

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT COMMISSION
MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD MEETING

JANUARY 21, 2022 MEETING
HELD VIA ZOOM
CONVENED AT 9:07 a.m.

Present (via Zoom):

Dr. Frank Gerratana
Dr. Lynn Rudich
Dr. Nikolai Lieders
Colin Newman, Retirement Services Division
Robert Helfand, Retirement Services Division
William Cassada, Retirement Services Division
Annette Sadlowski, Retirement Services Division
Robin Kallor, Rose Kallor LLP

TRANSCRIPTIONIST: Karin A. Empson

1 (Proceedings commenced at 9:07 a.m.)

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5 MS. KALLOR: Okay, you can begin.

6 DR. GERRATANA: Okay. Good morning,
7 everyone. This is Dr. Frank Gerratana. The January
8 21st, 2022 meeting of the Medical Examining Board is now
9 in session. Present are Dr. Lynn Rudich, Dr. Nikolai
10 Lieders, myself, and present from the Office of the
11 State Comptroller, Retirement Services Division are the
12 staff members Colin Newman, Annette Sadlowski, William
13 Cassada, and from the General Counsel for the
14 Retirement Commission, Robin Kallor.

15 We have been presented with an agenda. There
16 are no amendments. We were noticed that the
17 application of James, Erick requesting a non-service-
18 connected disability has been changed because he is now
19 receiving social security disability. Status will be
20 moved to the continued entitlement pursuant to the
21 Memorandum of Understanding.

22 I'll accept a motion to go into executive
23 session for the purposes of discussing individual
24 members' disability health issues. So I'll accept a
25 motion.

1 MS. KALLOR: Are you going to ask for the
2 members of the Retirement Services Division and General
3 Counsel (inaudible)?

4 DR. GERRATANA: I will after we've accepted
5 this motion.

6 DR. LIEDERS: Okay. So you are making a
7 motion for us to go into executive session?

8 MS. KALLOR: Can you please state your name
9 before just so that the record is clear who is making
10 the motion?

11 DR. GERRATANA: Dr. Lieders just made that
12 motion.

13 MS. KALLOR: Okay.

14 DR. GERRATANA: And we'll request that the
15 members of the Retirement Services Division be allowed
16 to remain.

17 MS. KALLOR: We just need a second on the
18 motion.

19 DR. RUDICH: This is Rudich. I second the
20 motion.

21 DR. GERRATANA: Okay, thank you.

22 MS. KALLOR: And then, all in favor?

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: Aye.

24 MS. KALLOR: Okay. Motion passes. Now you
25 can go ahead and invite those to attend.

1 DR. GERRATANA: Now this would be if there
2 were applicants or attorneys, for the record, they can
3 - they may be present in front of the Medical Examining
4 Board to make a statement, to have up to three
5 witnesses speak on his or her behalf, and to have his
6 or her attorney make a statement. The Medical
7 Examining Board may ask the member questions and
8 members are called individually, but not today.

9 I'll accept a motion from Dr. Lieders to go
10 out of executive session (inaudible).

11 MS. KALLOR: We'll have to go into executive
12 first, but just to be clear, I know that I interrupted
13 you and I apologize. The individuals that are being
14 invited into executive session are the members - the
15 doctors and also the representatives from Retirement
16 Services Division and General Counsel will be invited.

17 So I'm going to confirm that you had said
18 that, and then we're going to turn the recording off
19 and proceed in executive session because we've already-

20 DR. GERRATANA: That's what I meant.

21 MS. KALLOR: Okay.

22 DR. GERRATANA: Thank you.

23 (The Board was in executive session from 9:10
24 a.m. until 9:49 a.m.)

25 MS. KALLOR: Oh, and just before we take a

1 motion, I just want - we should announce that Robert
2 Helfand has joined the meeting when we were in
3 executive session so that the minutes are clear.

4 You may proceed whenever you're ready.

5 DR. GERRATANA: Okay. We're returning from
6 executive session, and we'll be voting on the
7 disability retirement entitlement, and having already
8 joined us is Robert Helfand.

9 The Board will be making its determinations
10 and voting but would like to remind members that only
11 the final vote will be given today and not the reasons
12 for the vote. In some instances, there may not have
13 been enough medical information to make a favorable
14 determination. You may seek reconsideration of an
15 initial denial. You will receive the Board's
16 determination within three to four weeks - two to four
17 weeks, which will provide you with that additional
18 information.

19 So we will vote on the individual members'
20 entitlement. First I move that Terrence Brown, Jr.'s
21 application for a non-service-connected disability
22 retirement be approved. A second, please.

23 DR. RUDICH: You're talking about continued
24 entitlement.

25 DR. GERRATANA: Yes.

1 DR. RUDICH: (Inaudible) This is Rudich. I
2 second the motion.

3 DR. GERRATANA: And all those in favor?

4 DR. RUDICH: Aye, Rudich.

5 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, aye.

6 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

7 MS. KALLOR: Motion passes.

8 DR. LIEDERS: Should we also include the
9 question whether there's any discussion before we vote?

10 MS. KALLOR: Yes. I should have done that.

11 Any-

12 DR. GERRATANA: Okay.

13 MS. KALLOR: So after the motion is made,
14 before we vote, I should have asked if there's any
15 discussion.

16 DR. GERRATANA: Yeah, I apologize for not
17 doing that.

18 So is there any discussion on Terrence
19 Brown's application?

20 DR. RUDICH: Rudich, none.

21 DR. GERRATANA: Hearing none, all those in
22 favor, say aye.

23 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, aye.

24 DR. RUDICH: Rudich, aye.

25 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

1 MS. KALLOR: Motion passes.

2 DR. GERRATANA: Motion passes. Thank you.

3 Then I move that Nicholay Carvalho's
4 application for a non-service-connected disability be
5 tabled. Is there any discussion?

6 DR. LIEDERS: Well, Lieders seconds the
7 motion.

8 MS. KALLOR: Okay. So once a motion is
9 seconded, now we ask if there's any further discussion
10 for the continued entitlement of-

11 DR. GERRATANA: Is there any further
12 discussion? Hearing none, all those in favor, say aye.

13 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, aye.

14 DR. RUDICH: Rudich, aye.

15 DR. GERRATANA: The motion passes.

16 I move to approve the continuation of the
17 non-service-connected disability of George Denning. Is
18 there any discussion? I mean - I'm sorry. Is there a
19 second, please?

20 DR. LIEDERS: Yeah, Lieders seconded the
21 motion.

22 DR. GERRATANA: Any discussion? Hearing
23 none, all those in favor, aye.

24 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, aye.

25 DR. RUDICH: Aye.

1 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye. The motion
2 passes.

3 I move that Kelly Kelly's application for
4 continuation of a non-service-connected disability
5 retirement be approved. Is there any discussion?

6 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders-

7 MS. KALLOR: (Inaudible) second (inaudible).

8 DR. GERRATANA: All those in favor-

9 MS. KALLOR: Wait, we need a second of the
10 motion.

11 DR. GERRATANA: Oh, sorry.

12 MS. KALLOR: It's okay.

13 DR. GERRATANA: Dr. Lieders seconded it, I
14 believe.

15 DR. LIEDERS: Yeah, do you want me to second
16 it? I'll second it.

17 MS. KALLOR: Okay.

18 DR. GERRATANA: Okay. Is there any
19 discussion? Hearing none, all those in favor, say aye.

20 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, aye.

21 DR. RUDICH: Aye. Rudich, aye.

22 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye. The motion
23 passes.

24 Next, I move that we approve the non-service-
25 connected - continuation of the non-service-connected

1 disability of Susan Sanchez. I'll need a second.

2 DR. RUDICH: Rudich. I second. Rudich,
3 second.

4 DR. GERRATANA: Is there any discussion?
5 Hearing none, then all those in favor, say aye.

6 DR. RUDICH: Rudich, aye.

7 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, aye.

8 DR. GERRATANA: The motion approved. And
9 lastly, I move to approve continuation of the non-
10 service-connected disability status of Chester
11 Seklecki.

12 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, second.

13 DR. GERRATANA: And any discussion? All
14 those in favor, say aye.

15 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, aye.

16 DR. RUDICH: Rudich, aye.

17 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye. The motion
18 passes.

19 DR. RUDICH: Did we want to discuss Cortijo
20 and James?

21 DR. GERRATANA: Yeah, we do have a list of
22 those who will receive continued entitlement pursuant
23 to the Memorandum of Understanding of August 6th, 2015.
24 Those individuals include Diane Corbit, Paul Ferrucci,
25 David Williams, and from today, Socorro Cortijo and

1 Erick James.

2 DR. RUDICH: Was that a motion?

3 DR. LIEDERS: Do we need to make any decision
4 on those cases?

5 MS. KALLOR: I think you make a motion to
6 grant them and then you vote, but there's no - if
7 there's discussion, there's-

8 DR. LIEDERS: I'm sorry-

9 MS. KALLOR: Go ahead.

10 DR. LIEDERS: I'm sorry. We make a motion
11 for what? What is the motion?

12 MS. KALLOR: The motion will be to approve
13 them.

14 DR. GERRATANA: Yeah, I'll accept a motion to
15 approve the continued entitlement based on the
16 Memorandum of Understanding for those five individuals
17 that were just named.

18 DR. LIEDERS: I second it.

19 MS. KALLOR: Any discussion?

20 DR. GERRATANA: Discussion?

21 MS. KALLOR: Sorry.

22 DR. GERRATANA: Then all those in favor, aye.

23 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, aye.

24 DR. RUDICH: Aye. Rudich, aye.

25 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye. The motion

1 passes.

2 DR. LIEDERS: Dr. Gerratana, are you going to
3 be doing the editing?

4 DR. GERRATANA: Yeah, I'll do the editing.
5 Obviously this is my first try at chairing, so I
6 appreciate your considerations and your courtesies and
7 understanding.

8 DR. LIEDERS: So we'll send them to you. I
9 think I have your email.

10 MS. KALLOR: Why don't we adjourn-

11 DR. LIEDERS: Oh, and then-

12 MS. KALLOR: --and then - well, I'll turn the
13 recording off and you guys can share your personal
14 contact information.

15 DR. LIEDERS: Okay.

16 DR. GERRATANA: So if there's no additional
17 business, I'll accept a motion to adjourn.

18 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, second it.

19 DR. GERRATANA: All those in favor?

20 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, aye.

21 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

22 DR. RUDICH: Rudich, aye.

23 DR. GERRATANA: Motion passes. Thank you.

24 DR. LIEDERS: Are we adjourned now?

25 MS. KALLOR: Okay, let me stop the recording.

(Adjourned at 9:52 a.m.)

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I, Karin A. Empson, do hereby
certify that the preceding pages are an accurate
transcription of the Connecticut State Employees
Retirement Commission, Medical Examining Board meeting
held electronically via Zoom, conducted at 9:07 a.m. on
January 21, 2022.

Karin A. Empson

Karin A. Empson

02/14/2022

Date