

# **SACRS 2019 SPRING CONFERENCE TRUSTEE BREAKOUT SESSION**

**Wednesday, May 8, 2019  
3:15 – 5:00 PM**

**MODERATOR:** KATHRYN CAVNESS, Trustee, Mendocino County

**SPEAKERS:** RICHARD WHITE, SACRS Past President  
GABE RODRIGUES, SACRS Past Vice President

**SYNOPSIS:** This trustee breakout session will have two parts. Part One will have focus on the viewpoints of the SACRS pension system trustees who are either appointed or ex officio members of the Board of Retirement. Part Two will focus on the trustees in attendance at the session in a roundtable format to discuss current events and hot topics relevant to their trustee duties.

- I. Viewpoints of Appointed trustees and Ex Officio trustees:
  - a. Panel of trustees and representatives from the plan sponsor community
    - i. DAN MCALLISTER, Ex Officio Member, San Diego County and SACRS President
    - ii. JERRY HOLCOMBE, Trustee, Contra Costa County
    - iii. LUIS A. PLANCARTE, Imperial County Board of Supervisor and Trustee, Imperial County ERS.
  - b. Topics:
    - i. How do these trustees delineate the responsibilities of the various decision-making bodies with carrying out their duties as a pension fund trustee?
    - ii. How do these trustees balance the viewpoints of the plan sponsor with the fiduciary responsibility of serving on the pension board of trustees?
    - iii. Discuss the characteristics of a successful plan sponsor side trustee and the selection process a plan sponsor undertakes in choosing an appointed trustee?
    - iv. Discuss the reasons why someone may be interested in serving as a trustee?
    - v. Discuss the challenges involved in recruiting individuals to fill these board seats?

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- II. Roundtable discussion:
  - a. Panel: All in attendance at session
  - b. Topics:
    - i. What are some of the timely issues and hot topics in the public pension arena?
    - ii. What are some current events in the pension fund arena and our SACRS counties?
    - iii. What would a new trustee or someone considering becoming a pension fund trustee like to know beforehand?
    - iv. What are some necessary characteristics and qualities of a good and effective pension fund trustee?
    - v. What issues, obstacles, challenges or issues have trustees faced in performing their roles?
    - vi. What COLA rates were recently implemented by your pension fund?
    - vii. Where there any issues or concerns with the COLA discussed or considered by the Board of Retirement?
    - viii. What changes or additions to the Governance Policies have recently been discussed or implemented?
    - ix. State law requires that each trustee complete a minimum of 24 hours of education every two years.
    - x. How has the compliance with this minimum standard be going and what challenges to maintaining compliance been faced by trustees or systems?
    - xi. What have trustees done, courses and conferences attended to obtain education and training for being a trustee?
    - xii. If you could change ONE thing in your role as a trustee, what would it be and how would you change it?
    - xiii. What future topics or speakers should be considered for SACRS Trustee Breakout session?