

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT COMMISSION
MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD MEETING

APRIL 28, 2023 MEETING
HELD VIA ZOOM
CONVENED AT 9:07 a.m.

Present (via Zoom):

Dr. Nicolai Lieders, Chairperson
Dr. Frank Gerratana
Dr. J. Robert Galvin
Robert Helfand, Retirement Services Division
William Cassada, Retirement Services Division
Helena Bartolomeo, Retirement Services Division
Melinda Powell, Rose Kallor, LLP

TRANSCRIPTIONIST: Karin A. Empson

1 (Proceedings commenced at 9:07 a.m.)

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5 MS. POWELL: --recording. There we go.

6 Thank you, Dr. Lieders.

7 CHAIRPERSON LIEDERS: Okay. So the meeting

8 come to order. The April 28th, 2023 meeting of the

9 Medical Examining Board is now in session. My name is

10 Nicolai Lieders. We have also Dr. John Galvin and Dr.

11 Frank Gerretana. We are the members who make up the

12 Medical Examining Board for today's meeting.

13 Present from the Office of the State

14 Comptroller, Retirement Services Division, are staff

15 members from the Retirement Services Division, Mr.

16 Robert Helfand, Mr. William Cassada, Ms. Helena

17 Bartolomeo, and General Counsel to the Retirement

18 Commission, Attorney Melinda Powell.

19 So I will make a motion to amend the agenda

20 to include - to remove - to include actually two names,

21 Chantel Poulin and Juan Sanchez, to that list of

22 continued entitlement pursuant to Memorandum of

23 Understanding of August 6th, 2015.

24 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

25 MS. POWELL: Thank you.

1 CHAIRPERSON LIEDERS: Okay. Is there any
2 discussion? All in favor, say aye.

3 DR. GERRATANA: Aye.

4 DR. GALVIN: Aye, Galvin.

5 CHAIRPERSON LIEDERS: All opposed, say nay.
6 Motion passes. So those two are going to be added to
7 that list.

8 I just want to explain in public session that
9 we are going to go into executive session. During
10 executive session, as the discussions are confidential,
11 we exclude the public. So I'll make a motion for us to
12 go into executive session.

13 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

14 CHAIRPERSON LIEDERS: Is there any
15 discussion? All in favor, say aye.

16 DR. GALVIN: Aye, Galvin.

17 CHAIRPERSON LIEDERS: All opposed, say nay.
18 Motion passes. So now we are going into executive
19 session.

20 (The Board was in executive session from 9:09
21 a.m. until 10:15 a.m.)

22 CHAIRPERSON LIEDERS: So we are out of
23 executive session. So I would like people present at
24 the meeting to know that the Board has made these
25 determinations, but would like to remind members that

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

8 I will then proceed with the voting. So I
9 will make a motion to approve Rosemary Andrade's
10 application for continuation of entitlements.

11 MS. POWELL: Any second?

12 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

13 DR. GALVIN: Galvin.

14 MS. POWELL: Okay. Any discussion? Hearing
15 none--

16 DR. GALVIN: Galvin seconds.

17 MS. POWELL: Okay. Any discussion? No?

18 CHAIRPERSON LIEDERS: All in favor, say aye.

19 MS. POWELL: Yeah.

20 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

21 DR. GALVIN: Galvin, aye.

22 CHAIRPERSON LIEDERS: Lieders, aye. Motion
23 approved.

24 I'll make a motion to approve Gwyneth
25 Topolski's application for continuation of entitlement

1 for service-connected disability retirement.

2 MS. POWELL: Any seconds?

3 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

4 MS. POWELL: Any discussion? Hearing no
5 discussion, everybody in favor?

6 CHAIRPERSON LIEDERS: Aye.

7 DR. GERRATANA: Aye.

8 DR. GALVIN: Aye, Galvin.

9 MS. POWELL: Motion passes.

10 CHAIRPERSON LIEDERS: The motion passes.

11 I'll make a motion to approve Sonnie Council's
12 application for continued entitlement to service-
13 connected disability retirement.

14 MS. POWELL: Any second?

15 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

16 MS. POWELL: Any discussion? Hearing none,
17 all in favor?

18 DR. GERRATANA: Aye.

19 CHAIRPERSON LIEDERS: Aye.

20 DR. GALVIN: Aye.

21 MS. POWELL: Motion passes.

22 CHAIRPERSON LIEDERS: I'll make a motion to
23 approve Stephanie Edwards' application for continued
24 entitlement for non-service-connected disability
25 retirement.

1 MS. POWELL: Any second?

2 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

3 MS. POWELL: Any discussion? Hearing none,
4 all in favor, say aye.

5 DR. GERRATANA: Aye.

6 CHAIRPERSON LIEDERS: Aye.

7 DR. GALVIN: Aye.

8 MS. POWELL: Thank you. Motion passes.

9 CHAIRPERSON LIEDERS: I'll make a motion to
10 approve Eduardo Florez's application for continued
11 entitlement for service-connected disability
12 retirement.

13 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

14 MS. POWELL: Okay. Any discussion? Hearing
15 none, all in favor, say aye.

16 DR. GERRATANA: Aye.

17 CHAIRPERSON LIEDERS: Aye.

18 DR. GALVIN: Aye, Galvin.

19 MS. POWELL: Motion passes.

20 CHAIRPERSON LIEDERS: I'll make a motion to
21 deny Manuel Gomes' application for continued
22 entitlement for non-service-connected disability
23 retirement.

24 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

25 MS. POWELL: Any discussion? Hearing none,

1 all in favor, say aye.

2 DR. GERRATANA: Aye.

3 CHAIRPERSON LIEDERS: Aye.

4 DR. GALVIN: Aye.

5 MS. POWELL: Motion passes.

6 CHAIRPERSON LIEDERS: I'll make a motion to
7 approve Jennifer Hunter's application for continued
8 entitlement to non-service-connected disability
9 retirement.

10 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

11 MS. POWELL: Any discussion? Hearing none,
12 all in favor, say aye.

13 DR. GERRATANA: Aye.

14 CHAIRPERSON LIEDERS: Aye.

15 DR. GALVIN: Aye.

16 MS. POWELL: Motion passes.

17 CHAIRPERSON LIEDERS: I'll make a motion to
18 approve Natalie Johnson's application for continued
19 entitlement to service-connected disability retirement.

20 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

21 MS. POWELL: Any discussion? Hearing none,
22 all in favor, say aye.

23 DR. GERRATANA: Aye.

24 CHAIRPERSON LIEDERS: Aye.

25 DR. GALVIN: Aye.

1 MS. POWELL: Motion passes. The motion
2 passes. Thank you.

3 CHAIRPERSON LIEDERS: I'll make a motion to
4 approve Kimberly Klinefelter's application for
5 entitlement - continued entitlement to service-
6 connected disability retirement.

7 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

8 MS. POWELL: Any discussion? Hearing none,
9 all in favor, say aye.

10 DR. GERRATANA: Aye.

11 CHAIRPERSON LIEDERS: Aye.

12 DR. GALVIN: Aye.

13 MS. POWELL: Motion passes.

14 CHAIRPERSON LIEDERS: I'll make a motion to
15 approve Robert Lawson's application for continued
16 entitlement to service-connected disability retirement.

17 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

18 MS. POWELL: Any discussion? Hearing none,
19 all in favor, say aye.

20 DR. GERRATANA: Aye.

21 CHAIRPERSON LIEDERS: Aye.

22 DR. GALVIN: Aye.

23 MS. POWELL: Motion passes.

24 CHAIRPERSON LIEDERS: I'll make a motion to
25 table Ana Mena (phonetic) or Mina's application to

1 continued entitlement for non-service-connected
2 disability retirement.

3 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

4 MS. POWELL: Any discussion? All in favor,
5 say aye.

6 DR. GERRATANA: Aye.

7 CHAIRPERSON LIEDERS: Aye.

8 DR. GALVIN: Aye.

9 MS. POWELL: Motion passes.

10 CHAIRPERSON LIEDERS: I'll make a motion to
11 approve Jessica Olson's application for continued
12 entitlement to non-service-connected disability
13 retirement.

14 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

15 MS. POWELL: Any discussion? Hearing none,
16 all in favor, say aye.

17 DR. GERRATANA: Aye.

18 CHAIRPERSON LIEDERS: Aye.

19 DR. GALVIN: Aye.

20 MS. POWELL: Motion passes.

21 CHAIRPERSON LIEDERS: I'll make a motion to
22 approve Tanya Parker's application for continued
23 entitlement to service-connected disability retirement.

24 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

25 MS. POWELL: Any discussion? Hearing none,

1 all in favor, say aye.

2 DR. GERRATANA: Aye.

3 CHAIRPERSON LIEDERS: Aye.

4 DR. GALVIN: Aye.

5 MS. POWELL: Motion passes.

6 CHAIRPERSON LIEDERS: I'll make a motion to
7 approve Levonne Perez-Sutton's application for
8 continued entitlement to service-connected disability
9 retirement.

10 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

11 MS. POWELL: Any discussion? All in favor,
12 say aye.

13 DR. GERRATANA: Aye.

14 CHAIRPERSON LIEDERS: Aye.

15 DR. GALVIN: Aye.

16 MS. POWELL: Okay. That's everybody. Motion
17 passes.

18 CHAIRPERSON LIEDERS: I'll make a motion to
19 approve John Reynold's application for continued
20 entitlement to non-service-connected disability
21 retirement.

22 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

23 MS. POWELL: Any discussion? Hearing none,
24 all in favor, say aye.

25 CHAIRPERSON LIEDERS: Aye.

1 DR. GALVIN: Aye.

2 DR. GERRATANA: Aye.

3 MS. POWELL: Motion passes.

4 CHAIRPERSON LIEDERS: I'll make a motion to
5 approve Michael White's application for continued
6 entitlement to service-connected disability retirement.

7 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

8 MS. POWELL: Any discussion? All in favor,
9 say aye.

10 DR. GERRATANA: Aye.

11 CHAIRPERSON LIEDERS: Aye.

12 DR. GALVIN: Aye.

13 MS. POWELL: Motion passes.

14 CHAIRPERSON LIEDERS: I'll make a motion to
15 approve the following people for continued entitlement
16 pursuant to Memorandum of Understanding of August 6th,
17 2015; I'm going to list the names: Dexter Biggs, Jerry
18 Boulware, Melanie Emery, James Gaglione, Jose Gil,
19 Vincent Lanteri, Christine Lawrence, Joseph Marchesi,
20 Faith Marselli, Raeleen McMillan, Gary Newton, Chantel
21 Poulin, Patrick O'Brien, Juan Sanchez, Krista Schulz,
22 Edna Shlien, Deborah Silva, Carolyn Timmons, and
23 Cedrica Titus.

24 MS. POWELL: Any second?

25 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

1 MS. POWELL: Any discussion? Hearing none,
2 all in favor, say aye.

3 CHAIRPERSON LIEDERS: Aye.

4 DR. GERRATANA: Aye.

5 DR. GALVIN: Aye.

6 MS. POWELL: Motion passes.

7 CHAIRPERSON LIEDERS: Thank you. Well, if
8 there are no further issues to discuss, I'll make a
9 motion to adjourn the meeting.

10 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second, with
11 thanks to the Chairman.

12 MS. POWELL: Any discussion?

13 DR. GALVIN: Good job, Dr. Lieders. Nice
14 working with you, Dr. G.

15 CHAIRPERSON LIEDERS: Well, I couldn't do it
16 without you guys.

17 MS. POWELL: Just need you all to vote to end
18 the meeting.

19 CHAIRPERSON LIEDERS: Thank you very much,
20 everybody.

21 DR. GERRATANA: My pleasure.

22 CHAIRPERSON LIEDERS: And just to remind
23 again, Mr. Cassada, if you could send me the schedule
24 of meetings, please.

25 MR. CASSADA: You haven't yet voted to

1 adjourn.

2 MS. POWELL: Right.

3 CHAIRPERSON LIEDERS: Oh. Yes. We just
4 voted to adjourn; didn't we?

5 MS. POWELL: No, we didn't get to that. We
6 said our salutations before we voted. So let's vote
7 now.

8 MR. CASSADA: So someone should play all that
9 (inaudible).

10 DR. GERRATANA: I made the seconds.

11 MS. POWELL: Yeah. All in favor?

12 CHAIRPERSON LIEDERS: Aye.

13 DR. GERRATANA: Aye.

14 CHAIRPERSON LIEDERS: So I'm not sure what -
15 now we voted to adjourn the meeting.

16 MR. CASSADA: Right.

17 CHAIRPERSON LIEDERS: Is that right? Okay.

18 MR. CASSADA: Well done.

19 CHAIRPERSON LIEDERS: Thank you.

20 DR. GERRATANA: Thank you, everyone. Have a
21 good weekend.

22 CHAIRPERSON LIEDERS: Thank you. Yeah,
23 likewise, everybody.

24 MR. CASSADA: Thanks, Melinda.

25 MS. POWELL: You're welcome. Bye-bye.

1 CHAIRPERSON LIEDERS: Thank you. Bye-bye.
2 (Adjourned at 10:23 a.m.)
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5 I, Karin A. Empson, do hereby
6 certify that the preceding pages are an accurate
7 transcription of the Connecticut State Employees
8 Retirement Commission, Medical Examining Board meeting
9 held electronically via Zoom, conducted at 9:07 a.m. on
10 April 28, 2023.

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18 Karin A. Empson

19 Karin A. Empson

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21 03/23/2024

22 Date

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