

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT COMMISSION
MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD

JANUARY 8, 2021 MEETING
HELD VIA ZOOM
CONVENED AT 9:08 a.m.

Board Members Present:

Dr. Richard Blum, Chair
Dr. Sheldon Nova
Dr. Sachin Parekh

Also Present:

Colin Newman, Retirement Services Division
Annette Sadlowski, Retirement Services Division
Cindy Cieslak, Rose Kallor, general counsel to the
Retirement Services Division
William Cassada, Retirement Services Division
Robert Helfand, Retirement Services Division

Karen Vibert, LSR #00064

1 (Proceedings commenced at 9:08 a.m.)

2 DR. BLUM: We're going to call to order
3 this meeting of the Medical Examining Board, the
4 24-month review. Present are Richard Blum --
5 myself -- Sachin Parekh, Sheldon Nova. The staff
6 members of the Retirement Services Division who are
7 here: Colin Newman, Annette Sadlowski,
8 Robert Helfand, William Cassada, and Cindy Cieslak.

9 We're going to start the -- first we
10 have to go into executive session. We need a motion
11 made to go into executive session. Any of the
12 doctors can make the motion and it can be seconded
13 by the other doctor.

14 DR. PAREKH: I motion to go into executive
15 session.

16 DR. NOVA: Second.

17 DR. BLUM: So we are going into executive
18 session for purposes of discussing individual
19 members' disability health issues, et cetera.

20 Are any of the members going to be
21 present today, Cindy?

22 MS. CIESLAK: I do not believe so. I do
23 not believe any of the members will be present
24 because none of them are reconsideration.

25 Dr. Blum, can you clarify that your

1 motion includes an invitation to Colin Newman,
2 Annette Sadlowski, Robert Helfand, William Cassada,
3 and myself, Cindy Cieslak, to be invited into
4 executive session?

5 DR. BLUM: Yes, invited into executive
6 session are staff from the Retirement Services
7 Division: Colin Newman, Annette Sadlowski,
8 Robert Helfand, William Cassada, and counsel for the
9 Retirement Commission, Cindy Cieslak.

10 First person to be discussed is
11 Joseph Corbin.

12 MS. CIESLAK: Before we discuss him.
13 Let's ask if there's any discussion on the motion.

14 Hearing none, all in favor say aye.
15 Any opposed say nay. The motion passes unanimously.
16 We're going into executive session.

17 (The Board was in executive session from
18 9:08 a.m. until 10:02 a.m.)

19 MS. CIESLAK: Good morning again. The
20 recording for the Medical Examining Board meeting is
21 on. Please state your name when you are speaking.
22 Thank you.

23 DR. BLUM: The Board will be making
24 determinations and voting; but, we would like to
25 remind members that only the final vote will be

1 given today and not the reason for the vote. In
2 some instances there may not have been enough
3 medical information to make a favorable
4 determination. You may seek reconsideration of an
5 initial denial. You will receive the Board's
6 determination within two to four weeks, which will
7 provide you with that additional information.

8 The MEB votes as follows: I make a
9 motion to approve the 24-month review of
10 Joseph Corbin. Do I have a second?

11 DR. NOVA: Second.

12 DR. BLUM: Any discussion? Okay. All in
13 favor say aye. All opposed nay. The motion passes.

14 I make a motion to deny the 24-month
15 service disability of Eduardo Cosme.

16 DR. NOVA: Second.

17 DR. BLUM: Any discussion? All in favor
18 say aye.

19 I make a motion to approve the
20 24-month non-service disability retirement of
21 Gayle Datelle.

22 DR. NOVA: Second.

23 DR. BLUM: Any discussion? All in favor
24 say aye.

25 I make a motion to deny the 24-month

1 service disability retirement of Ileana Rodriguez.

2 DR. NOVA: Second.

3 DR. BLUM: Is there any discussion?

4 All in favor say aye.

5 Cindy, I think I'm taking your job.

6 Do you want to do the --

7 MS. CIESLAK: Dr. Blum, you're doing
8 great.

9 DR. BLUM: So we're at Lee Siuzdak. I
10 make a motion to deny the 24-month service-connected
11 disability of Lee Siuzdak. Do I have a second?

12 DR. NOVA: Second.

13 DR. BLUM: Any discussion? All in favor
14 say aye.

15 I make a motion to approve the
16 non-service disability retirement, 24-month review
17 of Nancy Soto. Do I hear a second?

18 DR. NOVA: Second.

19 DR. BLUM: Any discussion? All in favor
20 say aye.

21 I make a motion to approve the
22 service-connected disability retirement, 24-month
23 review, of Venice Sotomayor. Do I hear a second?

24 DR. NOVA: Second. All in favor? Any
25 discussion?

1 Okay. I make a motion to approve the
2 non-service connected disability retirement of
3 Susan Thorp.

4 DR. NOVA: Second.

5 DR. BLUM: Do I have a second?

6 DR. NOVA: Second.

7 DR. BLUM: Is there any discussion? All
8 in favor say aye. Okay.

9 DR. BLUM: Do I have a motion to adjourn
10 the meeting?

11 MS. CIESLAK: Before we adjourn, Annette,
12 is there the continued entitlement pursuant to the
13 memorandum of understanding?

14 MS. SADLOWSKI: Yes. That would be the
15 people at the bottom.

16 MS. CIESLAK: Dr. Blum, do you have that?

17 DR. BLUM: Oh, yes. I do. Yes, I do.

18 So we're going to approve these; is
19 that right?

20 MS. CIESLAK: If you make a motion and it
21 passes.

22 DR. BLUM: But these are approved because
23 of the memorandum, right?

24 MS. CIESLAK: Right. These are the
25 individuals that have been approved for Social

1 Security Disability and; therefore, pursuant to the
2 memorandum of understanding, they should also be
3 continued.

4 DR. BLUM: Okay. We're approving for
5 continuance of disability retirement per the
6 memorandum of understanding of August 6, 2015,
7 Ruth andrusko, Anthony Arcari, Alan Burton,
8 David Goodwin, Johnny Jackson, Meghan Khairallah,
9 Darryl Rabis, Susan Sabella, Suzanne Zimmerman.

10 DR. BLUM: Do I have a second?

11 DR. PAREKH: Second.

12 DR. BLUM: All in favor say aye.

13 DR. BLUM: Okay. Do we have any other
14 discussion, cindy? Annette? Collin?

15 MS. CIESLAK: Nothing from Cindy.

16 MR. NEWMAN: No, sir.

17 DR. BLUM: Okay. Until the next time.

18 MS. CIESLAK: Wait. Real quick --

19 DR. BLUM: We're going to adjourn the
20 meeting?

21 MS. CIESLAK: Yes. Dr. Blum, can you make
22 that motion?

23 DR. BLUM: I make a motion to adjourn the
24 meeting. Do I hear a second?

25 DR. PAREKH: Second.

1 DR. BLUM: All in favor say aye.

2 DR. BLUM: Okay. We're adjourned. It was
3 a good meeting.

4 (Concluded at 10:09 a.m.)

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1 STATE OF CONNECTICUT:
: ss: Bristol
2 COUNTY OF HARTFORD :

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4 I, Karen Vibert, LSR No. 00064, a
5 Notary Public for the State of Connecticut, do hereby
6 certify that the preceding pages are an accurate
7 transcription of the Connecticut State Employees
8 Retirement Commission, Medical Examining Board meeting
9 held electronically via Zoom, convening at 9:08 a.m.,
10 on January 8, 2021.

11
12 Dated at Bristol, Connecticut,
13 this 14th day of January, 2021.

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Karen Vibert

Karen Vibert, Notary Public
My commission expires: 08/31/2024.



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