

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT COMMISSION
MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD MEETING

MARCH 18, 2022 MEETING
HELD VIA ZOOM
CONVENED AT 9:02 a.m.

Present (via Zoom):

Dr. Sachin Parekh (Chairperson)
Dr. Peter Blum
Dr. Manny Katsetos
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 9:02 a.m.)

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5 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: The March 18th, 2022 of
6 the Medical Exam Board is now in session. I, Dr.
7 Sachin Parekh, will serve as Chairperson. Present also
8 is Dr. Richard (sic) Blum, Dr. Manny Katsetos, and
9 present from the Office of the State Comptroller
10 Retirement Services Division are Colin Newman, Annette
11 Sadlowski, Robert Helfand and William Cassada, along
12 with General Counsel for the Retirement Commission
13 Cindy Cieslak.

14 I now make a motion to go into executive
15 session.

16 DR. BLUM: Second the motion, Blum.

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

19 DR. KATSETOS: Aye.

20 DR. BLUM: Aye.

21 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: Aye.

22 MS. CIESLAK: Any opposed, say nay.

23 All right, Dr. Parekh, does your motion
24 include the invitation to Mr. Helfand, Mr. Cassada, Mr.
25 Newman, Ms. Sadlowski, and myself to be invited into

1 executive session?

2 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: Yes, that's correct. I
3 apologize; I forgot that. I also request that the
4 members of the Retirement Services Division and counsel
5 be allowed to remain in executive session.

6 MS. CIESLAK: Thank you.

7 Ms. Dantro Petro (phonetic), what this means
8 is the doctors are going into executive session to
9 discuss the matters on the agenda. Because it involves
10 medical records, they discuss it in private, and when
11 they enter into public session, you'll be invited back
12 into the meeting.

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. If they have
14 any questions on here for that-

15 MS. CIESLAK: Certainly. We'll let them
16 know. Thank you.

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay, thank you.

18 (The Board was in executive session from 9:03
19 a.m. until 11:47 a.m.)

20 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: The Board will now be
21 making determinations and voting on those
22 determinations, but would like to remind members that
23 only the final vote will be given today and not the
24 reasons for the vote. In some instances, there may not
25 have been enough medical information to make a

1 determination, or a perhaps a non-service-connected
2 disability is more likely a service-connected
3 disability. You make seek reconsideration of an
4 initial denial. You will receive the Board's written
5 determination within two to four weeks, which will
6 provide you that information.

7 So beginning the determinations, the Board
8 motions to approve non-service-connected disability for
9 Joy Babcock.

10 DR. BLUM: Second.

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Approved.

12 MS. CIESLAK: The motion was seconded by Dr.
13 Blum. Any further discussion? There being none, all
14 in favor, say aye.

15 DR. BLUM: Aye.

16 DR. KATSETOS: Aye.

17 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: Aye.

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

20 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: The Board motions to
21 approve non-service-connected disability for Eugene
22 Brown.

23 DR. BLUM: Second, Blum.

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 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: The Board motions to
5 approve service-connected disability for Joseph
6 Cefaratti.

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 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: The Board motions to
14 approve service-connected disability for Adam Corcoran.

15 DR. BLUM: Second, Blum.

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

18 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: Aye.

19 DR. BLUM: Aye.

20 DR. KATSETOS: Aye.

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

23 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: The Board motions to
24 table the decision for service-connected disability for
25 Kelly Coviello.

1 DR. BLUM: Second, Blum.

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

4 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: Aye.

5 DR. BLUM: Aye.

6 DR. KATSETOS: Aye.

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

9 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: The Board motions to
10 table the decision for non-service-connected disability
11 for Nancy Foley.

12 DR. BLUM: Second, Blum.

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

15 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: Aye.

16 DR. BLUM: Aye, Blum.

17 DR. KATSETOS: Aye.

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

20 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: The Board motions to
21 approve service-connected disability for Brenda Houde.

22 DR. BLUM: Second, Blum.

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 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: The Board motions to
4 table the decision for non-service-connected disability
5 for Suzanne Laprise.

6 MS. CIESLAK: 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 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: Aye.

11 DR. BLUM: Aye.

12 DR. KATSETOS: Aye.

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

15 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: The Board motions to
16 table the decision for non-service-connected disability
17 for Tracy Lovell.

18 DR. BLUM: Second, Blum.

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

21 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: Aye.

22 DR. BLUM: Aye.

23 DR. KATSETOS: Aye.

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

1 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: The Board motions to
2 approve non-service-connected disability for Jackie
3 Mahoney.

4 DR. BLUM: Second, Blum.

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 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: The Board motions to
11 table the decision for non-service-connected disability
12 for Jason Massai.

13 DR. BLUM: Second, Blum.

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 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: The Board motions to
20 table the decision for non-service-connected disability
21 for Christopher Robert.

22 DR. BLUM: Second, Blum.

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 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: The Board motions to
4 table the decision for service-connected disability for
5 Danette Rodriguez.

6 DR. BLUM: Second, Blum.

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

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

11 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: The Board motions to
12 approve service-connected disability retirement for
13 Crystal Santopietro.

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 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: The Board motions to
21 table service-connected disability retirement for
22 Marcus Thomas.

23 DR. BLUM: Second, Blum.

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

1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: Aye.

2 MS. CIESLAK: All opposed, say nay. Any
3 abstentions?

4 DR. KATSETOS: Katsetos, abstain.

5 MS. CIESLAK: All right. The motion passes
6 two-to-zero with Dr. Katsetos abstaining.

7 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: The Board motions to
8 continue entitlement pursuant to the Memorandum of
9 Understanding of August 6th, 2015 for the following
10 applicants: Dru Coleman, Jodi Erdos, Peter Marchese,
11 and Richard Sartini.

12 DR. BLUM: Second, Blum.

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

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: Aye.

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

18 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: I make a motion to
19 adjourn the meeting of the Medical Exam Board today.

20 DR. BLUM: Second, Blum.

21 MS. CIESLAK: All opposed, say aye. Or no,
22 that made no sense at all. All in favor, say aye.

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Aye.

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah, aye.

25 MS. CIESLAK: Thank you. Okay, we are

1 adjourned.

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Nice meeting.

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Take care.

4 (Adjourned at 11:55 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 9:02 a.m. on
March 18, 2022.

Karin A. Empson

Karin A. Empson

04/19/2022

Date