

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT COMMISSION
MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD MEETING

AUGUST 5, 2022 MEETING
HELD VIA ZOOM
CONVENED AT 9:05 a.m.

Present (via Zoom):

Dr. Ralph Rosenberg
Dr. J. Robert Galvin
Dr. Frank Gerratana
Robert Helfand, Retirement Services Division
William Cassada, Retirement Services Division
Helena Bartolomeo, Retirement Services Division
Colin Newman, Retirement Services Division
Cindy M. Cieslak, Rose Kallor LLP

TRANSCRIPTIONIST: Karin A. Empson

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

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5 ELECTRONIC VOICE: This meeting is being
6 recorded.

7 MS. CIESLAK: This is Cindy Cieslak, and
8 whoever is going to chair the meeting may begin.

9 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: This is Rosenberg.
10 I'll be happy to do it.

11 DR. GALVIN: Good.

12 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Help me out if I'm
13 going wrong.

14 So this is Dr. Ralph Rosenberg, and I am
15 chairing today's meeting of the Medical Examination
16 Board on July 29th, 2022 (sic). I make a motion that we
17 go into executive session. Is that seconded?

18 DR. GALVIN: Galvin seconds.

19 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Thank you.

20 DR. GERRATANA: Although the date of the
21 meeting is August 5th.

22 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Ah, thank you. Okay.
23 Sorry. Correct that to August 5th. Thank you.

24 DR. GERRATANA: I second.

25 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Thank you. And for

1 the purposes of discussing individual members'
2 disability health issues. And so do we vote on going
3 into executive session?

4 MS. CIESLAK: Yes. This is-

5 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: This is Dr. Ralph
6 Rosenberg. All in favor, say aye. Thank you.

7 DR. GALVIN: Aye.

8 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Okay.

9 MS. CIESLAK: Are there any opposed in going
10 - this is Cindy Cieslak. Anyone opposed in going into
11 executive session, say nay.

12 All right. The motion passes. Before we go
13 into executive session, Dr. Rosenberg, does your motion
14 include an invitation to the following individuals to
15 remain in executive session? Actually, before we do
16 that, I also need to announce who is present.

17 So present today, we have Dr. Ralph
18 Rosenberg, Dr. Robert Galvin, and Dr. Frank Gerratana.
19 From the Retirement Services Division, we have William
20 Cassada, Robert Helfand, Helena Bartolomeo, and Colin
21 Newman. And I'm Cindy Cieslak, General Counsel to the
22 Retirement Commission and Medical Examining Board.

23 There is a motion pending that has been
24 passed to go into executive session. So we are about
25 to go into executive session, but Dr. Rosenberg, I

1 wanted to confirm that your motion included an
2 invitation to William Cassada, Robert Helfand, Helena
3 Bartolomeo, Colin Newman, and myself, Cindy Cieslak, to
4 join you in executive session.

5 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: It does and thank
6 you.

7 MS. CIESLAK: Wonderful. All right, so the
8 individuals who are here from the public or who are on
9 the agenda, you will be placed in the waiting room, and
10 when we reenter public session, you'll be invited back
11 in. Thank you.

12 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Okay.

13 (The Board was in executive session from 9:05
14 a.m. until 10:16 a.m.)

15 ELECTRONIC VOICE: This meeting is being
16 recorded.

17 MS. CIESLAK: This is Cindy Cieslak. Dr.
18 Rosenberg, you may proceed when you're ready.

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Good morning. How are
20 you?

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Good. How are you?

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I was going crazy.

23 MS. CIESLAK: Good morning, everyone. The
24 doctors just - this is Cindy Cieslak, General Counsel
25 for the Retirement Commission and the Medical Examining

1 Board. The doctors are about to vote on the matters on
2 the agenda. And I'm going to mute everyone so that we
3 can hear everyone.

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you.

5 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: So this is Dr. Ralph
6 Rosenberg. I am Chairman of today's Medical Exam Board
7 meeting. And I make a motion that we go out of
8 executive session.

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah. It'll be
10 finished in about 15 minutes.

11 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: And all in favor, say
12 aye. This is Rosenberg. Aye.

13 DR. GALVIN: Aye.

14 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

15 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Okay, so unanimous we
16 will go out of executive session. The Board has made
17 its determinations, but 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 favorable determination. You may seek reconsideration
22 of a denial. You will receive the Board's
23 determination within two to four weeks, which will
24 provide you with that additional information.

25 So we are now going to vote on individual

1 members' entitlement to disability. So the first
2 individual who applied is Stephen Brown. And all those
3 in favor of approval of non-service-connected
4 disability, say aye.

5 DR. GERRATANA: Aye.

6 MS. CIESLAK: Dr. Rosenberg, this is Cindy
7 Cieslak. If I may, I just want to give some assistance
8 here. You or any of the doctors can make a motion to
9 approve, table, deny the individuals, and then there
10 will need to be a second. And then we'll call the vote
11 for everyone to say aye or nay.

12 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Thank you very much.
13 So for Stephen Brown, who is applying - and please
14 clarify if I'm - continue to clarify if I'm doing it
15 wrong - for Stephen Brown applying for approval for
16 non-service-connected disability, is there a second?
17 Is that right?

18 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

19 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Okay. All those in
20 favor of approval, say aye.

21 DR. GERRATANA: Aye.

22 DR. GALVIN: Aye, Galvin.

23 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: And Dr. Gerratana?

24 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

25 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Thank you. And this

1 is Rosenberg and I say aye. So that is unanimously
2 approved.

3 Next is Jessica Chadbourne, who's applying
4 for approval for her service-connected disability. Is
5 there a second?

6 DR. GALVIN: Galvin, second.

7 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: All in favor, say
8 aye.

9 DR. GALVIN: Aye, Galvin.

10 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

11 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: And Rosenberg, aye.
12 It's unanimously approved.

13 Next is Patricia Creel. All those - applying
14 for service-connected disability. Is there a second?

15 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

16 MS. CIESLAK: Dr. Rosenberg? Dr. Rosenberg?
17 On the first two, I heard you say approval of Stephen
18 Brown and approval of Jessica Chadbourne. For this
19 one, you had indicated that Ms. Creel is applying for
20 service-connected disability, but I did not hear in
21 your - what I'm understanding to be a motion to be
22 approval, table, or deny.

23 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Table. So for
24 Patricia Creel, she's applying for service-connected
25 disability and the consensus is to table. Is there a

1 second?

2 DR. GALVIN: Galvin, second.

3 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

4 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Okay. So all in
5 favor of tabling Patricia Creel's service-connected
6 disability application, say aye.

7 DR. GALVIN: Aye, Galvin.

8 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

9 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: And Rosenberg, aye.
10 So that's unanimously approved to table for Patricia
11 Creel.

12 Next is Joy Flynn applying for service-
13 connected disability. Members had voted to table. Is
14 there a second?

15 DR. GALVIN: Galvin, second.

16 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

17 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: And then we will vote
18 for Joy Flynn for a table. All in favor of tabling,
19 say aye.

20 DR. GALVIN: Aye, Galvin.

21 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

22 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: And Rosenberg, aye.
23 So unanimously approved for tabling Joy Flynn for
24 service-connected disability.

25 Next is Rosemarie Hennessey. She's applying

1 for non-service-connected disability. The Board is in
2 favor of approval. Is there a second?

3 DR. GALVIN: Galvin, second.

4 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: And so this is
5 Rosenberg. For Rosemarie Hennessey, all in favor of
6 approval for non-service-connected disability, say aye.

7 DR. GALVIN: Aye.

8 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

9 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: And Rosenberg, aye.
10 So that's unanimous; Rosemarie Hennessey is approved
11 for non-service-connected disability.

12 The next applicant is Linda Lukin for non-
13 service-connected disability. Those - is there a
14 second?

15 DR. GERRATANA: A point of information, she's
16 one of the continued entitlement individuals.

17 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: That's correct. She
18 was not presented, but we are voting whether or not to
19 continue. Is that correct, Cindy?

20 MS. CIESLAK: Yes.

21 DR. GALVIN: But she's one of the ones in
22 memorandum of understanding that we vote for at the end
23 of these.

24 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: So this should be at
25 the end?

1 MS. CIESLAK: This is Cindy Cieslak. It can
2 be in any order that the doctors prefer. There is a
3 motion on the table to approve her for continued
4 entitlement. We are waiting on a second for that
5 motion. (Inaudible)

6 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

7 MS. CIESLAK: Okay.

8 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: This is Rosenberg.
9 All in favor of approval for Linda Lukin, say aye.

10 DR. GALVIN: Aye, Galvin.

11 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

12 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: And Rosenberg, aye.

13 MS. CIESLAK: This is Cindy Cieslak. I'll
14 just clarify for the record that Ms. Lukin's approval
15 is continued entitlement pursuant to the Memorandum of
16 Understanding of August 6th, 2015.

17 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Thank you. Next is
18 Joseph Moore. Again, per Understanding Memorandum,
19 looking for approval of service-connected disability.
20 Is there a second?

21 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

22 DR. GALVIN: Galvin, second.

23 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Okay. This is
24 Rosenberg. All in favor of approval of Joseph Moore
25 per Memorandum of Understanding, say aye.

1 DR. GALVIN: Aye, Galvin.

2 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

3 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: And Rosenberg, aye.

4 Next is Anibal Quinones applying for service-
5 connected disability. The members have expressed to be
6 in favor of tabling. Is there a second?

7 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

8 DR. GALVIN: Galvin, second.

9 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Okay. So this is
10 Rosenberg. For Anibal Quinones, all in favor - we will
11 take a vote. Those in favor of tabling, say aye.

12 DR. GALVIN: Aye, Galvin.

13 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

14 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: And Rosenberg, aye.

15 And lastly, Regina Robak is applying for
16 continuation of service-connected disability. The
17 Board has voted in favor of approval of continuing
18 service-connected disability. Is there a second?

19 DR. GALVIN: Galvin, second.

20 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Okay. So this is
21 Rosenberg. For Gina Robak, we will vote on approval
22 for service-connected disability for Regina Robak. All
23 in favor, say aye.

24 DR. GALVIN: Aye, Galvin.

25 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

1 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: And Rosenberg, aye.
2 So unanimously approved.

3 MS. CIESLAK: This is Cindy Cieslak. If
4 there's no further business for the doctors, doctors,
5 you may move to adjourn.

6 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: So this is Dr. Ralph
7 Rosenberg and I make a motion to adjourn the meeting.
8 Is that second?

9 DR. GALVIN: Galvin seconds.

10 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: All those in favor of
11 adjourning the meeting, say aye.

12 DR. GALVIN: Aye, Galvin.

13 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

14 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: And Rosenberg, aye.
15 Motion is approved.

16 MS. CIESLAK: Thank you, everyone.

17 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Thank you.

18 MS. CIESLAK: Have a wonderful weekend.

19 DR. GERRATANA: Thank you. You, too.

20 (Adjourned at 10:26 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 5, 2022.

Karin A. Empson

Karin A. Empson

08/25/2022

Date