

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT COMMISSION
MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD

AUGUST 13, 2021 MEETING
HELD VIA ZOOM
CONVENED AT 9:05 a.m.

Board Members Present:

Dr. Richard Blum
Dr. Poleak So
Dr. Eric Shore

Also Present:

Colin Newman, Retirement Services Division
Annette Sadlowski, Retirement Services Division
Robert Helfand, Retirement Services Division
William Cassada, Retirement Services Division
Cindy Cieslak, Rose Kallor, LLP

TRANSCRIPTIONIST: Karin A. Empson

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

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5 MS. CIESLAK: Yes, we are ready to go.

6 MS. SADLOWSKI: Did anyone want to step up
7 and be chair?

8 DR. SHORE: It's awful quiet.

9 MS. CIESLAK: I would, but it's normally one
10 of the doctors, so-

11 DR. SHORE: I was it last time. I'd rather
12 not just for the time commitment. I'm still working
13 part-time. So, I'd rather not.

14 DR. SO: I won't be able to do it, so-

15 MR. CIESLAK: Dr. Blum, are you able to?

16 DR. BLUM: Well, you know, I'm really
17 terrible with the computers. So I didn't even make up
18 the form for the meeting. So I'll have to (inaudible).

19 DR. SHORE: Well, let me ask you. How soon
20 do you need these finished things from everybody?
21 Because if you can give me, you know, 10 days, two
22 weeks, I can do it.

23 MS. SADLOWSKI: That would be fine.

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Two weeks. It's
25 always been two weeks.

1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah, that would be
2 fine, yeah.

3 DR. SHORE: All right. And you guys, can you
4 get me your reports on Google Documents?

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah.

6 MS. SADLOWSKI: If not, Dr. Blum, I can get
7 them to Dr. Shore on Google Docs.

8 DR. BLUM: Who just said that?

9 MS. SADLOWSKI: Annette.

10 DR. BLUM: Annette, okay. So I send it to
11 you, then you send it to Dr. Shore?

12 MS. SADLOWSKI: Yep.

13 DR. BLUM: Thank you.

14 DR. SHORE: All right. Motion to, whatever,
15 open the meeting, and amend the agenda.

16 MS. SADLOWSKI: There's no amendments. This
17 is Annette.

18 DR. SHORE: Well, and by removing Eric Brown.

19 MS. SADLOWSKI: He was not on the agenda when
20 it was posted.

21 DR. SHORE: Okay. All right. So if there's
22 nothing else we need to do, can we go into executive
23 session?

24 MS. CIESLAK: Dr. Shore, is that your motion?

25 DR. SHORE: That's my motion.

1 MS. CIESLAK: Is there a second?

2 DR. SO: Second.

3 DR. BLUM: Second, Blum.

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

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: Aye.

7 MS. CIESLAK: Any opposed, say nay.

8 Dr. Shore, to confirm, your motion includes
9 an invitation to Colin Newman, Annete Sadlowski,
10 William Cassada, and Dr. Helfand - or Robert Helfand,
11 and Cindy Cieslak to enter into executive session with
12 you?

13 DR. SHORE: Yes.

14 MS. CIESLAK: Okay. And real quick, before
15 we enter executive session, for the record, when the
16 meeting was called to order, I wanted to take
17 attendance. So I will just announce that present today
18 are Dr. Eric Shore, Dr. Poleak So, Dr. Richard Blum.
19 We also have present from the Retirement Services
20 Division Colin Newman, Annette Sadlowski, Robert
21 Helfand, and William Cassada. And I am Cindy Cieslak,
22 General Counsel to the Retirement Commission and the
23 Medical Examining Board.

24 So now we are going into executive session.

25 (The Board was in executive session from 9:05

1 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.)

2 MS. CIESLAK: All right. Dr. Shore, when you
3 are ready, we are ready to proceed in public session.

4 DR. SHORE: I motion to approve Margaret
5 Cragin for non-service-connected disability. Is there
6 a second?

7 DR. SO: Second.

8 DR. BLUM: Second, Blum.

9 DR. SHORE: Discussion? Or do you say that,
10 Cindy?

11 MS. CIESLAK: Whatever you prefer, Dr. Shore.

12 DR. SHORE: You go for it. The least I say,
13 the better.

14 MS. CIESLAK: No further discussion. All in
15 favor, say aye.

16 DR. BLUM: Aye.

17 MS. CIESLAK: Any opposed, say nay.

18 DR. BLUM: Nay. I don't mean nay. Aye.

19 MS. CIESLAK: Okay.

20 DR. BLUM: I was (inaudible) sorry.

21 MS. CIESLAK: For clarification of the
22 record, we had three ayes. The motion passes
23 unanimously.

24 DR. SHORE: I motion to deny Faleisha
25 Johnson's application for service-connected disability

1 retirement. Is there a second?

2 DR. BLUM: Second, Blum.

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. SHORE: I motion to approve Peter Koval
9 for service-connected disability.

10 DR. BLUM: Second, Blum.

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

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

14 DR. BLUM: Aye, Blum.

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: Aye.

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

18 DR. SHORE: I motion to table the non-
19 service-connected application for disability for Ronald
20 Maia. Is there a second?

21 DR. SO: Second.

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

23 MS. CIESLAK: Dr. So seconded the motion.
24 Any further discussion? There being none, all in
25 favor, say aye.

1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: Aye.

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

4 DR. SHORE: I motion to deny Tracy Mailhot's
5 application for service-connected disability
6 retirement. Is there a second?

7 DR. BLUM: Second, Blum.

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. SHORE: I motion to deny Kehlen Morgan's
14 application for service-connected disability
15 retirement. Is there a second?

16 DR. BLUM: Second, Blum.

17 DR. SO: Second.

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

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: Aye.

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

23 DR. SHORE: I motion to approve Matthew
24 Morrissette's application for service-connected
25 disability retirement. Is there a second?

1 DR. SO: Second.

2 DR. BLUM: Second.

3 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? For
4 the record, Dr. So seconded that motion.

5 All in favor, say aye.

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: Aye.

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

9 DR. SHORE: I motion to approve Beverly
10 Nealy's application for non-service-connected
11 disability retirement.

12 Is there a second?

13 DR. SO: Second.

14 DR. BLUM: Second, Blum.

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. SHORE: I motion to deny Bernard
21 Oskenberg's application for service-connected
22 disability retirement. Is there a second?

23 DR. BLUM: But vote favorably on non-work-
24 related; right?

25 DR. SHORE: Yes.

1 DR. BLUM: Okay.

2 MS. CIESLAK: Okay. So for clarification,
3 the motion is to deny Mr. Oksenberg's service-connected
4 application, however the Board would look favorably
5 upon a non-service-connected disability. The motion
6 was made by Dr. Shore, seconded by Dr. Blum.

7 Any further discussion? There being none,
8 all in favor, say aye.

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: Aye.

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

12 DR. SHORE: I motion to approve David
13 Palacios' application for service-connected disability
14 retirement. Is there a second?

15 DR. BLUM: Second, Blum.

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

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: Aye.

19 DR. BLUM: Aye.

20 DR. SO: Aye.

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

23 DR. SHORE: I motion to approve Christopher
24 Panasci's application for service-connected disability
25 retirement. Is there a second?

1 DR. BLUM: Second, Blum.

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

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: Aye.

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

7 DR. SHORE: I motion to deny Rachelle
8 Perusse's application for non-service-connected
9 disability retirement. Is there a second?

10 DR. SO: Second.

11 MS. CIESLAK: Dr. So seconded the motion.
12 Any further discussion? There being none, all in
13 favor, say aye.

14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: Aye.

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

17 DR. SHORE: I motion to approve Jeffrey
18 Ranciato's application for non-service-connected
19 disability retirement. Is there a second?

20 DR. SO: Second.

21 DR. BLUM: Second, Blum.

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

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: Aye.

25 MS. CIESLAK: Any opposed, say nay. The

1 motion passes.

2 DR. SHORE: I motion to table Chris
3 Rocanello's application for service-connected
4 disability retirement.

5 DR. BLUM: Second, Blum.

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. SHORE: I motion to approve Robert
12 Schlink's application for service-connected disability
13 retirement. Is there a second?

14 DR. SO: Second.

15 DR. BLUM: Second, Blum.

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

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: Aye.

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

21 DR. SHORE: I motion to table Christopher
22 Soucier's application for service-connected disability
23 retirement. Is there a second?

24 DR. SO: Second.

25 DR. BLUM: Second, Blum.

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. SHORE: I motion to deny Deirde Teague's
7 application for service-connected disability
8 retirement. Is there a second?

9 DR. SO: Second.

10 DR. BLUM: Second, Blum.

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

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: Aye.

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

16 DR. SHORE: I was just clearing my throat. I
17 motion to approve Debra Tulisano's application for
18 service-connected disability retirement. Is there a
19 second?

20 DR. BLUM: Second, Blum.

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 All right. With that, Dr. Shore, or any of
2 the doctors, anyone to make a motion to adjourn?

3 DR. BLUM: I make a motion to adjourn.

4 DR. SHORE: And I'll second it.

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible) second.

6 MS. CIESLAK: For the record, we'll say Dr.
7 Blum made the motion; Dr. Shore seconded the motion.

8 Any discussion? All in favor, say aye.

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: Aye.

10 MS. CIESLAK: We are adjourned. Thank you.

11 (Adjourned at 11:25 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
August 13, 2021.

Karin A. Empson

Karin A. Empson

09/10/2021

Date