



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

CLAIMS BOARD

500 WEST TEMPLE STREET
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012-2713

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

John Naimo
Auditor-Controller
Steve Robles
Chief Executive Office
Roger H. Granbo
Office of the County Counsel

NOTICE OF MEETING

The County of Los Angeles Claims Board will hold its regular meeting on **Monday, April 18, 2016, at 9:30 a.m.**, in the Executive Conference Room, 648 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, Los Angeles, California.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order.
2. Opportunity for members of the public to address the Claims Board on items of interest that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Claims Board.
3. Closed Session – Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (Subdivision (a) of Government Code Section 54956.9).
 - a. L.A. Builders, Inc. v. County of Los Angeles
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 549 947

This breach of contract lawsuit against the Department of Parks and Recreations concerns a capital project construction contract; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$254,793

[See Supporting Document](#)
 - b. David Dunbar v. County of Los Angeles
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 520 276

This lawsuit concerns allegations that an employee of the Department of Public Social Services was subjected to discrimination, harassment, and retaliation; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$295,000.
4. Report of actions taken in Closed Session.

5. Approval of the minutes of the April 4, 2016, regular meeting of the Claims Board.

[See Supporting Document](#)

6. Items not on the posted agenda, to be referred to staff or placed on the agenda for action at a further meeting of the Board, or matters requiring immediate action because of emergency situation or where the need to take immediate action came to the attention of the Board subsequent to the posting of the agenda.
7. Adjournment.

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	LA Builders, Inc. v. County of Los Angeles
CASE NUMBER	BC549947
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	June 27, 2014
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Parks and Recreation (Funding Source: CP 69276 – Stephen Sorenson Park Community Building)
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 254,793
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Craig Lang, Feldman & Associates
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Rosa Linda Cruz
NATURE OF CASE	Action for alleged breaches of construction contract (including the failure to timely release retention sums) by the Department. The Department cross-complained for the contractor's failure to perform work required under the contract.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 83,582
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 9,158

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CLAIMS BOARD

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

APRIL 4, 2016

1. Call to Order.

This meeting of the County of Los Angeles Claims Board was called to order at 9:32 a.m. The meeting was held in the Executive Conference Room, 648 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, Los Angeles, California.

Claims Board Members present at the meeting were: Chair John Naimo, Steve Robles, and Roger Granbo.

Other persons in attendance at the meeting were: Office of the County Counsel: Lindsay Yoshiyama, Michael Gordon, Diane Reagan, Jonathan McCaverty, Joyce Aiello, Mahdi Mohamed, and Richard Kudo; Sheriff's Department: Richard Ruiz, Todd Deeds, Tracee Allen, Steven Sciacca, Joseph Gooden, Michael Parker, and Deputy Kevin Pearcy; Department of Public Works: Craig Cline and Marly Moreno; and Outside Counsel: Jill Williams.

2. Opportunity for members of the public to address the Claims Board on items of interest within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Claims Board.

No members of the public addressed the Claims Board.

3. Closed Session – Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (Subdivision (a) of Government Code section 54956.9)

At 9:35 a.m., the Chairperson adjourned the meeting into Closed Session to discuss the items listed as 4(a) through 4(f) below.

4. Report of actions taken in Closed Session.

At 10:42 a.m., the Claims Board reconvened in open session and reported the actions taken in Closed Session as follows:

a. Non-Litigated Claim of Kimito and Maiko Iwamoto

This claim seeks compensation from the Department of Public Works for real and personal property damage allegedly caused from a backflow of sewage due to a sewer mainline blockage.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$34,191.22 (less advanced payment of \$12,899.07).

Vote: Ayes: 3 – John Naimo, Steve Robles, and Roger Granbo

- b. Craig and Wendy Humphries v. Los Angeles County, et al.
United States District Court Case No. CV 03-0697

This lawsuit alleges that the Sheriff's Department violated Plaintiffs' civil rights by detaining their children without a warrant, and placing Plaintiffs' names in the California's Child Abuse Central Index database.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$2,400,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – John Naimo, Steve Robles, and Roger Granbo

- c. Alfonso Cerda, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 511 598

This lawsuit seeks compensation for the minor children and parents for their father and son's alleged wrongful death caused by a Sheriff's Deputy.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$1,300,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – John Naimo, Steve Robles, and Roger Granbo

- d. Tony Forlano v. County of Los Angeles
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 563 724

This lawsuit concerns allegations that an employee of the Sheriff's Department was subjected to age discrimination, retaliation, and a constructive discharge.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$41,450.

- e. Portia Kirksey-Gant v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 541 721

This lawsuit arises from alleged injuries sustained in a vehicle accident involving an on-duty Sheriff's Deputy.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$60,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – John Naimo, Steve Robles, and Roger Granbo

- f. Christian Ramirez v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 565 089

This dangerous condition lawsuit arises from alleged injuries received when Plaintiff stepped on a jagged metal object at Zuma Beach.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$70,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – John Naimo, Steve Robles, and Roger Granbo

5. **Approval of the minutes of the March 21, 2016, regular meeting of the Claims Board.**

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the minutes.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – John Naimo, Steve Robles, and Roger Granbo

6. **Items not on the posted agenda, to be referred to staff or placed on the agenda for action at a further meeting of the Board, or matters requiring immediate action because of emergency situation or where the need to take immediate action came to the attention of the Board subsequent to the posting of the agenda.**

No such matters were discussed.

7. **Adjournment.**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:44 a.m.

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CLAIMS BOARD

By 
Sandra C. Ruiz