

California Public Employees' Retirement System

**Board of Administration
Pension and Health Benefits Committee
Meeting Minutes**

June 15, 2021

The Pension & Health Benefits Committee (PHBC) met in Open Session via teleconference on June 15, 2021.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. with the following members present:

Rob Feckner, Chair
Ramon Rubalcava, Vice Chair
Margaret Brown
Henry Jones
David Miller
Nicole Griffith for Eraina Ortega
Theresa Taylor
Shawnda Westly
Karen Greene-Ross for Betty Yee

Other Board Members Present:

Frank Ruffino for Fiona Ma
Lisa Middleton
Stacie Olivares

At this time, the Open Session recessed and convened Closed Session. Open Session reconvened at 12:47 p.m.

Agenda Item 2 – Approval of the June 15, 2021, PHBC Timed Agenda

On **MOTION** by David Miller and **SECONDED**, the Committee recommended to approve the June 15, 2021, PHBC Timed Agenda. A roll call vote was taken.

Name	Yes	No	Abstain
Rob Feckner, Chair			
Ramon Rubalcava, Vice Chair			
Margaret Brown	X		
Henry Jones	X		
David Miller	X		
Nicole Griffith for Eraina Ortega	X		
Theresa Taylor	X		
Shawnda Westly	X		
Karen Greene-Ross for Betty Yee	X		

The final vote was 7 yes, 0 no. The motion **CARRIED**.

Agenda Item 3 – Executive Report(s)

Anthony Suine, Deputy Executive Officer, Customer Services and Support (CSS), highlighted the following items: steady 2021 first quarter retirement trends compared to last year; continued over 15,000 virtual counseling appointments since March as well as outreach to members for ongoing meeting preference; released new enhancements at our third virtual CalPERS Benefit Education Event, including an interactive information center, and resource center, and also offered 20 classes attended by almost 5,000 members with high satisfaction ratings; the beginning of blended in-person and virtual events will kick off next year; a new online functionality allowing members to calculate the cost of a service credit purchase used by 36 percent of requests in the first four months, and elect from their self-service account, used by 45 percent of service credit purchases in the first month; and shared a story about how the team works to assist public servants in times of tragedy.

Don Moulds, Chief Health Director, Health Policy & Benefits Branch (HPBB), shared that work by CalPERS and Dr. Logan while she was employed by the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) was recently recognized in a study published by Journal of the American Medical Association. The work looked at efforts by CalPERS and DHCS that decreased elective cesarian section rates. He also shared the launch of the CalPERS Health Care Training Academy's first cohort and noted that it will start this summer. He also provided updates on increased Long-Term Care communications with members, and pandemic related spending trends including pharmacy trends.

The following people spoke on this item:

- Tim Behrens, California State Retirees
- Larry Woodson, California State Retirees
- Lawrence Grossman, Long-Term Care policyholder
- Alvin Barrett, Long-Term Care policyholder
- Susan Cohen, CalPERS Retiree

Agenda Item 4 – Action Consent Items

On **MOTION** by David Miller and **SECONDED**, the Committee voted to accept the following Action Consent Item:

4a. Approval of the March 16, 2021, PHBC Meeting Minutes

A roll call vote was taken.

Name	Yes	No	Abstain
Rob Feckner, Chair			
Ramon Rubalcava, Vice Chair	X		
Margaret Brown	X		
Henry Jones	X		
David Miller	X		
Nicole Griffith for Eraina Ortega	X		
Theresa Taylor	X		
Shawnda Westly	X		
Karen Greene-Ross for Betty Yee	X		

The final vote was 8 yes, 0 no. The motion **CARRIED**.

Agenda Item 5 – Information Consent Items

The Committee accepted the following Information Consent Items:

- 5a. Annual Calendar Review
- 5b. Draft Agenda for the September 14, 2021, PHBC Meeting

Agenda Item 6a – Preliminary 2022 Health Maintenance Organization and Preferred Provider Organization Plan Rates

As an information item, Ms. Marta Green, Chief, Health Plan Research & Administration Division (HPRA), presented an update on the Rate Development Process (RDP) and the 2022 preliminary proposed premiums for California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) health plans, and outlined next steps before the July 2021 Offsite when the CalPERS Board of Administration (Board) is scheduled to approve the 2022 premiums.

The following people spoke on this item:

- Lisa Bocast, Service Employees International Union
- Joanne Hollender, Retired Public Employees Association
- Alexandra Tkacheff, Service Employees International Union
- Tim Behrens, California State Retirees
- Larry Woodson, California State Retirees
- Jared Ramey, Service Employees International Union
- Debbie Gibson, Service Employees International Union
- Polly Coughlin, Service Employees International Union
- J.J. Jelincic, Retired Public Employees Association
- Maria Blaine, Service Employees International Union

Agenda Item 6b – Summary of Committee Direction

Mr. Moulds provided a summary of the Committee direction from the June 15, 2021, meeting. The Committee directed staff as follows:

- Have Dr. Logan speak about Post-COVID conditions including Long COVID in a future update to the Board.
- Continue monitoring aducanumab, the new Alzheimer's drug approved by the FDA to shed more light on efficacy, as well as cost-effectiveness, and report back.
- Review plans to make sure they're giving the right information to members, whether networks are adequate, and if plans are sending people out of network when they shouldn't be.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

The next meeting of the PHBC is scheduled for September 14, 2021, in Sacramento, California.

Prepared by: Jenna Hayes
Committee Secretary

Don Moulds
Chief Health Director
Health Policy & Benefits Branch