

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT COMMISSION
MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD MEETING

APRIL 22, 2022 MEETING
HELD VIA ZOOM
CONVENED AT 9:16 a.m.

Present (via Zoom):

Chairman, Dr. Nikolai Lieders
Dr. Richard Blum
Dr. Poleak So
Colin Newman, Retirement Services Division
Annette Sadlowski, Retirement Services Division
Robert Helfand, Retirement Services Division
William Cassada, Retirement Services Division
Helena Bartolomeo, Retirement Services Division
Cindy Cieslak, Rose Kallor LLP

TRANSCRIPTIONIST: Karin A. Empson

1 (Proceedings commenced at 9:16 a.m.)

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5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah, Nick, if you
6 could be Chairman, I'd-

7 CHAIRMAN LIEDERS: So you guys want me to be
8 Chairman?

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah.

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah, thank you.

11 CHAIRMAN LIEDERS: All right. So good
12 morning, everybody. So meeting called to order.

13 MS. CIESLAK: Dr. Lieders, hold on one
14 second.

15 CHAIRMAN LIEDERS: I'm sorry?

16 MS. CIESLAK: We have guests in the waiting
17 room that need to be here during the public session.
18 I'm letting them in.

19 You can proceed whenever you'd like, Dr.
20 Lieders.

21 CHAIRMAN LIEDERS: Okay. So the April 22,
22 2022 meeting of the Medical Examining Board is now in
23 session. My name is Lieders, Dr. Lieders. Present
24 also are Dr. Richard Blum, and I hope I am pronouncing
25 it correctly, Dr. Poleak So.

1 DR. SO: Correct.

2 CHAIRMAN LIEDERS: Present from the Office of
3 the State Comptroller Retirement Services Division are
4 Mr. Colin Newman, Ms. Annette Sadlowski, Mr. Robert
5 Helfand, and I believe that's it. In addition to that,
6 we have General Counsel for the Retirement Commission,
7 Cindy Cieslak, Attorney Cindy Cieslak.

8 MS. CIESLAK: Good morning, Dr. Lieders.
9 This is Attorney Cindy Cieslak. I just wanted to note
10 for the record - and Helena, I'm probably going to
11 mispronounce your name. I wanted to meet you
12 beforehand to find out if it's Helena or Helena. But
13 Helena Bartolomeo.

14 MS. SADLOWSKI: And also - this is Annette
15 Sadlowski. Also William Cassada is here as well. He's
16 just - we're sharing a computer today.

17 MS. CIESLAK: Thank you.

18 CHAIRMAN LIEDERS: Okay.

19 MR. CASSADA: And just for the record, his
20 name is pronounced Cassada.

21 MS. SADLOWSKI: Cassada.

22 CHAIRMAN LIEDERS: So how do we pronounce his
23 name, Cassada or Cassada?

24 MR. CASSADA: Cassada.

25 CHAIRMAN LIEDERS: Cassada, okay. Okay, so

1 there's no amendments to the agenda. So we're going to
2 go into executive session. So I make a motion for us
3 to go into executive session.

4 DR. BLUM: So moved, Blum.

5 CHAIRMAN LIEDERS: Is there any discussion?
6 All in favor, say aye. Aye.

7 DR. SO: Aye.

8 DR. BLUM: Aye.

9 CHAIRMAN LIEDERS: Dr. Blum?

10 DR. BLUM: Aye, yeah, Blum.

11 CHAIRMAN LIEDERS: All opposed, say nay.
12 Motion passes. So I will ask the members, staff
13 members from the Retirement Services Division, to
14 remain with us for the meeting as well as Attorney
15 Cindy Cieslak.

16 So we now are in executive session.

17 MS. CIESLAK: All right. What that means for
18 our guests is you're going to be placed back into the
19 waiting room. This is Cindy Cieslak, for the record.
20 And as the doctors work through the matters on the
21 agenda, if you are there when they are ready for
22 statements, you will be invited back in to make your
23 statement.

24 (The Board was in executive session from 9:17
25 a.m. until 11:03 a.m.)

1 MS. CIESLAK: Dr. Lieders, are you fine
2 calling the motions, or would you like assistance with
3 that?

4 CHAIRMAN LIEDERS: I'm sorry. I didn't hear
5 anything. I didn't pay attention. I'm sorry.

6 MS. CIESLAK: No problem. I was just asking
7 if you would like assistance with the motions-

8 CHAIRMAN LIEDERS: Oh, yes, please. Yes.

9 MS. CIESLAK: --or if you are comfortable
10 calling them. You want me to assist?

11 CHAIRMAN LIEDERS: Yeah, that's fine. You
12 can do it.

13 MS. CIESLAK: Okay.

14 CHAIRMAN LIEDERS: So everybody is in? We
15 are back in. Just I'm going to mention that the Board
16 will be making determinations and voting on those
17 determinations. But I would like to remind members
18 that only the final vote will be given today and not
19 the reasons for the vote. In some instances, there may
20 not have been enough medical information to make a
21 determination, or perhaps a non-service-connected
22 disability is more likely than a service-connected
23 disability, although that's not applicable to this
24 case. You may seek reconsideration of an initial
25 denial and you will receive the Board's written

1 determination within two to four weeks, which will
2 provide you with the additional information.

3 So moving right along, I make a motion to
4 approve Sandra Boyle's application for reconsideration
5 of her disability and benefits.

6 DR. BLUM: Second, Blum.

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

9 CHAIRMAN LIEDERS: Aye.

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Aye.

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

13 CHAIRMAN LIEDERS: I'll make a motion to
14 approve Brenda Carneiro-White's application for
15 reconsideration for disability retirement (inaudible)
16 for her disability retirement benefits.

17 DR. BLUM: Second, Blum.

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

20 CHAIRMAN LIEDERS: Aye.

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible)

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

24 CHAIRMAN LIEDERS: I'll make a motion to
25 approve Paul Cicarella's application for continued

1 entitlement of disability retirement benefits.

2 DR. SO: Second, so.

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

5 CHAIRMAN LIEDERS: Aye.

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Aye.

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

9 CHAIRMAN LIEDERS: I'll make a motion to
10 approve Greg Murdy's application for continuation of
11 entitlement to disability retirement benefits.

12 DR. SO: Second, so.

13 DR. BLUM: Second, Blum.

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

16 CHAIRMAN LIEDERS: Aye.

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Aye.

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

20 CHAIRMAN LIEDERS: I'll make a motion to
21 table Ismael Toledo's application for reconsideration
22 of entitlement to disability retirement benefits.

23 DR. SO: Second, so.

24 DR. BLUM: Second, Blum.

25 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? There

1 being none, all in favor, say aye.

2 CHAIRMAN LIEDERS: Aye.

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Aye.

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

6 CHAIRMAN LIEDERS: I'll make a motion to
7 approve continued entitlement pursuant to the
8 Memorandum of Understanding of August 6, 2015 of the
9 following individuals: Nicholay Carvalho, Diane
10 Krzykowski, Michael Lane, Stacey McLaughlin, Julie
11 Randino, and Michael Richardson. Is there a second?

12 DR. BLUM: Second.

13 DR. SO: Second.

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

16 CHAIRMAN LIEDERS: Aye.

17 DR. BLUM: Aye.

18 DR. SO: Aye.

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

21 CHAIRMAN LIEDERS: Is there any additional
22 business? So I make a motion to adjourn today's
23 meeting.

24 DR. BLUM: Second, Blum.

25 DR. SO: Second.

1 MS. CIESLAK: All in favor, say aye.

2 CHAIRMAN LIEDERS: Aye.

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Aye.

4 MS. CIESLAK: Any opposed? We are adjourned.

5 Thank you.

6 CHAIRMAN LIEDERS: Thank you very much.

7 MS. CIESLAK: Have a good weekend.

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you.

9 CHAIRMAN LIEDERS: Yeah, nice weekend,
10 everybody. Bye-bye.

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Bye-bye.

12 (Adjourned at 11:07 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 9:16 a.m. on
April 22, 2022.

Karin A. Empson

Karin A. Empson

05/23/2022

Date