

Attachment A
Independent Citizens' Pension Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: 03/06/2025

Time: 10:00 am

Location: Sonoma County Administrator's Conference Room

Present:

Committee Members - Tony Withington, Lilo Kangas, Peter Vranich, Bill Robotka
County Administrator's Office – Nick Klein, Joanna Lutman

Absent:

Committee Members - John Hadzess
Sonoma County Employees' Retirement Association – Julie Wyne, Cristina Hess

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 10:37 am by Chair Withington.

2. Chair Remarks

No Remarks.

3. Approval of Agenda

The March 6, 2025, agenda was reviewed and approved as presented. Vote: 4-0-1 (Pass)

4. Approval of meeting minutes for December 5, 2024

- Motion to approve prior meeting minutes. Vote: 3-0-2 (Pass)
- Bill abstained due to missing the 12/5 meeting.

5. Public comment on matters not on the agenda

No members of the public were present for comments.

6. County Administrator's Office Updates

- Stipend payments and Violence Prevention Training
 - Staff working with payroll to process 2024 backpay stipends for Tony (3 payments) and John (2 payments). It was a coding issue on our end that has been corrected starting with our last 12/5/24 meeting.
 - Confirmed that other three members received stipends owed.
- Stipend payments and Violence Prevention Training
 - Action Item for staff to check with Information Systems to see if committee members can take the training using their personal email. If it isn't possible, then we need to ask someone from Human Resources or Counsel to conduct the training in-person at an upcoming committee meeting. Tony can get information for the person who provided training to the Civil Service Commission.
 - Committee members to email training completion certifications to staff.

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7. Sonoma County Employees' Retirement Association (SCERA) Updates

- No update provided. Julie and Cristina unable to attend.
- Lilo's comments:
 - Praised SCERA for receiving certifications for their presentation of financial data.
 - Looked at composition of SCERA portfolio and observed they have non-rated high yield/junk bonds totaling around \$100 million. Would like to discuss with SCERA staff at an upcoming meeting to better understand this investment decision.
 - Looking for an update about SCERA's potential staffing changes being considered, like adding a Compliance Officer.

8. 2024 Annual Pension Report Review and Feedback

- Nick will create redline version of 2024 pension report to address feedback received from committee so far.
- Peter asked about other changes being considered. Nick is considering separating more content into the written report and appendices to shorten the PowerPoint presentation.
- Tony and Bill not available for 10/21 pension report. Can we move the date?

9. Committee Open Session Discussion

No open session discussion was conducted.

10. Proposed agenda topics for upcoming meeting

- SCERA Investment Update
- Review 2024 Pension Report Draft with Revisions

11. Adjournment/ Next Meeting

- Meeting adjourned at 11:42 am.
- Next meeting scheduled for Thursday, June 5, from 10:00 – 12:00.