.

Minutes: Minutes of the August 9, 2021, meeting were reviewed. Connie moved that the Minutes from the August 9, 2021 Board meeting be approved as submitted. Renaye seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

Announcements & Communications: There were no announcements or communications to report.

ACERA: Betty Tse, ACERA Chief Investment Officer, began by introducing ACERA Investment Officer Clint Kuboyama. She mentioned that Clint was responsible for several Private Asset Classes, including Absolute Return, Private Credit, Private Asset, and that he also supports the Fixed Income Class.

Clint began his presentation by mentioning that he has been working with ACERA for approximately 7 years and would be providing the Board with a Total Fund Performance Report.

His first report focused on ACERA's 2021 Quarter End Market Values. The 1st Quarter returns, for the period ending March 31, 2021, were up 4.42%. The 2nd Quarter returns, for the period ending June 30, 2021, were up 6.12%. The total Fund increase was 11.4% and the total Fund Balance was \$11.4 Billion.

His second report provided a brief look at the Total Fund's performance over time. Looking at the Fund's performance from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, the Fund increased in value by 32.19%. That performance places it in the 8th percentile of the total Public Fund universe. The Fund has consistently outperformed the Policy Index year after year.

His third report provided a breakdown, by Asset Class Allocation, of the entire Fund.

Asset Class	Market Value
US Equity	\$3,056,234,418
International Equity	\$2,929,097,465
Fixed Income	\$1,691,926,277
Real Estate	\$ 658,023,226
Private Equity	\$ 895,422,433
Absolute Return	\$ 729,027,486
Real Assets	\$ 520,973,082
Private Credit	\$ 123,326,560

Cash	\$ 837,761,043*
Total	\$11,441,791,989

*(The cash was received on June 29th and therefore appears in this report. Immediately following June 30th, the cash was redistributed across the total Fund)

Clint also reported that for the YTD period ending 06/30/2021, the total portfolio rose 10.85%, outperforming the policy index by 1.77%. Through 06/30/2021, ACERA’s annualized 5-year and 10-year gross portfolio returns of 12.44% and 9.58% rank it in the 11th and 14th percentiles, respectively, of similar funds in the “InvestorForce Universe” over those specific time periods.

Mike Fara reported on the September 1, 2021 Retirees Committee Meeting. There was one Information Item and two Action Items. The Information Item was a report on the ACERA-Sponsored Medical Health Plans and Premiums for Plan Year 2022. The presentation contained detailed information regarding renewal rates and plan coverage for the Plan Year beginning February 1, 2022 through January 31, 2023.

There are four group plans: Kaiser HMO, UHC (United Healthcare)-HMO – Signature Value, UHC (United Healthcare) – HMO – Signature Value Advantage, and Kaiser Senior Advantage. The Kaiser HMO rate increased by 4.0%, for the retiree only, the rate increased from \$810.72 to \$843.16. The UHC-HMO Signature Value rate increased by 2.93%, for the retiree only, the rate increased from \$1,150.60 to \$1,184.32. The UHC-HMO Signature Value Advantage rate also increased by 2.93%, for the retiree only, the rate increased from \$759.16 to \$781.42. The Kaiser Senior Advantage rate decreased by 9.9%, for the retiree only, the rate decreased from \$382.21 to \$344.44.

The presentation also pointed out a change to the UHC-HMO Signature Value Prescription Drug List. The UHC-HMO Signature Value Prescription Drug List (PDL) will sunset beginning January 1, 2022, and transition to the UHC-HMO Signature Value Advantage PDL for the 2022 Plan Year. The change hopes to help individuals better manage their drug costs. The Advantage PDL will be promoting the use of “High-value” medications, which are medications that are more clinically effective at lower cost. The Advantage PDL will encourage the use of those medications by placing them in the lowest tier, regardless of brand name, generic, or specialty status, to limit cost as a barrier for members.

The first Action Item was a recommendation to approve offering Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage Plan enrollees three rider Options. The first option was an optional Silver & Fit Benefit for Plan Year 2022. Kaiser would offer at no cost, and on a trial basis, a Silver & Fit Benefit, including a gym membership. The second item was an optional Transportation Rider. Kaiser would offer routine and post-discharge transportation coverage up to 24 one-way trips per year to medically-related appointments. There would be a 50-mile radius per trip limitation. The third item was an optional Meals Rider. Kaiser would offer up to 84 home delivered meals immediately following an inpatient hospitalization when referred by a clinical staff member. It would include 3 meals/ day for 4 weeks per year. All meals would be ordered in succession for the duration of the recovery period immediately following an inpatient hospitalization and cannot be spread out throughout the course of the year.

The Retirees Committee voted to recommend to the Board of Retirement a motion to offer the Silver & Fit benefit for Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage plan enrollees for the 2022 Plan Year at no cost as a

“trial”, and decide whether to continue this benefit starting with the 2023 Plan Year, based on the cost for the benefit at that time.

The Retirees Committee voted to recommend to the Board of Retirement a motion to offer the optional Meals Rider for Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage plan enrollees beginning in Plan Year 2022, at an estimated annual cost of \$86,016.

The Retirees Committee decided to not move forward on the Transportation Rider.

Nancy asked Mike if he knew what the actual cost of each meal would be. She was concerned that the cost of each meal might be significantly lower than what was actually being charged. In order for Kaiser to make the offer, they must have done some sort of cost/benefit determination. She felt that retirees could be paying a very high premium for a very low return. Mike and Nancy will ask Kathy Foster and report back.

Mike reminded the Board that Open Enrollment is coming up and the packets will be sent out in October. He also mentioned that the annual Health Fair would be a virtual meeting and will take place on October 28, 2021, at 10:00AM.

Charo reported that she and Mike discussed various options for having retirees join REAC. Mike suggested that using DocuSign would be more efficient than our current process, would save us money and would make it much easier for retirees to join REAC. ACERA will continue to insert our letter in the retiree’s packet, and the letter will direct them to a specific REAC web address, ACERA.org/REAC. When they click on the link it would take them to a DocuSign document, which Mike has already created. The retiree would then fill out the form and then sign it electronically. The form would automatically be sent to ACERA and put in a queue. ACERA staff would see the form, and then input the information into the pension system authorizing the system to deduct the dues. Mike was also able to get us a price quote for printing 10,000 of our letters. The cost for printing the letters would be \$1,320.00 for 10,000 letters.

Paul asked if retirees, who did not want to use the electronic process, could still be sent an enrollment card. Mike agreed to add an ACERA customer service phone number to our letter that retirees could call and ACERA would then send them an enrollment form. Paul motioned that we proceed with Mike’s recommendation and approve an amount not to exceed \$1,400.00. Suman seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

Nancy asked the Board if we had any questions or concerns regarding the cost associated with the Senior Advantage Meal Rider. After some discussion, the Board told Nancy that we were concerned regarding the actual cost, and if and when there would be an evaluation. She will take our concerns back to the Retirees Committee.

REAC Board of Directors Vacancy: Connie moved that the Board appoint Linda Slater, REAC member, to fill the current Board of Directors vacancy. Renaye seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

Treasurer’s Report: Suman presented the August 31, 2021 Treasurer’s report. The beginning checking account balance was \$53,754.50. Receipts totaled \$8,241.35 and Disbursements totaled \$2,864.09. There were no unusual Receipts or Disbursements. The ending checking account balance was \$59,131.76. Renaye motioned that the August 2021 Treasurer’s report be approved as submitted. Connie seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

CRCEA (County Retired County Employees Association): Connie reported that the CRCEA Fall Conference, which will be held from November 7-10, 2021 at the Long Beach Courtyard by Marriott Hotel, is an in-person conference and will be hosted by the Retired Employees of Los Angeles County (RELAC). Workshops will include Legislation, Ocean Sustainability, Senior Wellness and Healthy Lifestyles. After reviewing the Workshop Topics, Connie has decided not to attend.

Connie then reported on CalPERS. CalPERS mailed a letter, which was dated July 28, 2021, to each policy holder. This was the follow-up letter to the letter CalPERS sent in May, 2021. If a Long Term Care policy holder wanted to opt to decrease their benefits to avoid the 52% increase in premiums, they had until August 26, 2021 to respond. One of the key elements in the letter informed policy holders that they had to continue paying their policy premiums in order for them to be able to exercise any of the options contained in the final settlement agreement.

Connie next reported on the CalPERS long term care lawsuit. Settlement notices were mailed out to class members on August 13, 2021. The settlement notices included their settlement category, the options available to that category, and the amount of the premiums they paid through December 2020. At the time the final settlement is reached, the additional premiums paid from January 2021 to the date of the final approval, will be added to the total premiums paid. They were given three options. The first option was to Opt Out-Refund 100% of premiums paid in (Lump Sum), the second option was to transfer their funds to a new carrier with reduced benefits, and the third option was to remain with CalPERS.

There were several key dates. By September 22, 2021, members had to complete the Award Acknowledgement and Election Form for a Potential Replacement LTC Policy (Category A, Option 2). December 13, 2021 was the last day members could complete the Award Acknowledgement and Election Form-Refund of All Premiums (Category A). December 13, 2021 was also the last day members could complete a Lapse Claim Form. December 13, 2021 was also the last day members could exclude themselves from the settlement and December 13, 2021 was the last day members could submit a written objection to the settlement. Finally, on June 8, 2022, the Final Approval Hearing would be held. NOTE: Policy holders must continue to pay premiums on their CalPERS LTC Policy until the settlement becomes final to be included in the settlement.

Connie encouraged all class members/policy holders to continually check the website: (<https://www.calpersclassactionlawsuit.com>), use the web portal, and obtain all the information they can get before making a final decision.

SACRS (State Association of County Retirement Systems): Paul reminded the Board of the SACRS Fall Conference, which will be held from November 9-12, 2021 at the LOWES Hollywood Hotel. It will be an in-person conference. Paul also mentioned that the most recent updated information for the Conference includes a new requirement that you have to sign a liability waiver in order to attend. Paul decided, based on the workshop topics, that he would not be attending the conference. Pete mentioned that perhaps the conference workshops will be taped, so that you could view them at a later date.

Retirement Board: There was no additional information to report.

Investment Committee: There was no additional information to report.

Health Care (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention): Renaye reported on the most recent CDC information. The third (booster) shots are currently being evaluated by the FDA (Food and Drug Administration) for the Moderna and Pfizer vaccines. The CDC is suggesting a Fall roll out for the booster shots and that individuals should actually wait for 8 months after they receive their second shot, before getting the third shot. Booster shots are being made available for people with compromised immune systems. The CDC is also looking at the Johnson & Johnson (J&J) vaccine, but there is not enough information currently available to recommend booster shots for J&J. The CDC is now also recommending shots for children 12 years & older.

Renaye also reported that the annual flu shots are available and that the CDC is recommending that everyone get their flu shots. They would like everyone to get their flu shots as soon as possible and are recommending that we get our flu shots by the end of October. The CDC also reports that getting the flu shot and the COVID-19 vaccinations at the same time is okay.

Renaye also encourages our members to look at ACERA's website (<https://acera.org>) for health and wellness related information. There is a great deal of very helpful information in two locations on the website. One is under the Retirees tab on the first page. Click on that tab and it takes you to Wellness. Click on the Wellness tab and there is a lot of really useful health related information. The second location on the website is under News & Events. Under that tab, you will find a listing of Retiree Wellness events.

Activities: There was no new information to report.

Membership and Recruitment: Charo reported that as of August 31, 2021, membership stood at 3,895. Connie asked for an update on the membership video. Marian reported that Mike was able to locate, and make available, the membership video made by Steve Scheinman. However, in order to use the video it would have to be updated. Mike also mentioned that we could use one of our Zoom meetings to create a new video and make it available on the REAC Website. Connie also suggested that we have it revised and included in the ACERA retirement presentation information. It should be revised and available in time for the next ACERA Health Fair which will be held on October 28th.

Administrative Staff Updates: Charo suggested that since we are going to begin using DocuSign, perhaps we should also consider using it for membership on our website. Everyone agreed that was a great idea. Charo mentioned that she has already asked Lori to evaluate if our website would support DocuSign, and what would be the monthly cost. Charo will provide an update at the October 11, 2021 Board meeting.

REAC News: The next REAC Newsletter will include information from Clint's presentation, Open Enrollment, and the ACERA Health Fair.

Other Reports: Marian asked Nancy if she and Liz were able to talk with Henry (Hank) Levy, the Alameda County Treasurer-Tax Collector, regarding the deferred comp plan and what the interests of retirees might be. At this point, they have not yet spoken with Hank.

Pete reminded the Board that Beth Rogers decided to step down from the Board of Retirement and the election for her replacement will take place from November 10, 2021 through December 15, 2021. The filing deadline for that Trustee position is September 27th.

Connie reminded the Board that after the appointment of Linda Slater to the REAC Board, the Board still has one vacancy. She suggested that the Board give some thought to other retirees who might be interested in serving on the Board. She recommended that the Board quickly move forward to fill that vacancy.

Connie also reminded the Board that it was time to purchase See's Candy certificates so that our members can purchase See's candy at a discount. It is a benefit that our members look forward to and we should continue supporting that as an option for our members. Marian agreed to send out an email message regarding the discount.

New Business: There was no new business to report.

For the Good of the Order: There was nothing new to report.

Meeting adjourned at 12:16 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by Paul Reeves, Board Secretary

Next Meeting: October 11, 2021, 9:30 a.m. (Monday)
Zoom Video Conferencing