

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT COMMISSION
MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD MEETING

JANUARY 7, 2022 MEETING
HELD VIA ZOOM
CONVENED AT 9:09 a.m.

Present (via Zoom):

Dr. Sachin Parekh
Dr. J. Robert Galvin
Dr. Zohrab Zahedi
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 9:09 a.m.)

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5 MS. KALLOR: Okay.

6 DR. PAREKH: Hi. This is Dr. Sachin Parekh,
7 Chairman, and I call the Medical Exam Board meeting of
8 January 7th, 2022 to order. Present along with me is
9 Dr. J. Robert Galvin and Dr. Zohrab Zahedi. Present
10 from the Office of the State Comptroller and Retirement
11 Services Division are staff members Colin Newman,
12 Annette Sadlowski, Robert Helfand, William Cassada, and
13 the General Counsel from the Retirement Division is
14 Robin Kallor.

15 There are no amendments to the agenda. I
16 make a motion to go into executive session. Do I have
17 a second?

18 DR. ZAHEDI: Second.

19 DR. GALVIN: Galvin, second.

20 DR. ZAHEDI: Zahedi, second - third.

21 DR. PAREKH: I request that the members of
22 the Retirement Services Division be allowed to remain.

23 MS. KALLOR: And also you invite me as well?

24 DR. PAREKH: Oh, yes, and I invite the
25 General Counsel as well.

1 MS. KALLOR: Okay. We're going to-

2 DR. GALVIN: Galvin-

3 MS. KALLOR: --can you guys vote? I know
4 that there were thirds, but do you mind voting? And
5 then we'll stop the recording.

6 DR. PAREKH: I request a second.

7 DR. GALVIN: Galvin, second.

8 DR. ZAHEDI: Aye, Zahedi.

9 MS. KALLOR: You never - can Dr. Galvin and
10 Dr. Parekh vote as well?

11 DR. PAREKH: Oh, yes. I made the motion, so-

12 MS. KALLOR: Yep.

13 DR. PAREKH: --I agree. I second.

14 MS. KALLOR: Okay. All right. So-

15 (The Board was in executive session from 9:11
16 a.m. until 12:15 p.m.)

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Hello?

18 MS. KALLOR: Yeah, we're just letting
19 everyone back into the (inaudible). Okay.

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay.

21 MS. KALLOR: Okay, we're all set for the
22 Chairman.

23 DR. PAREKH: Okay, this is Dr. Parekh. The
24 Board will be making its determinations and voting but
25 would like to remind members that only the final vote

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

8 This is Dr. Parekh. We will now begin with
9 the voting of the decisions. The Board motions to
10 approve non-service-connected disability retirement for
11 Rosemary Andrade.

12 MS. KALLOR: Is there a second?

13 DR. GALVIN: Galvin, second.

14 MS. KALLOR: Okay. All in favor?

15 DR. PAREKH: Aye.

16 DR. GALVIN: Galvin, aye.

17 DR. ZAHEDI: Zahedi, aye.

18 MS. KALLOR: Motion passes unanimously.

19 DR. PAREKH: The Board motions to change the
20 status to non-service-connected disability for Thomas
21 Baker.

22 DR. GALVIN: Galvin seconds.

23 MS. KALLOR: All in favor?

24 DR. PAREKH: Aye.

25 DR. GALVIN: Aye, Galvin.

1 DR. ZAHEDI: Aye, Zahedi.

2 DR. PAREKH: The Board motions to deny
3 service-connected disability for Gifty Bediako.

4 DR. GALVIN: Galvin, second.

5 MS. KALLOR: I should be asking, any further
6 discussion?

7 Okay. We can take a vote. All in favor?

8 DR. PAREKH: Aye.

9 DR. GALVIN: Aye, Galvin.

10 DR. ZAHEDI: Aye, Zahedi.

11 DR. PAREKH: The Board-

12 MS. KALLOR: All - oh, I'm sorry. It passes
13 unanimately. Go ahead.

14 DR. PAREKH: The Board motions to deny non-
15 service-connected disability retirement for Lance
16 Bennett.

17 MS. KALLOR: Is there a second?

18 DR. GALVIN: Second, Galvin.

19 MS. KALLOR: Any further discussion? All in
20 favor?

21 DR. PAREKH: Aye.

22 DR. GALVIN: Aye, Galvin.

23 DR. ZAHEDI: Aye, Zahedi.

24 MS. KALLOR: Motion passes unanimately.

25 DR. PAREKH: The Board motions to deny

1 service-connected disability retirement for Marlon
2 Blackwood.

3 DR. GALVIN: Galvin, second.

4 MS. KALLOR: Any discussion? All in favor?

5 DR. PAREKH: Aye.

6 DR. GALVIN: Aye, Galvin.

7 DR. ZAHEDI: Aye, Zahedi.

8 DR. PAREKH: The Board motions to deny non-
9 service-connected disability retirement for Charlene
10 Darby.

11 DR. ZAHEDI: Zahedi, second.

12 DR. GALVIN: Galvin, second.

13 MS. KALLOR: Any further discussion? All in
14 favor?

15 DR. PAREKH: Aye.

16 DR. GALVIN: Aye, Galvin.

17 DR. ZAHEDI: Aye, Zahedi.

18 DR. PAREKH: The Board motions to approve
19 non-service-connected disability retirement for Fatima
20 Ennis.

21 DR. GALVIN: Galvin, second.

22 MS. KALLOR: Any discussion? All in favor?

23 DR. PAREKH: Aye.

24 DR. GALVIN: Aye, Galvin.

25 DR. ZAHEDI: Aye, Zahedi.

1 MS. KALLOR: Motion passes.

2 DR. PAREKH: The Board motions to approve
3 service-connected disability retirement for Carlos
4 Gonzalez.

5 DR. GALVIN: Galvin seconds.

6 MS. KALLOR: Any further discussion? All in
7 favor?

8 DR. PAREKH: Aye.

9 DR. GALVIN: Aye, Galvin.

10 DR. ZAHEDI: Aye, Zahedi.

11 MS. KALLOR: Motion passes.

12 DR. PAREKH: The Board motions to approve
13 service-connected disability retirement for William
14 Hernandez.

15 DR. GALVIN: Galvin seconds.

16 MS. KALLOR: Any further discussion? All in
17 favor?

18 DR. PAREKH: Aye.

19 DR. GALVIN: Aye, Galvin.

20 DR. ZAHEDI: Aye, Zahedi.

21 MS. KALLOR: Motion passes.

22 DR. PAREKH: The Board motions to table the
23 decision for service-connected disability retirement
24 for Mayra Holbrook.

25 DR. GALVIN: Second, Galvin.

1 MS. KALLOR: Any further discussion? All in
2 favor?

3 DR. PAREKH: Aye.

4 DR. GALVIN: Aye, Galvin.

5 DR. ZAHEDI: Aye, Zahedi.

6 MS. KALLOR: Motion passes.

7 DR. PAREKH: The Board motions to approve
8 service-connected disability retirement for Rophy
9 Homicil.

10 DR. GALVIN: Second, Galvin.

11 MS. KALLOR: Any further discussion? All in
12 favor?

13 DR. PAREKH: Aye.

14 DR. GALVIN: Aye, Galvin.

15 DR. ZAHEDI: Aye, Zahedi.

16 MS. KALLOR: Motion passes.

17 DR. PAREKH: The Board motions to approve
18 service-connected disability retirement for Michael
19 Lane.

20 DR. GALVIN: Galvin seconds.

21 MS. KALLOR: Any discussion? All in favor?

22 DR. PAREKH: Aye.

23 DR. GALVIN: Aye, Galvin.

24 DR. ZAHEDI: Aye, Zahedi.

25 MS. KALLOR: Motion passes.

1 DR. PAREKH: The Board motions - oh, I
2 apologize.

3 MS. KALLOR: That's okay.

4 DR. PAREKH: The Board motions to deny
5 service-connected disability retirement but look
6 favorable upon non-service-connected disability
7 retirement for Sandra Lucier.

8 DR. GALVIN: Galvin seconds.

9 MS. KALLOR: Any further discussion? All in
10 favor?

11 DR. PAREKH: Aye.

12 DR. GALVIN: Aye, Galvin.

13 DR. ZAHEDI: Aye, Zahedi.

14 MS. KALLOR: Motion passes.

15 DR. PAREKH: The Board motions to approve
16 service-connected disability retirement for Justin
17 Pizzonia.

18 DR. GALVIN: Galvin seconds.

19 MS. KALLOR: Any further discussion?

20 (Inaudible)

21 DR. PAREKH: Aye.

22 DR. GALVIN: Aye-

23 DR. ZAHEDI: Aye, Zahedi.

24 DR. GALVIN: --Galvin.

25 MS. KALLOR: Motion passes.

1 DR. PAREKH: The Board motions to deny
2 service-connected disability retirement for Nathan
3 Robinson.

4 DR. GALVIN: Galvin seconds.

5 MS. KALLOR: Any further discussion? All in
6 favor?

7 DR. PAREKH: Aye.

8 DR. GALVIN: Aye, Galvin.

9 DR. ZAHEDI: Aye, Zahedi.

10 MS. KALLOR: Motion passes.

11 DR. PAREKH: The Board motions to approve
12 service-connected disability retirement for Nancy
13 Stefanski.

14 DR. GALVIN: Second, Galvin.

15 MS. KALLOR: Any further discussion? All in
16 favor?

17 DR. PAREKH: Aye.

18 DR. GALVIN: Aye, Galvin.

19 DR. ZAHEDI: Aye, Zahedi.

20 DR. PAREKH: The Board motions to table the
21 decision for service-connected disability retirement
22 for Cheryl Taylor.

23 DR. GALVIN: Galvin seconds.

24 MS. KALLOR: Any further discussion? All in
25 favor?

1 DR. PAREKH: Aye.

2 DR. GALVIN: Aye.

3 DR. ZAHEDI: Aye, Zahedi.

4 DR. PAREKH: The Board motions to deny non-
5 service-connected disability retirement for Juliane
6 Winiarski.

7 DR. GALVIN: Second, Galvin.

8 MS. KALLOR: Any further discussion? All in
9 favor?

10 DR. PAREKH: Aye.

11 DR. GALVIN: Aye, Galvin.

12 DR. ZAHEDI: Aye, Zahedi.

13 MS. KALLOR: Motion passes.

14 DR. PAREKH: I, Dr. Parekh, make a motion to
15 adjourn the meeting.

16 DR. GALVIN: Okay, one second. We - with
17 Taylor, we tabled her; right?

18 DR. PAREKH: That is correct.

19 DR. GALVIN: Okay. Second your motion to
20 adjourn.

21 MS. KALLOR: And that was Dr. Galvin; right?

22 DR. GALVIN: That's Galvin, yep.

23 MS. KALLOR: Okay.

24 DR. GALVIN: And I'll need the Chairman's
25 address, the email address, so I can send my notes to

1 him.

2 MS. KALLOR: Okay. Let's just take a vote
3 first. Then we can do that after.

4 DR. GALVIN: Okay.

5 MS. KALLOR: So there was a second, Dr.
6 Galvin. And so you have to vote to adjourn.

7 All in favor?

8 DR. PAREKH: Aye.

9 DR. GALVIN: Aye, Galvin.

10 DR. ZAHEDI: Aye, Zahedi.

11 MS. KALLOR: Okay, meeting is adjourned. I'm
12 going to stop the recording and - okay, one second.

13 (Adjourned at 12:24 p.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 9:09 a.m. on
January 7, 2022.

Karin A. Empson

Karin A. Empson

01/31/2022

Date