

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT COMMISSION
MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD MEETING

MARCH 4, 2022 MEETING
HELD VIA ZOOM
CONVENED AT 9:14 a.m.

Present (via Zoom):

Chairperson Dr. Ralph Rosenberg
Dr. Lynn Rudich
Dr. Michael Gerstenfeld
Colin Newman, Retirement Services Division
Robert Helfand, Retirement Services Division
William Cassada, Retirement Services Division
Annette Sadlowski, Retirement Services Division
Robin Kallor, General Counsel, Rose Kallor LLP

TRANSCRIPTIONIST: Karin A. Empson

1 (Proceedings commenced at 9:14 a.m.)

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5 MS. KALLOR: Okay.

6 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: This is Dr. Ralph
7 Rosenberg, Chairperson for the March 4th, 2022 meeting
8 of the Medical Examining Board, which is now in
9 session. Present are Dr. Lynn Rudich, Dr. Michael
10 Gerstenfeld, and myself, Dr. Ralph Rosenberg. Present
11 from the Office of the State Comptroller's Office and
12 Retirement Services Division are staff members from the
13 Retirement Services Division Colin Newman, Annette
14 Sadlowski, Robert Helfand, and William Cassada.
15 General Counsel for the Retirement Commission is Robin
16 Kallor.

17 The MEB Board will ask if there are any
18 motions to amend the agenda. If there are no motions
19 to amend-

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: There is a motion.

21 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: There is?

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: There is a motion.
23 The second spot there.

24 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Okay.

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Add Susan (sic)

1 Lucier.

2 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Okay. I didn't have
3 that on mine here. So the motion is to add Susan
4 Lucier to the agenda. I believe - is that for a change
5 of status for service-connection?

6 DR. RUDICH: This is Rudich. I second.

7 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Okay. We'll vote to
8 approve. All in favor, say yes.

9 DR. GERSTENFELD: Aye, Gerstenfeld. Yes.

10 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: And Rosenberg, yes.
11 The motion is approved.

12 Any other motions to amend? Okay. We'd like
13 to call the Medical Examining Board into executive
14 session.

15 DR. GERSTENFELD. Gerstenfeld, second.

16 MS. KALLOR: Okay, now we should vote. Just
17 be sure you say your name before you vote.

18 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, yes.

19 DR. RUDICH: Rudich, aye.

20 DR. GERSTENFELD: Gerstenfeld, aye.

21 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: So approved to go
22 into executive session.

23 MS. KALLOR: And then invite - you have to go
24 through the list of the people that have been invited
25 in as well.

1 CHAIRMAN ROSENBERG: Okay. So present for
2 executive session is Dr. Lynn Rudich, Dr. Michael
3 Gerstenfeld, and Dr. Ralph Rosenberg, and from the
4 staff at the Retirement Services Division, Colin
5 Newman, Annette Sadlowski, Robert Helfand, and William
6 Cassada, and from the General Counsel for the
7 Retirement Commission, Robin Kallor.

8 MS. KALLOR: Okay. All right, just wait one
9 second while I - well, while we go into executive
10 session.

11 (The Board was in executive session from 9:17
12 a.m. until 11:47 a.m.)

13 MS. KALLOR: Okay, whenever you are ready.

14 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: While we are making
15 determinations and voting on those determinations, I
16 would like to remind members that only the final vote
17 will be given today and not the reasons for the vote.
18 In some instances, there may not have been enough
19 medical information to make a determination, or perhaps
20 a non-service-connected disability is more likely a
21 service-connected disability.

22 You may seek reconsideration of an initial
23 denial. You will receive the Board's written
24 determination within two to four weeks, which will
25 provide you with the additional information.

1 We're ready to vote. So this is Dr. Ralph
2 Rosenberg and I motion to approve Jerry Boulware for
3 service-connection disability. Is there a second?

4 DR. RUDICH: Rudich, second.

5 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: So all in favor of-

6 MS. KALLOR: First ask if there's any
7 discussion.

8 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Oh, I'm sorry. Any
9 discussion? Okay, if there's no further discussion,
10 then we will vote for - all in favor of service-
11 connected disability for Jerry Boulware, please say aye
12 and say your name.

13 DR. RUDICH: Rudich, aye.

14 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Ralph Rosenberg, aye.

15 MS. KALLOR: You're on mute, Dr. Gerstenfeld.

16 DR. GERSTENFELD: Oh. Gerstenfeld, aye.

17 MS. KALLOR: Motion passes.

18 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Next is Salome
19 Castillo-Reyes. I make a motion to deny service-
20 connected disability. Is there a second?

21 DR. RUDICH: Rudich, second.

22 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Is there any
23 discussion on denying service-connected disability for
24 Salome Castillo-Reyes?

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible)

1 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Okay. That being the
2 case, we will vote. Those in favor of denying service-
3 connected disability for Salome Castillo-Reyes?

4 Rosenberg-

5 DR. RUDICH: Rudich, aye. Rudich, aye.

6 DR. GERSTENFELD: Gerstenfeld, aye.

7 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Okay. Thank you.
8 Next is Tora Chamblee. I make a motion to deny
9 service-connected disability. Is there a second?

10 DR. RUDICH: Rudich, second.

11 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Okay. Is there any
12 discussion on denial of service-connected disability
13 for Tora Chamblee? That being the case-

14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Are we like halfway
15 down?

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Three-quarters.

17 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: --we'll vote.

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible)

19 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: I would ask whoever's
20 on Logan's call to not talk as we're voting, please.

21 So we will vote on Tora Chamblee. Those in
22 favor of denying service-connected disability, say aye.

23 DR. RUDICH: Rudich, aye.

24 DR. GERSTENFELD: Gerstenfeld, aye.

25 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: And Rosenberg, aye.

1 Vote passes.

2 Next is Eugene Chaude applying for service-
3 connected disability. I make a motion to deny service-
4 connected disability. Is there a second?

5 DR. RUDICH: Rudich, second.

6 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Is there any
7 discussion on denial of service-connected disability
8 for Eugene Chaude? That being the case, I ask that we
9 vote for denial of service-connected disability on
10 Eugene Chaude. Those in favor, say aye.

11 DR. RUDICH: Rudich, aye.

12 DR. GERSTENFELD: Gerstenfeld, aye.

13 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye. The
14 motion passes.

15 I make a motion - this is Dr. Ralph
16 Rosenberg. I make a motion to deny service-connected
17 disability on Mark Donnelly. Is there a second?

18 DR. RUDICH: Rudich, second.

19 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Is there any
20 discussion on denial of service-connected disability
21 for Mark Donnelly? That being the case, we will vote
22 on denying service-connected disability on Mark
23 Donnelly. Those in favor?

24 DR. RUDICH: Rudich, aye.

25 DR. GERSTENFELD: Gerstenfeld, aye.

1 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: And Rosenberg, aye.
2 And the motion passes.

3 This is Dr. Ralph Rosenberg. I make a motion
4 to deny service-connected disability for Jose Estrada.
5 Is there a second?

6 DR. RUDICH: Rudich, second.

7 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: That being the case,
8 is there any discussion on denial of service-connected
9 disability for Jose Estrada? That being the case,
10 we'll take a vote. Those in favor of denying service-
11 connected disability for Jose Estrada, please say aye.

12 DR. RUDICH: Rudich, aye.

13 DR. GERSTENFELD: Gerstenfeld, aye.

14 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: And Rosenberg, aye.
15 The motion passes.

16 Next, I make a motion to deny service-
17 connected disability for Gilbert Gioia. Is there a
18 second?

19 DR. RUDICH: Rudich, second.

20 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Is there any
21 discussion on Gilbert Gioia for denial of service-
22 connected disability? That being the case, we'll take
23 a vote. Those in favor of denying service-connected
24 disability to Gilbert Gioia, please say aye.

25 DR. RUDICH: Rudich, aye.

1 DR. GERSTENFELD: Gerstenfeld, aye.

2 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye. The
3 motion passes.

4 Next is - I make a motion to approve non-
5 service-connected disability for Albert Gomez. Is
6 there a second?

7 DR. GERSTENFELD: Gerstenfeld, second.

8 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Okay. Is there any
9 discussion on denial - I'm sorry. I'm sorry, was I on
10 - I lost where I am. Was I on-

11 DR. RUDICH: Gomez.

12 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: I'm sorry?

13 DR. RUDICH: Gomez.

14 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Gomez. Thank you.
15 Thank you. Thank you.

16 That being the case, we'll take a vote for
17 approving non-service-connected disability for Albert
18 Gomez. Those in favor, say aye.

19 DR. RUDICH: Aye, Rudich.

20 DR. GERSTENFELD: Gerstenfeld, aye.

21 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye. That
22 being the case, motion passes for Albert Gomez for non-
23 service-connected disability, approved.

24 Next is I make a motion to approve non-
25 service-connected disability for Ingrid Hanka. Is

1 there a second?

2 DR. GERSTENFELD: Gerstenfeld, second.

3 DR. RUDICH: Rudich, second.

4 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Okay. Is there any
5 discussion on approving non-service-connected
6 disability for Ingrid Hanka? That being the case, I
7 make a motion that we vote to approve non-service-
8 connected disability for Ingrid Hanka. Is there a
9 second? I'm sorry. Those in favor, say aye.

10 DR. RUDICH: Rudich, aye.

11 DR. GERSTENFELD: Gerstenfeld, aye.

12 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: And Rosenberg, aye.
13 Therefore the motion passes to approve non-service-
14 connected disability for Ingrid Hanka.

15 I make a motion to deny service-connected
16 disability for Lori Hubbard. Is there a second?

17 DR. RUDICH: Rudich, second.

18 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: That being the case,
19 is there any discussion to deny service-connected
20 disability for Lori Hubbard? Okay. That being the
21 case, we will take a vote. Those in favor of denying
22 service-connected disability of Lori Hubbard, please
23 say aye.

24 DR. RUDICH: Rudich, aye.

25 DR. GERSTENFELD: Gerstenfeld, aye.

1 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: And Rosenberg, aye.
2 The motion passes.

3 Next is Brian Logan. The motion is to deny
4 service-connected disability. Is there a second?

5 DR. RUDICH: Rudich, second.

6 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Is there a discussion
7 on Brian Logan? If there is no discussion, then we
8 will vote. Those in favor of denying service-connected
9 disability to Brian Logan, please say aye.

10 DR. RUDICH: Rudich, aye.

11 DR. GERSTENFELD: Gerstenfeld, aye.

12 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: And Rosenberg, aye.
13 The motion passes.

14 Next is Gregory Morgan. I make a motion to
15 deny non-service-connected disability. Is there a
16 second?

17 DR. RUDICH: Rudich, second.

18 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Is there any
19 discussion on denying non-service-connected disability
20 on Gregory Morgan? That being the case, I motion that
21 we vote to deny non-service-connected disability on
22 Gregory Morgan. Those in favor, say aye.

23 DR. RUDICH: Rudich, aye.

24 DR. GERSTENFELD: Gerstenfeld, aye.

25 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye. The

1 motion passes.

2 Next, I make a motion to approve non-service-
3 connected disability on Carmen Propiescus. Is there a
4 second?

5 DR. RUDICH: Rudich, second.

6 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Is there any
7 discussion on approval of non-service-connected
8 disability on Carmen Propiescus? That being the case,
9 I motion that we vote to approve non-service-connected
10 disability on Carmen Propiescus. Those in favor, say
11 aye.

12 DR. RUDICH: Rudich, aye.

13 DR. GERSTENFELD: Gerstenfeld, aye.

14 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye. The
15 motion passes.

16 MS. KALLOR: I think you may have skipped
17 one. So - unless I just missed it. Did you vote on
18 Sherry Powell?

19 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: I apologize.

20 MR. KALLOR: No, it's okay.

21 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: I make a motion to
22 deny non-service-connected disability for Sherry
23 Powell. Is there a second?

24 DR. RUDICH: Rudich, second.

25 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Is there a discussion

1 on denying non-service-connected disability for Sherry
2 Powell? That being the case, we'll take a vote to deny
3 non-service-connected disability on Sherry Powell.
4 Those in favor, say aye.

5 DR. RUDICH: Rudich, aye.

6 DR. GERSTENFELD: Gerstenfeld, aye.

7 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye. The
8 motion is passed.

9 I make a motion to approve non-service-
10 connected disability on Fred Stephenson. Is there a
11 second?

12 DR. RUDICH: Rudich, second.

13 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: That being the case,
14 is there any discussion on approving non-service-
15 connected disability on Fred Stephenson? That being
16 the case, we will vote. Those in favor of approving
17 non-service-connected disability on Fred Stephenson,
18 please say aye.

19 DR. RUDICH: Rudich, aye.

20 DR. GERSTENFELD: Gerstenfeld, aye.

21 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye. The
22 motion passes.

23 I make a motion to change, I believe,
24 service-connected disability to non-service-connected
25 disability on Sandra Lucier. Is there a second?

1 DR. RUDICH: Rudich, second.

2 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Any discussion?

3 MS. KALLOR: Oh, I think the motion is to
4 accept - because the agenda has been modified. So I
5 think the motion then would be to approve his
6 application for non-service.

7 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Thank you. So maybe
8 - hers. Let me restate that then, if I may, please.
9 This is Dr. Ralph Rosenberg and I make a motion to
10 approve non-service-connected disability for Sandra
11 Lucier. Is there a second?

12 DR. RUDICH: Rudich seconds.

13 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Is there a
14 discussion? Those in favor, say aye, of approving-

15 DR. RUDICH: Rudich, aye.

16 DR. GERSTENFELD: Gerstenfeld, aye.

17 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: And Rosenberg, aye.
18 So we approve - non-service-connected disability has
19 been approved for Sandra Lucier.

20 MS. KALLOR: So next would be a motion to
21 adjourn.

22 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Thank you. So this
23 is Dr. Ralph Rosenberg and I make a motion to adjourn
24 today's March 4th meeting of the medical executive
25 board. Is there a second?

1 DR. GERSTENFELD: Gerstenfeld, second.

2 DR. RUDICH: Rudich seconds.

3 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: That being the case,
4 we adjourn the—

5 MS. KALLOR: You have to vote. Just vote.

6 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Oh, I'm sorry.

7 MS. KALLOR: Just vote.

8 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Sorry.

9 MS. KALLOR: It's okay.

10 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: So this is Rosenberg
11 and I make a motion to vote to adjourn the March 4th,
12 2022 medical executive board meeting. Is there a
13 second?

14 DR. RUDICH: Rudich seconds.

15 DR. GERSTENFELD: Gerstenfeld, second.

16 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: All in favor, say
17 aye. Rosenberg, aye.

18 DR. GERSTENFELD: Gerstenfeld, aye.

19 DR. RUDICH: Rudich, aye.

20 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: That being the case,
21 we adjourn the March 4th, 2022 meeting of the medical
22 executive board. Thank you.

23 (Adjourned at 12:02 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 9:14 a.m. on
March 4, 2022.

Karin A. Empson

Karin A. Empson

03/27/2022

Date