

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT COMMISSION
MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD

SEPTEMBER 24, 2021 MEETING
HELD VIA ZOOM
CONVENED AT 9:05 a.m.

Present (via Zoom):

Dr. Nikolai Lieders
Dr. J. Robert Galvin
Dr. Michael Gerstenfeld
Colin Newman, Retirement Services Division
Robert Helfand, Retirement Services Division
Annette Sadlowski, Retirement Services Division
Cindy M. Cieslak, Rose Kallor, LLP

TRANSCRIPTIONIST: Karin A. Empson

1 (Proceedings commenced at 9:05 a.m.)

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5 DR. LIEDERS: So I guess we can start the
6 meeting. So meeting, come to order. The September
7 24th, 2021 meeting of the Medical Examining Board is now
8 in session. I am Dr. Lieders. Present are - the other
9 members of the Medical Examining Board are Dr. Galvin
10 and Dr. Gerstenfeld. Present from the Office of the
11 State Comptroller Retirement Services Division are Mr.
12 Colin Newman, Ms. Annette Sadlowski, and Mr. Robert
13 Helfand, also General Counsel for the Retirement
14 Commission, Cindy Cieslak.

15 I'm not sure we need to amend the agenda. I
16 believe one of the applicants requested a postponement
17 of - should we amend the agenda for that, or we will
18 discuss that as part of the agenda?

19 MS. CIESLAK: I think that-

20 MS. SADLOWSKI: Who was that?

21 DR. LIEDERS: What?

22 MS. SADLOWSKI: Sorry. I was just going to
23 say, who was that person, Dr. Lieders?

24 DR. LIEDERS: One of - let me see. I know
25 that one of them requested - one moment.

1 MS. SADLOWSKI: Was that Mr. Milutis?

2 DR. LIEDERS: Milutis. It was a-

3 MS. SADLOWSKI: Yeah, that's going to go
4 forward today.

5 DR. LIEDERS: That's going to go forward?

6 MS. SADLOWSKI: Yeah.

7 DR. LIEDERS: And then we just cancel his
8 request.

9 MS. SADLOWSKI: Correct, correct.

10 DR. LIEDERS: Okay. So there's no-

11 MS. SADLOWSKI: No amendments.

12 DR. LIEDERS: --no changes to the agenda. So
13 the session will be held in executive - it's going to
14 be an executive session. So I'm going to make a motion
15 for us to go - for the Medical Examining Board to go
16 into executive session. Any seconds?

17 DR. GERSTENFELD: Second.

18 DR. LIEDERS: Any discussion? All in favor,
19 say aye.

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: Aye.

21 DR. LIEDERS: All opposed, say nay. Motion
22 passes to go in executive session. I'm going to ask
23 members of the Retirement Services Division as well as
24 General Counsel to stay in the meeting, participate in
25 the meeting with us.

1 So without-

2 MR. GALVIN: Dr. Lieders, it's Galvin. Can
3 you hang on for one minute? I have something I have to
4 attend. It'll take me a minute and a half, and I'll be
5 right back.

6 DR. LIEDERS: Yes, sir. Yes, sir.

7 MR. GALVIN: Okay.

8 MS. CIESLAK: Just for the record, Dr.
9 Gerstenfeld seconded the motion to go into executive
10 session. And those invited into executive session are
11 Colin Newman, Robert Helfand, Annette Sadlowski, and
12 Cindy Cieslak. Thank you.

13 (The Board was in executive session from 9:07
14 a.m. to 11:33 a.m.)

15 MS. CIESLAK: All right, Dr. Lieders, this is
16 Cindy Cieslak. You may proceed when you are ready.

17 DR. LIEDERS: Okay. So I make a motion to
18 deny Laurie Bernier's application for service-connected
19 disability retirement.

20 DR. GALVIN: Galvin, second.

21 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? There
22 being none, all in favor, say aye.

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: Aye.

24 MS. CIESLAK: Any opposed, say nay. The
25 motion passes.

1 DR. LIEDERS: I'll make a motion to approve
2 Nicholas Berrios' application for non-service-connected
3 disability retirement.

4 DR. GALVIN: Galvin, second.

5 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? There
6 being none, all in favor, say aye.

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: Aye.

8 MS. CIESLAK: Any opposed, say nay. The
9 motion passes.

10 DR. LIEDERS: I'll make a motion to approve
11 Samuel Bleir's application for non-service-connected
12 disability retirement.

13 DR. GALVIN: Second, Galvin.

14 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? There
15 being none, all in favor, say aye.

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: Aye.

17 MS. CIESLAK: Any opposed, say nay. The
18 motion passes.

19 DR. LIEDERS: I make a motion to approve
20 Erick Brown's application for service-connected
21 disability retirement.

22 DR. GALVIN: Second, Galvin.

23 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? There
24 being none, all in favor, say aye.

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: Aye.

1 MS. CIESLAK: Any opposed, say nay. The
2 motion passes.

3 DR. LIEDERS: I'll make a motion to deny
4 Scott Carignan's application for service-connected
5 disability retirement.

6 DR. GALVIN: Second, Galvin.

7 MS. CIESLAK: This is Cindy Cieslak. Dr.
8 Lieder's, can you just repeat what the motion was? I
9 had audio issues.

10 DR. LIEDERS: Oh. I made a motion to deny
11 Scott Carignan's application for service-connected
12 disability retirement.

13 MS. CIESLAK: Thank you. And-

14 DR. GALVIN: Galvin seconded it.

15 MS. CIESLAK: Thank you. Any further
16 discussion? There being none, all in favor, say aye.

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: Aye.

18 MS. CIESLAK: Any opposed, say nay. The
19 motion passes.

20 DR. LIEDERS: I make a motion to approve
21 Nancy Choyce-LaRosa's application for service-connected
22 disability retirement.

23 DR. GALVIN: Second, Galvin.

24 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? There
25 being none, all in favor, say aye.

1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: Aye.

2 MS. CIESLAK: Any opposed, say nay. The
3 motion passes.

4 DR. LIEDERS: I'll make a motion to approve
5 Stephanie Clay's application for service-connected
6 disability retirement.

7 DR. GALVIN: Galvin, second.

8 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? There
9 being none, all in favor, say aye.

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: Aye.

11 MS. CIESLAK: Any opposed, say nay. The
12 motion passes.

13 DR. LIEDERS: I make a motion to approve
14 Richard DeRiso's application for non-service-connected
15 disability retirement.

16 DR. GALVIN: Galvin, second.

17 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? There
18 being none, all in favor, say aye.

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: Aye.

20 MS. CIESLAK: Any opposed, say nay. The
21 motion passes.

22 DR. LIEDERS: I make a motion to deny Zachary
23 Edmonds' application for service-connected disability
24 retirement.

25 DR. GALVIN: Galvin seconds.

1 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? There
2 being none, all in favor, say aye.

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: Aye.

4 MS. CIESLAK: Any opposed, say nay. The
5 motion passes.

6 DR. LIEDERS: I make a motion to change
7 Anthony Fama's application from service- to non-
8 service-connected disability retirement.

9 DR. GALVIN: Second, Galvin.

10 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? There
11 being none, all in favor, say aye.

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: Aye.

13 MS. CIESLAK: Any opposed, say nay. The
14 motion passes.

15 DR. LIEDERS: I make a motion to change
16 Beulah Gardner's application from service-connected to
17 non-service-connected disability retirement.

18 DR. GALVIN: Galvin seconds.

19 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? There
20 being none, all in favor, say aye.

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: Aye.

22 MS. CIESLAK: Any opposed, say nay. The
23 motion passes.

24 DR. LIEDERS: I'll make a motion to approve
25 Patton Jarrell's application for service-connected

1 disability retirement.

2 DR. GALVIN: Second, Galvin.

3 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? There
4 being none, all in favor, say aye.

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: Aye.

6 MS. CIESLAK: Any opposed, say nay. The
7 motion passes.

8 DR. LIEDERS: I make a motion to approve
9 Corelyn Judge's application for non-service-connected
10 disability retirement.

11 DR. GALVIN: Second, Galvin.

12 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? There
13 being none, all in favor, say aye.

14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: Aye.

15 MS. CIESLAK: Any opposed, say nay. The
16 motion passes.

17 DR. LIEDERS: I make a motion to approve
18 Maria Kuselias' application for non-service-connected
19 disability retirement.

20 DR. GALVIN: Galvin seconds.

21 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? There
22 being none, all in favor, say aye.

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: Aye.

24 MS. CIESLAK: Any opposed, say nay. The
25 motion passes.

1 DR. LIEDERS: I'll make a motion to approve
2 Steven MacSweeney's request to change his application
3 from service- to non-service-connected disability
4 retirement.

5 DR. GALVIN: Galvin seconds.

6 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? There
7 being none, all in favor, say aye.

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: Aye.

9 MS. CIESLAK: Any opposed, say nay. The
10 motion passes.

11 DR. LIEDERS: I'll make a motion to approve
12 Amanda Leroux's application for service-connected
13 disability retirement.

14 DR. GALVIN: Second, Galvin.

15 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? There
16 being none, all in favor, say aye.

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: Aye.

18 MS. CIESLAK: Any opposed, say nay. The
19 motion passes.

20 DR. LIEDERS: I make a motion to deny Alec
21 Mandia's application for service-connected disability
22 retirement.

23 DR. GALVIN: Second, Galvin.

24 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? There
25 being none, all in favor, say aye.

1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: Aye.

2 MS. CIESLAK: Any opposed, say nay. The
3 motion passes.

4 DR. LIEDERS: I make a motion to deny Maria
5 Martinez's application for service-connected disability
6 retirement.

7 DR. GALVIN: Second, Galvin.

8 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? There
9 being none, all in favor, say aye.

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: Aye.

11 MS. CIESLAK: Any opposed, say nay. The
12 motion passes.

13 DR. LIEDERS: I make a motion to approve John
14 McMahon's application for service-connected disability
15 retirement.

16 DR. GALVIN: Second, Galvin.

17 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? There
18 being none, all in favor, say aye.

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: Aye.

20 MS. CIESLAK: Any opposed, say nay. The
21 motion passes.

22 DR. LIEDERS: I make a motion to table Mark
23 Milutis' application for non-service-connected
24 disability retirement.

25 DR. GALVIN: Second, Galvin.

1 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? There
2 being none, all in favor, say aye.

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: Aye.

4 MS. CIESLAK: Any opposed, say nay. The
5 motion passes.

6 DR. LIEDERS: I make a motion to approve
7 Daniel Murzin's application for non-service-connected
8 disability retirement.

9 DR. GALVIN: Galvin seconds.

10 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? There
11 being none, all in favor, say aye.

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: Aye.

13 MS. CIESLAK: Any opposed, say nay. The
14 motion passes.

15 DR. LIEDERS: I'll make a motion to deny
16 Chantal Poulin's application for service-connected
17 disability retirement, however the Board will look
18 favorably upon a non-service-connected disability
19 retirement.

20 DR. GALVIN: Galvin seconds.

21 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? There
22 being none, all in favor, say aye.

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: Aye.

24 MS. CIESLAK: Any opposed, say nay. The
25 motion passes.

1 DR. LIEDERS: I'll make a motion to approve
2 John Reynolds' application for non-service-connected
3 disability retirement.

4 DR. GALVIN: Second, Galvin.

5 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? There
6 being none, all in favor, say aye.

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: Aye.

8 MS. CIESLAK: Any opposed, say nay. The
9 motion passes.

10 DR. LIEDERS: I'll make a motion to table the
11 decision on Jessica Stefanowicz's application for non-
12 service-connected disability retirement.

13 DR. GALVIN: Galvin seconds.

14 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? There
15 being none, all in favor, say aye.

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: Aye.

17 MS. CIESLAK: Any opposed, say nay. Any
18 opposed, say nay. The motion passes.

19 DR. LIEDERS: I'll make a motion to deny
20 Linda Turgeon's application for service-connected
21 disability retirement, however the Board will look
22 favorably upon a non-service-connected disability
23 retirement.

24 DR. GALVIN: Second, Galvin.

25 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? There

1 being none, all in favor, say aye.

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: Aye.

3 MS. CIESLAK: Any opposed, say nay. The
4 motion passes.

5 DR. LIEDERS: And I make a motion to approve
6 Tina Williams-Knight's application for non-service-
7 connected disability retirement.

8 DR. GALVIN: Second, Galvin.

9 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? There
10 being none, all in favor, say aye.

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: Aye.

12 MS. CIESLAK: Any opposed, say nay. The
13 motion passes.

14 DR. LIEDERS: Okay, thank you. I'll let
15 people know that the Board will be making
16 determinations and voting on those determinations - oh,
17 I should have said that the Board - sorry. No further
18 comments. Or should I read that statement?

19 MS. CIESLAK: This is Cindy Cieslak. I think
20 what Dr. Lieders would ordinarily say before the
21 motions are made is that the Board will be making its
22 votes today. Only the oral determination will be
23 provided, but you will receive a written determination
24 in approximately four weeks to give you the explanation
25 for the votes. If you had an initial denial, you will

1 have the opportunity to seek reconsideration.

2 But other than that, I don't think we have
3 any additional business, Dr. Lieders.

4 DR. LIEDERS: Thank you, Cindy. So I'll make
5 a motion to adjourn today's meeting.

6 DR. GALVIN: Second, Galvin.

7 DR. LIEDERS: Any discussion? All in favor,
8 say aye.

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: Aye.

10 DR. LIEDERS: All opposed, say nay. Motion
11 passes.

12 MS. CIESLAK: We are adjourned. Thank you,
13 everyone.

14 DR. LIEDERS: Thank you.

15 (Adjourned at 11:45 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 9:05 a.m. on
September 24, 2021.

Karin A. Empson

Karin A. Empson

10/30/2021

Date