

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT COMMISSION
MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD MEETING

JANUARY 5, 2024 MEETING
HELD VIA ZOOM
CONVENED AT 9:06 a.m.

Present (via Zoom):

Dr. Lynn Rudich
Dr. Frank Gerratana
Dr. Ralph Rosenberg
Robert Helfand, Retirement Services Division
Helena Bartolomeo, Retirement Services Division
William Cassada, Retirement Services Division
Cindy Cieslak, Rose Kallor LLP

TRANSCRIPTIONIST: Karin A. Empson

1 (Proceedings commenced at 9:06 a.m.)

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5 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Okay, the January-

6 MS. CIESLAK: Oh, hold on one second. I just
7 realized we have a bunch of people in the waiting room.
8 Hold on one second.

9 Dr. Rudich, you can proceed when you're
10 ready.

11 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Okay. The January 5th,
12 2024 meeting of the Medical Examining Board is now in
13 session. I am Dr. Lynn Rudich. We also have Dr. Ralph
14 Rosenberg and Dr. Frank Gerratana. Present from the
15 Office of the State Comptroller, Retirement Services
16 Division, are Robert Helfand, William Cassada, and
17 Helena Bartolomeo. General Counsel for the Retirement
18 Commission and Medical Examining Board is also here.
19 She is Cindy Cieslak.

20 I make a motion to go into executive session,
21 but I request that members of the Retirement Services
22 Division and counsel be allowed to remain. Is there a
23 second?

24 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

25 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Any discussion? All in

1 favor, say aye. Rudich, aye.

2 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye.

3 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

4 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Motion passes. We, as
5 the Medical Examining Board—

6 MS. CIESLAK: I made that mistake. This is
7 Cindy Cieslak. I apologize. Sometimes when I go to
8 unmute myself, I stop the recording. I apologize.

9 So we're going to go into executive session.
10 This means that the members of the public and the
11 applicants who are here, I am going to place you back
12 in the waiting room. The doctors discuss your medical
13 information in executive session, which is private so
14 that your medical information is not shared with the
15 public. Stay in the waiting room, and then those who
16 are on reconsideration will be invited in to make their
17 statement. And then after they've reviewed all of the
18 matters, we will enter public session and the doctors
19 will vote on the matters.

20 You know, sometimes this meeting can run a
21 couple of hours, so you might be in the waiting room
22 for a little bit. So I just wanted to give you the
23 heads up. So I'm going to place everyone in the
24 waiting room, and we'll be back in touch.

25 (The board was in executive session from 9:06

1 a.m. until 11:40 a.m.)

2 MS. CIESLAK: Dr. Rudich, you can proceed
3 when you're ready.

4 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: The board will be making
5 determinations and voting on the determinations, but
6 would like to remind the members that only a final vote
7 will be given today and not the reasons for the vote.
8 In some instances, there may not have been enough
9 medical information to make a determination, or perhaps
10 a non-service-connected disability is more likely a
11 service-connected disability.

12 You may seek reconsideration of an initial
13 denial. You will receive the board's written
14 determination within two to four weeks, which will
15 provide additional information.

16 I make a motion to approve the service-
17 connected disability retirement of Jennifer Busse. Is
18 there a second?

19 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

20 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Any discussion? All in
21 favor, say aye. Rudich, aye.

22 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye.

23 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

24 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: The motion passes.

25 I make a motion to deny the non-service-

1 connected disability retirement of Annette Charles-
2 Victorin.

3 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

4 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Any discussion? All in
5 favor, say aye. Rudich, aye.

6 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye.

7 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

8 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: The motion passes.

9 I make a motion to approve the non-service-
10 connected disability retirement of Laura Chomentowski.
11 Is there a second?

12 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

13 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Any discussion? All in
14 favor, say aye. Rudich, aye.

15 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

16 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye.

17 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Motion passes.

18 I make a motion to deny the non-service-
19 connected disability retirement on reconsideration of
20 Lisa Cloud.

21 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

22 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Any discussion? All in
23 favor, say aye. Rudich, aye.

24 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

25 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye.

1 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: The motion passes.

2 I make a motion to deny the service-connected
3 disability retirement of Jailyn Cunningham.

4 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

5 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Any discussion? All in
6 favor, say aye. Rudich, aye.

7 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

8 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye.

9 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Motion passes.

10 I make a motion to approve the service-
11 connected disability retirement of Jessica Fernandes.

12 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

13 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Any discussion? All in
14 favor, say aye. Rudich, aye.

15 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

16 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye.

17 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Motion passes.

18 I make a motion to deny the service-connected
19 disability retirement of Maria Garcia.

20 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

21 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Any discussion? All in
22 favor, say aye. Rudich, aye.

23 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

24 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye.

25 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Motion passes.

1 I make a motion to deny the non-service-
2 connected disability retirement of Virgil Gardner.

3 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

4 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Any discussion? All in
5 favor, say aye. Rudich, aye.

6 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

7 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye.

8 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Motion passes.

9 I make a motion to deny the service-connected
10 disability retirement of Beverly Lanoie on
11 reconsideration.

12 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

13 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Any discussion? All in
14 favor, say aye. Rudich, aye.

15 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

16 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye.

17 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Motion passes.

18 I make a motion to approve the service-
19 connected disability retirement of Jonathan Ley.

20 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

21 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Any discussion? All in
22 favor, say aye. Rudich, aye.

23 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye.

24 MS. CIESLAK: This is Cindy Cieslak. Dr.
25 Gerratana, you might have frozen, so we did not hear

1 your vote.

2 DR. GERRATANA: Can you hear me now? I hate
3 to say it that way, but I seconded the motion, and I
4 voted aye.

5 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Okay. The motion passes
6 for service-connected - approving service-connected
7 disability of Jonathan Ley.

8 I make a motion to table the non-service-
9 connected disability application of Lisa Loeser.

10 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

11 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Any discussion? All in
12 favor, say aye. Rudich, aye.

13 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

14 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye.

15 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Motion passes.

16 I make a motion to deny the service-connected
17 disability retirement of Alison Luckey-Percy after
18 continuation.

19 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

20 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Any discussion? All in
21 favor, say aye. Rudich, aye.

22 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

23 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye.

24 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Motion passes.

25 I make a motion to deny the service-connected

1 disability retirement of Deana Nott, but approve non-
2 service-connected disability retirement.

3 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

4 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Any discussion? All in
5 favor, say aye. Rudich, aye.

6 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

7 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye.

8 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Motion passes.

9 I make a motion to deny the service-connected
10 disability retirement of Rosalind Payne, but approve
11 non-service-connected disability retirement.

12 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

13 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Any discussion? All in
14 favor, say aye. Dr. Rudich, aye.

15 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

16 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye.

17 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Motion passes.

18 I make a motion to deny the service-connected
19 disability retirement of Wilfredo Rivera, but approve
20 non-service-connected disability retirement for him.

21 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

22 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Any discussion? All in
23 favor, say aye. Rudich, aye.

24 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

25 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye.

1 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Motion passes.

2 I make a motion to deny the service-connected
3 disability retirement of Marcy Tremaglio, but approve
4 non-service-connected disability retirement.

5 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

6 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Any discussion? All in
7 favor, say aye. Rudich, aye.

8 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

9 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye.

10 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: The motion passes.

11 The board session is now concluded.

12 MS. CIESLAK: This is Cindy Cieslak. There's
13 no further business, so if one of doctors wants to make
14 a motion to adjourn.

15 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: I make a motion to
16 adjourn the meeting.

17 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

18 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Any discussion? All in
19 favor, say aye. Rudich, aye.

20 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

21 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye.

22 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: The motion passes. We
23 are adjourned.

24 MS. CIESLAK: This is Cindy. Thank you all.
25 Have a good weekend.

1 DR. ROSENBERG: Thank you all. Have a good
2 new year. Have a good weekend.

3 DR. GERRATANA: Thank you. You too.

4 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Thank you.

5 (Adjourned at 11:48 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 9:06 a.m. on
January 5, 2024.

Karin A. Empson

Karin A. Empson

01/22/2024

Date