

MINUTES TO MEETING  
STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD  
FRIDAY, JULY 14, 2023

A Meeting to the Medical Examining Board was held on July 14, 2023, at the Office of the State Comptroller, 165 Capitol Ave., Hartford, Connecticut, 06106. Circumstances created by the COVID-19 virus have resulted in all Medical Examining Board meetings are being conducted electronically.

PRESENT:

Ralph Rosenberg, M.D., CHAIRPERSON  
Lynn Rudich, M.D.  
Sheldon Nova, M.D.

ABSENT:

Eric T. Shore, M.D.	Michael Gerstenfeld, M.D.
Vasanth Kainkaryam, M.D.	Sachin Parekh, M.D.
Nicolai Lieders.	Richard Blum, M.D.
Amarjeet Dargan, M.D.	Fielding Johnson, M.D.
Frank Gerratana, M.D.	Rita Ohene-Adjei, M.D.
Sohrab Zahedi, M.D.	Poleak So, M.D.
	Manny Katsetos, M.D.

OTHERS PRESENT:

William Cassada, Disability Retirement Unit, Retirement Division  
Helena Bartolomeo, Disability Retirement Unit, Retirement Services Division  
Cindy Cieslak, General Counsel to the Commission Rose Kallor, LLP.

Please note that a portion of the meeting was conducted in executive session as the focus of the meeting was the medical condition(s) of each Disability Retirement applicant.

CALL TO ORDER

The Chairperson called meeting to order at 9:09 am.

Dr. Rosenberg motioned to approve agenda, seconded by Dr. Rudich at 9:11 am.

Dr. Rosenberg motioned to go into the Executive Session to discuss medical condition(s) related to the applications for Disability Retirement, seconded by Dr. Nova at 9:12 am. Members of the Retirement Services Division and the General Counsel to the Commission were invited to stay during Executive Session. There was a brief break at 1:18 pm. until 1:20 pm.

1. Marcelle Zeitoun appeared on Zoom before the Board at 11:47 am. She made a statement and then was excused by the Board at 11:55 am.
2. Carla Smith and Attorney Russell Zimmerlin appeared on Zoom before the Board at 12:02 pm. They made a statement and then they were excused by the Board at 12:21 pm.

3. Angella Bentley and Attorney Russell Zimmerman appeared on Zoom before the Board at 12:27 pm. They made a statement and then they were excused by the Board at 12:32 pm.
4. Tora Chamblee and Attorney Justin Raymond appeared on Zoom before the Board at 12:39 pm. They made a statement and then they were excused by the Board at 12:45 pm.
5. Janet Jubrey and Attorney Russell Zimmerman appeared on Zoom before the Board at 12:46 pm. They made a statement and then they were excused by the Board at 12:52 pm.
6. Lori Laprise and Attorney Justin Raymond appeared on Zoom before the Board at 12:54 pm. They made a statement and then they were excused by the Board at 1:04 pm.
7. Lenora Hogan, former supervisor of Carla Smith and Attorney Russell Zimmerman appeared on Zoom before the Board at 1:10 pm. They made a statement and then they were excused by the Board at 1:16 pm.

Dr. Rosenberg motioned to come out of Executive Session, seconded by Dr. Nova at 1:20 pm.

ANGELLA BENTLEY D- 13162 NON-SERVICE CONNECTED (RECONSIDERATION)  
 Dr. Rosenberg moved, seconded by Dr. Nova, to approve Angella Bentley's entitlement to Non-Service Connected Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

TORA CHAMBLEE D- 13311 SERVICE-CONNECTED (RECONSIDERATION)  
 Dr. Rosenberg moved, seconded by Dr. Nova, to approve Tora Chamblee's entitlement to Service-Connected Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

CHRISTOPHER DEVANNEY MD- 1682 SERVICE-CONNECTED  
 Dr. Rosenberg moved, seconded by Dr. Nova, to approve Christopher Devanney's entitlement to Service-Connected Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

MARK DURNING D- 13560 SERVICE-CONNECTED  
 Dr. Rosenberg moved, seconded by Dr. Rudich, to deny Mark Durning's entitlement to Service-Connected Retirement, however the Board did approve entitlement to Non-Service Connected Disability. Motion approved by majority decision. Dr. Rudich dissents.

LINDA EDWARDS D- 13601 NON-SERVICE CONNECTED  
 Dr. Rosenberg moved, seconded by Dr. Nova, to approve Linda Edwards' entitlement to Non-Service Connected Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

FLABIA FEO D- 13557 NON-SERVICE CONNECTED  
 Dr. Rosenberg moved, seconded by Dr. Nova, to approve Flavia Feo's entitlement to Non-Service Connected Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

CYNTHIA FRANCIS D- 13574 SERVICE-CONNECTED  
 Dr. Rosenberg moved, seconded by Dr. Nova, to approve Cynthia Francis' entitlement to Service-Connected Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

JUSTIN HOLBROOK D- 13559 NON-SERVICE CONNECTED  
 Dr. Rosenberg moved, seconded by Dr. Nova, to approve Justin Holbrook's entitlement to Non-Service Connected Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

MICHAEL HOWARD D- 13556 SERVICE-CONNECTED  
Dr. Rosenberg moved, seconded by Dr. Nova, to deny Michael Howard's entitlement to Service-Connected Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

JANET JUBREY D- 12946 NON-SERVICE CONNECTED (RECONSIDERATION)  
Dr. Rosenberg moved, seconded by Dr. Nova, to deny Janet Jubrey's entitlement to Non-Service Connected Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

LORI LAPRISE D- 13355 NON-SERVICE CONNECTED (RECONSIDERATION)  
Dr. Rosenberg moved, seconded by Dr. Nova, to stand by the Board's previous decision to deny Lori Laprise's entitlement to Non-Service Connected Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

NICOLE MCCANN D- 13573 SERVICE-CONNECTED  
Dr. Rosenberg moved, seconded by Dr. Nova, to deny Nicole McCann's entitlement to Service-Connected Retirement, however the Board would look favorably upon Non-Service Connected Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

JUAN NAVEDO D- 13558 SERVICE-CONNECTED  
Dr. Rosenberg moved, seconded by Dr. Nova, to approve Juan Navedo's entitlement to Service-Connected Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

DAVID POYNTON D- 13564 SERVICE-CONNECTED (POSTH.)  
Dr. Rosenberg moved, seconded by Dr. Nova, to deny David Poynton's entitlement to Service-Connected Retirement, however the Board did approve entitlement to Non-Service Connected Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

MONICA ROBLES MD- 1683 SERVICE-CONNECTED  
Dr. Rosenberg moved, seconded by Dr. Nova, to deny Monica Robles' entitlement to Service-Connected Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

MICHAEL SAWKA D- 13505 NON-SERVICE CONNECTED (CONT'D)  
Dr. Rosenberg moved, seconded by Dr. Nova, to approve Michael Sawka's entitlement to Non-Service Connected Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

KATHY SLEDGE D- 13571 NON-SERVICE CONNECTED  
Dr. Rosenberg moved, seconded by Dr. Nova, to approve Kathy Sledge's entitlement to Non-Service Connected Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

CARLA SMITH D- 13415 SERVICE-CONNECTED (RECONSIDERATION)  
Dr. Rosenberg moved, seconded by Dr. Nova, to deny Carla Smith's entitlement to Service-Connected Retirement, however the Board did approve entitlement to Non-Service Connected Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

NOELLE STEVENSON D- 13594 SERVICE-CONNECTED  
Dr. Rosenberg moved, seconded by Dr. Nova, to approve Noelle Stevenson's entitlement to Service-Connected Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

ANTHONY VENDRELLA D- 13561 SERVICE-CONNECTED  
Dr. Rosenberg moved, seconded by Dr. Nova, to approve Anthony Vendrella's entitlement to Service-Connected Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

MARCELLE ZEITOUN

D- 13252

SERVICE-CONNECTED (RECONSIDERATION)

Dr. Rosenberg moved, seconded by Dr. Nova, to table Marcelle Zeitoun's entitlement to Service-Connected Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT:

Dr. Rosenberg moved, seconded by Dr. Nova to adjourn the meeting at 1:36 pm. Motion approved unanimously.