

**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**FOR THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD**  
**HELD IN PERSON AND ONLINE VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE**  
**ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2024, AT 9:30 A.M.**

**Present: Chair Steve Robles, Adrienne M. Byers, and Oscar Valdez**

1. **Call to Order.**
  
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 appeared in person or were on the public teleconference phone line to address the Claims Board.

3. **Closed Session – Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (Government Code section 54956.9, subdivision (a)).**

- a. **Jane Doe, et al. v. County of Los Angeles  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 21STCV27868**

This lawsuit concerns allegations that two applicants for a Department of Children and Family Services intern program were subjected to disability discrimination and failure to accommodate.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4.a. in the amount of \$2,764,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Adrienne M. Byers, and Oscar Valdez

4. **Approval of the Minutes of the February 5, 2024, regular meeting of the Claims Board.**

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the Minutes of the February 5, 2024, meeting.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Adrienne M. Byers, and Oscar Valdez

[See Supporting Document](#)

- 5. 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 an 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.

- 6. Adjournment.**

# LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

## MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

February 5, 2024

### 1. Call to Order.

The meeting of the Los Angeles County Claims Board was called to order at 9:37 a.m. The meeting was held virtually with Claims Board Members participating in person and online. Claims Board Members Chair Steve Robles, Adrienne M. Byers, and Oscar Valdez appeared in person and via video conference. Destiny Castro was also in attendance.

All other persons present at the virtual Claims Board meeting: Mark Lomax, Matthew Dill, Peter Bollinger, Drew Taylor, Richard Kudo, Kevin Engelen, Joseph Langton, Lauren Lyman, Stacey Lee, and Kent Sommer appeared for the Office of the County Counsel. Shanese Winfrey, Renata Phillip, Johann Thrall, Benjamin Torres, Glenn Emery, Alfred Reyes, Andrew Meyer, Michael Hannemann, Allen Castellanos, Richard Conti, and Justin Clark appeared for the Sheriff's Department. Melissa Lara, and Michele Chimienti appeared for the Department of Public Works. Devyne Dawson appeared for the Department of Parks and Recreation. Nicole Alcaraz, Deondria Barajas, Michael McComas, Jennifer Koai, Elizabeth Ginsburg, Damia Johnson, and Keith Knox appeared for the Treasurer Tax-Collector. Jeffrey Revilla appeared for the Auditor-Controller. Tho-Hung Tran, Virginia Landig, and Kristine Shmavonyan appeared for the Assessor. Arnetta Counts, and Carlos Molina appeared for the Department of Public Social Services. Catherine Mathers appeared for the Department of Health Services. Christina Lee, and Dianne Iglesias appeared for the Department of Children and Family Services. Jesse Levin appeared for Glaser Weil Fink Howard Avchen & Shapiro LLP. Margaret Ikeda appeared for David Weiss Law. Geoffrey Sheldon appeared for Leibert, Cassidy, and Whitmore, LLP. Janet Soutanian appeared for Ballard Rosenberg Golper & Savitt, LLP.

### 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.

An unidentified caller was on the public teleconference phone line and requested to hear the reportable actions of the Claims Board.

### 3. Closed Session – Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (Government Code section 54956.9, subdivision (a)).

At 9:38 a.m., Chair Steve Robles convened the meeting in closed session to discuss the items listed below as 4(a) through 4(l).

### 4. Report on Actions Taken in Closed Session.

An unidentified caller listened as the reportable actions of the Claims Board were read.

At 12:23 p.m., the Claims Board reconvened in open session via video conference and reported the actions taken in closed session as follows:

#### a. Non-Litigated Claim of Juventino Jasso

This claim seeks compensation for personal injuries allegedly caused by an automobile accident involving a Department of Parks and Recreation employee.

#### Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4.a. in the amount of \$24,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Adrienne M. Byers, and Oscar Valdez

**b. Sanjiv Agrawal, Kusum Agrawal v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**

This petition to rescind a sale of tax-defaulted property and resolve claims for damages alleging the Treasurer-Tax Collector wrongfully foreclosed on a 2005 tax sale.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4.b. in the amount of \$90,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Adrienne M. Byers, and Oscar Valdez

**c. Aaron Esquenazi, et al. v. County of Los Angeles  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 19STCP02885**

This class action lawsuit against the Treasurer-Tax Collector alleges the department extraterritorially imposed and collected utility user tax in former unincorporated areas of the County that were annexed by incorporated cities.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4.c. in the amount of \$310,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Adrienne M. Byers, and Oscar Valdez

**d. Apartment Association of Los Angeles County, Inc. dba "Apartment Association of Great Los Angeles" et al. v. County of Los Angeles  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case Number 22STCV08225**

This lawsuit for injunctive relief involves the Chief Executive Office and the Department of Consumer and Business affairs and seeks compensation for attorney's fees in a housing dispute.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4.d. in the amount of \$75,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Adrienne M. Byers, and Oscar Valdez

**e. Jerry Mostad v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case Number 20STCV43700**

This lawsuit arises from injuries allegedly sustained in an automobile accident involving a Department of Public Works employee.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4.e. in the amount of \$2,750,000.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Steve Robles, and Adrienne M. Byers  
Noes: 1 – Oscar Valdez

f. **Anthony Espinoza v. Jeffrey Raymond Williams, et al.**  
**Los Angeles Superior Court Case Number 21STCV14097**

This lawsuit arises from injuries allegedly sustained in an automobile accident involving a Sheriff's Department detective.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4.f. in the amount of \$50,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Adrienne M. Byers, and Oscar Valdez

g. **Olga Torres v. Cong Ha, et al.**  
**Los Angeles Superior Court Case Number 21STCV09926**

This lawsuit arises from injuries allegedly sustained in an automobile accident involving a Sheriff's Department sergeant.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4.g. in the amount of \$215,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Adrienne M. Byers, and Oscar Valdez

h. **Non-Litigated Claims of Auto Club ASO Cuong Tang, Mo Chen, and Po Jui Su**

These claims seek compensation for personal injury and property damage allegedly caused by an automobile accident involving a Sheriff's Department deputy.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4.h. in the amount of \$39,288.33.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Adrienne M. Byers, and Oscar Valdez

i. **Juan Leon, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**  
**Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 21STCV36328**

This lawsuit arises from injuries allegedly sustained in an automobile accident involving a Sheriff's Department employee.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4.i. in the amount of \$450,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Adrienne M. Byers, and Oscar Valdez

**j. Curtis Thomas v. County of Los Angeles  
Los Angeles Superior Court Number 22STCV01146**

This lawsuit concerns allegations that an employee of the Department of Health Services was subjected to discrimination, harassment, and retaliation.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4.j. in the amount of \$100,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Adrienne M. Byers, and Oscar Valdez

**k. Wendy Valdovinos v. County of Los Angeles  
Los Angeles Superior Court No. BC680138**

This lawsuit concerns allegations that an employee of the Department of Public Social Services was subjected to disability discrimination, failure to engage in the interactive process, and failure to accommodate.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4.k. in the amount of \$250,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Adrienne M. Byers, and Oscar Valdez

**l. Jane Doe, et al. v. County of Los Angeles  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 21STCV27868**

This lawsuit concerns allegations that two applicants for a Department of Children and Family Services intern program were subjected to disability discrimination and failure to accommodate.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board continued Item 4.l. to a future meeting in February.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Adrienne M. Byers, and Oscar Valdez

**5. Approval of the Minutes for the December 18, 2023, regular meeting of the Claims Board.**

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the Minutes of the December 18, 2023, meeting.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Adrienne M. Byers, and Oscar Valdez

**6. Adjournment.**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:27 p.m.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

By *Derek Stane*  
Derek Stane  
Claims Board Secretary