

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT COMMISSION
MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD MEETING

MARCH 15, 2024 MEETING
HELD VIA ZOOM
CONVENED AT 9:04 a.m.

Present (via Zoom):

Dr. Sachin Parekh
Dr. Poleak So
Dr. Manny Katsetos
Robert Helfand, Retirement Services Division
Helena Bartolomeo, Retirement Services Division
Morgan Hilliard, Retirement Services Division
Cindy Cieslak, Rose Kallor LLP

TRANSCRIPTIONIST: Karin A. Empson

1 (Proceedings commenced at 9:04 a.m.)

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5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Good morning.

6 MS. CIESLAK: Good morning. We are just
7 about ready to get started.

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay.

9 MS. CIESLAK: Dr. Parekh, you can proceed
10 when you're ready.

11 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: Okay. Good morning,
12 everyone. The March 15th, 2024 meeting of the Medical
13 Examining Board is now in session. Present are Dr.
14 Manny Katsetos, Dr. So - Poleak So, and myself, Dr.
15 Sachin Parekh, serving as Chairman. Present from the
16 Office of the State Comptroller, Retirement Services
17 Division, are staff members Robert Helfand, Morgan
18 Hilliard, and Helena Bartolomeo, as well as our General
19 Counsel to the Retirement Commission and Medical
20 Examining Board, Cindy Cieslak.

21 I make a motion to go into executive session
22 and request that the members of the Retirement Services
23 Division and General Counsel be allowed to remain.

24 DR. SO: Dr. So, second.

25 DR. KATSETOS: Katsetos, second the motion.

1 MS. CIESLAK: All right. I believe Dr. So
2 seconded the motion. Is there any discussion? There
3 being none, all in favor, say aye.

4 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: Aye.

5 DR. SO: Aye.

6 DR. KATSETOS: Aye.

7 MS. CIESLAK: Any opposed, say nay. The
8 motion passes unanimously. This is Cindy Cieslak.

9 What that means for the applicants who are on
10 this call, I'm going to place you back into the waiting
11 room. The doctors go into executive session, which is
12 a non-public session, so that your medical information
13 can be discussed where it's not discussed in front of
14 the entire public.

15 If you are on reconsideration, you will be
16 invited in to make a statement. And then after the
17 doctors have reviewed all of the applications for
18 continued entitlement, they will reenter public
19 session, at which time, everyone who is in the waiting
20 room will be invited back in, and you'll be able to
21 hear the vote today. If you are unable to wait, you
22 will receive a written decision in the ordinary course.

23 And so I am going to place you in the waiting
24 room. Sometimes, it can take a couple of hours for the
25 doctors to review all of the medical information for

1 all of the applicants. So please just hang tight if
2 you are waiting to hear the decision at the end of the
3 day. I promise you're not getting lost in the waiting
4 room. All right? Thank you.

5 (The Board was in executive session from 9:05
6 a.m. until 10:32 a.m.)

7 MS. CIESLAK: Dr. Parekh, please proceed when
8 you are ready.

9 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: The Board has made its
10 determinations, but would like to remind members that
11 only the final vote will be given today and not the
12 reason for the vote. In some instances, there may not
13 have been enough medical information to make a
14 favorable determination. You may seek reconsideration
15 of a denial. You will receive the Board's
16 determination within two to four weeks, which will
17 provide you with that additional information.

18 The Board votes to approve continued
19 entitlement for Joseph Bouteiller.

20 DR. SO: Dr. So, second.

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

23 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: Aye.

24 DR. SO: Aye.

25 DR. KATSETOS: Aye.

1 MS. CIESLAK: Any opposed, say nay. The
2 motion passes.

3 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: The Board votes to table
4 the application for continued entitlement for Georgia
5 Brown.

6 DR. SO: Dr. So, second.

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

9 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: Aye.

10 DR. SO: Aye.

11 DR. KATSETOS: Aye.

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

14 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: The Board votes to
15 continue entitlement for Ernest Danek.

16 DR. SO: Dr. So, second.

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

19 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: Aye.

20 DR. SO: Aye.

21 DR. KATSETOS: Aye.

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

24 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: The Board votes to
25 approve continued entitlement for Devandir deBarros.

1 DR. SO: Dr. So, second.

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

4 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: Aye.

5 DR. SO: Aye.

6 DR. KATSETOS: Aye.

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

9 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: The Board votes to
10 approve continued entitlement for Geneva Deutsche.

11 DR. SO: Dr. So, second.

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

14 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: Aye.

15 DR. SO: Aye.

16 DR. KATSETOS: Aye.

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

19 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: The Board votes to
20 approve continued entitlement for Fatima Ennis.

21 DR. SO: Dr. So, second.

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

24 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: Aye.

25 DR. SO: Aye.

1 DR. KATSETOS: Aye.

2 MS. CIESLAK: Any opposed, say nay. The
3 motion passes.

4 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: The Board votes to deny
5 continued entitlement for Samuel Gianpoalo.

6 DR. SO: Dr. So, second.

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

9 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: Aye.

10 DR. SO: Aye.

11 DR. KATSETOS: Aye.

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

14 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: The Board votes to table
15 the application for continued entitlement for Tracie
16 Hernandez.

17 DR. SO: Dr. So, second.

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

20 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: Aye.

21 DR. SO: Aye.

22 DR. KATSETOS: Aye.

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

25 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: The Board votes to deny

1 continued entitlement for Kaishawda Holley.

2 DR. SO: Dr. So, second.

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

5 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: Aye.

6 DR. SO: Aye.

7 DR. KATSETOS: Aye.

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

10 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: The Board votes to deny
11 continued entitlement to Genevieve Jeffrey.

12 DR. SO: Dr. So, second.

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

15 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: Aye.

16 DR. SO: Aye.

17 DR. KATSETOS: Aye.

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

20 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: The Board votes to table
21 the application for continued entitlement for Kristina
22 Kaczorowski.

23 DR. SO: Dr. So, second.

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

1 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: Aye.

2 DR. SO: Aye.

3 DR. KATSETOS: Aye.

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

6 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: The Board votes to table
7 the application for continued entitlement for Jack
8 Smith.

9 DR. SO: Dr. So, second.

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

12 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: Aye.

13 DR. SO: Aye.

14 DR. KATSETOS: Aye.

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

17 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: The Board votes to
18 approve continued entitlement for Michael Spencer.

19 DR. SO: Dr. So, second.

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

22 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: Aye.

23 DR. SO: Aye.

24 DR. KATSETOS: Aye.

25 MS. CIESLAK: Any opposed, say nay. The

1 motion passes.

2 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: The Board votes to
3 approve continued entitlement for Daniel Threlfall.

4 DR. SO: Dr. So, second.

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

7 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: Aye.

8 DR. SO: Aye.

9 DR. KATSETOS: Aye.

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

12 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: The Board votes to
13 approve continued entitlement for Nicole Tyson.

14 DR. SO: Dr. So, second.

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

17 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: Aye.

18 DR. SO: Aye.

19 DR. KATSETOS: Aye.

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

22 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: The Board votes to table
23 the application for continued entitlement for Lucien
24 Vaillant.

25 DR. SO: Dr. So, second.

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

3 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: Aye.

4 DR. SO: Aye.

5 DR. KATSETOS: Aye.

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

8 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: The Board votes to
9 approve continued entitlement pursuant to the
10 Memorandum of Understanding of August 6th, 2015 for the
11 following individuals: Meraris Beltran, Efrain Colon,
12 Cheryl Lewis, Richard Moore, Shelley Mosig, Michael
13 Pesce, and Helen Wilson.

14 DR. SO: Dr. So, second.

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

17 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: Aye.

18 DR. SO: Aye.

19 DR. KATSETOS: Aye.

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

22 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: I make a motion to
23 adjourn the meeting.

24 DR. SO: Dr. So, second.

25 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? There

1 being none, all in favor, say aye.

2 CHAIRPERSON PAREKH: Aye.

3 DR. SO: Aye.

4 DR. KATSETOS: Aye.

5 MS. CIESLAK: That was approved unanimously.

6 We are adjourned. Thank you.

7 (Adjourned at 10:39 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 9:04 a.m. on
March 15, 2024.

Karin A. Empson

Karin A. Empson

04/03/2024

Date