



**MINUTES OF AUGUST 7, 2024 RETIREES COMMITTEE MEETING**

To: Members of the Retirees Committee

From: Elizabeth Rogers, Chair

**Subject: Summary of the August 7, 2024 Retirees Committee Meeting**

Committee Chair Elizabeth Rogers called the August 7, 2024 Committee meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

**ACERA TRUSTEES, SENIOR MANAGERS AND PRESENTING STAFF IN ATTENDANCE**

Committee members present were Elizabeth Rogers, Ross Clippinger and Kellie Simon. Also present were Ophelia Basgal, Jaime Godfrey, George Wood and alternate members Cynthia Baron and Kevin Bryant. Committee members Keith Carson and Henry Levy, and Tarrell Gamble joined the meeting after roll call.

Staff present were Carlos Barrios, Assistant Chief Executive Officer; Sandra Dueñas-Cuevas, Benefits Manager; Mike Fara, Communications Manager; Jessica Huffman, Benefits Manager; Harsh Jadhav, Chief of Internal Audit; Vijay Jagar, Chief Technology Officer; Lisa Johnson, Assistant Chief Executive Officer; David Nelsen, Chief Executive Officer; and Jeff Rieger, Chief Counsel.

**PUBLIC INPUT**

None.

**ACTION ITEMS**

**1. Adoption of Dental Plan Contributions for 2025**

Staff reported that there is no change in the 2025 renewal rates for the dental plans, and the premiums for next year is the same as this year.

It was moved by Ophelia Basgal and seconded by Ross Clippinger that the Committee recommend to the Board of Retirement a motion to continue the dental plan contributions for Plan Year 2025, which provides a monthly subsidy equal to the single-party dental plan coverage premium of \$51.05 for the PPO plan and \$22.18 for the DeltaCare USA plan for retirees who are receiving ACERA allowances with ten or more years of ACERA service, are service connected disability retirees, or are non-service connected disability retirees as of January 31, 2014. This is a non-vested benefit funded by contributions from the ACERA employers to the 401(h) account. After contributions are made in accordance with the County Employees Retirement Law, ACERA treats an equal amount of Supplemental Retiree Benefit Reserve assets as employer contributions for pensions.

The motion carried 6 yes (*Basgal, Clippinger, Godfrey, Rogers, Simon, Wood*), 0 no, 0 abstentions.

## **2. Adoption of Vision Plan Contributions for 2025**

Staff reported that there is no change in the 2025 renewal rates for the vision plans, and the premiums remain the same.

It was moved by Jaime Godfrey and seconded by Ophelia Basgal that the Committee recommend to the Board of Retirement a motion to continue the vision plan contributions for Plan Year 2025, which provides a monthly subsidy equal to the single-party vision plan coverage premium of \$4.63 for retirees who are receiving ACERA allowances with ten or more years of ACERA service, are service connected disability retirees, or are non-service connected disability retirees as of January 31, 2014. This is a non-vested benefit funded by contributions from the ACERA employers to the 401(h) account. After contributions are made in accordance with the County Employees Retirement Law, ACERA treats an equal amount of Supplemental Retiree Benefit Reserve assets as employer contributions for pensions.

The motion carried 6 yes (*Basgal, Clippinger, Godfrey, Rogers, Simon, Wood*), 0 no, 0 abstentions.

## **INFORMATION ITEMS**

### **1. Report on Dental and Vision Plans Renewal Information for 2025**

Segal provided information on the ACERA-sponsored dental and vision plans premiums for Plan Year 2025 renewals.

### **2. Semi-Annual Report on ACERA's Wellness Program**

Staff reviewed the 2024 wellness initiatives, which include addressing chronic conditions through virtual resources provided by ACERA's insurance carriers. Staff also provided a report on ACERA's 2024 wellness email campaign and the campaign performance covering various key metrics.

For the 2025 Plan Year, the Silver&Fit program will be standard for the Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage (KPSA) plan, and it is anticipated that the cost of the program will be incorporated into future premiums. In response to Trustee Basgal's comments, Staff will 1) find out the additional premium costs associated with including the Silver&Fit program in the KPSA plan, and 2) plan to discuss the Over-the-Counter benefit with Kaiser Permanente.

The 2024 Health and Wellness Fair is scheduled for October 24, 2024, and will be a hybrid event, combining an in-person event with virtual presentations. The in-person event will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn Hotel in Emeryville.

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In response to Alicia Baptista, President of the Retired Employees of Alameda County, Inc. (REAC) retiree association, Staff stated that parking would be free at the Health and Wellness Fair event. Also, in response to her question, Staff confirmed that ACERA has email addresses for about three-quarters of the retiree population.

Trustee Rogers expressed her appreciation to Mike Fara for all his work and investment in the wellness program, and for attending the ACRE and REAC retiree association meetings, which has been helpful to all retirees.

**TRUSTEE REMARKS**

None.

**ESTABLISHMENT OF NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next meeting is scheduled for September 19, 2024 at 1:00 p.m.

**MEETING ADJOURNED**

The meeting adjourned at 9:48 a.m.