

STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
STATE EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT COMMISSION  
MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD MEETING

---

APRIL 19, 2024 MEETING  
HELD VIA ZOOM  
CONVENED AT 9:04 a.m.

---

Present (via Zoom):

Dr. Lynn Rudich  
Dr. Frank Gerratana  
Dr. Manny Katsetos  
Robert Helfand, Retirement Services Division  
Helena Bartolomeo, Retirement Services Division  
William Cassada, Retirement Services Division  
Nabil Waheed, Retirement Services Division  
Cindy Cieslak, Rose Kallor LLP

TRANSCRIPTIONIST: Karin A. Empson

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

2  
3  
4  
5 MS. CIESLAK: Dr. Rudich, you can proceed  
6 when you're ready.

7 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Okay. April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
8 meeting of the Medical Examining Board is now in  
9 session. We have Dr. Frank Gerratana, Dr. Manny  
10 Katsetos, and myself, Dr. Lynn Rudich. Present from  
11 the Office of State Comptroller, Retirement Services  
12 Division, are staff members Robert Helfand, William  
13 Cassada, Helena Bartolomeo, and Nabil Waheed. We also  
14 have the General Counsel to the Retirement Commission  
15 and Medical Examining Board, Cindy Cieslak.

16 For the purposes of discussing individual  
17 members' disability health issues, we'll go into - I  
18 make a motion to go into executive session, but I  
19 request that members of the Retirement Services  
20 Division be allowed to remain.

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. KATSETOS: Katsetos, aye.

1 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Motion passes.

2 MS. CIESLAK: All right. This is Cindy  
3 Cieslak. So everyone who is here who was not invited  
4 into executive session, I'm going to place you back in  
5 the waiting room. The individuals who are on  
6 reconsideration will be invited in to make their  
7 statement. Once we have reviewed all of the  
8 applications for continued entitlement, we will reenter  
9 public session, at which time, the doctors will make  
10 their decisions today.

11 This could be, you know, an hour to two-hour,  
12 sometimes it's even a three-hour process. So hang  
13 tight in the waiting room, and when we reenter public  
14 session, you'll be invited back in. Thank you.

15 (The Board was in executive session from 9:06  
16 a.m. until 11:42 a.m.)

17 MS. CIESLAK: Dr. Rudich, you can proceed  
18 when you're ready.

19 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: The Board has made its  
20 determinations, but would like to remind members that  
21 only the final vote will be given today and not the  
22 reasons for the vote. In some instances, there may not  
23 have been enough medical information to make a  
24 favorable determination. You may seek a  
25 reconsideration of a denial, of a first denial.

1           You will receive the Board's determination  
2     within two to four weeks, which will provide you with  
3     additional information.

4           I make a motion to deny continued entitlement  
5     to disability retirement of Sharon Brown.

6           DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

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

9           DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

10          DR. KATSETOS: Katsetos, aye.

11          CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Motion passes.

12          I make a motion to table the continued  
13     entitlement to disability retirement of Denise Bystrek.

14          DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

15          CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Any discussion? All in  
16     favor, say aye. Rudich, aye.

17          DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

18          DR. KATSETOS: Katsetos, aye.

19          CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Motion passes.

20          I make a motion to approve the continued  
21     entitlement to disability retirement of Donald Chaffee.

22          DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

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

25          DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

1 DR. KATSETOS: Katsetos, aye.

2 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Motion passes.

3 I make a motion to table the continued  
4 entitlement to disability retirement of Lurman Colon.

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. KATSETOS: Katsetos, aye.

10 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Motion passes.

11 I make a motion to deny the continued  
12 entitlement to disability retirement of Joy Flynn.

13 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

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

16 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

17 DR. KATSETOS: Katsetos, aye.

18 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Motion passes.

19 I make a motion to table the continued  
20 entitlement to disability retirement of Stephen  
21 Gelinas.

22 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

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

25 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

1 DR. KATSETOS: Katsetos, aye.

2 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Motion passes.

3 I make a motion to approve the continued  
4 entitlement to disability retirement of Michael  
5 Georgetti.

6 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

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

9 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

10 DR. KATSETOS: Katsetos, aye.

11 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Motion passes.

12 I make a motion to approve the continued  
13 entitlement to disability retirement of Luke Jenne.

14 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

15 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Any discussion? All in  
16 favor, say aye. Rudich, aye.

17 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

18 DR. KATSETOS: Katsetos, aye.

19 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: The motion passes.

20 I make a motion to deny the continued  
21 entitlement to disability retirement of Charles  
22 Mercado.

23 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

24 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Any discussion? All in  
25 favor, say aye. Rudich, aye.

1 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

2 DR. KATSETOS: Katsetos, aye.

3 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Motion passes.

4 I make a motion to deny continued entitlement  
5 to disability retirement of Robert Mullin.

6 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

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

9 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

10 DR. KATSETOS: Katsetos, aye.

11 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Motion passes.

12 I make a motion to deny the continued  
13 entitlement on reconsideration to disability retirement  
14 of Sherene Nelson.

15 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

16 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Any discussion? All in  
17 favor, say aye. Rudich, aye.

18 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

19 DR. KATSETOS: Katsetos, aye.

20 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Motion passes.

21 I make a motion to table the continued  
22 entitlement to disability retirement of Christian  
23 Philemon.

24 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

25 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Any discussion? All in

1 favor, say aye. Rudich, aye.

2 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

3 DR. KATSETOS: Katsetos, aye.

4 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Motion passes.

5 I make a motion to deny the continued  
6 entitlement to disability retirement of John Torello.

7 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

8 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Any discussion? All in  
9 favor, say aye. Rudich, aye.

10 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

11 DR. KATSETOS: Katsetos, aye.

12 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Motion passes.

13 Pursuant to the Memorandum of Understanding  
14 of August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016, I make a motion to approve  
15 continued entitlement to disability retirement of  
16 Christine Conroy, Kelly McClane, Glenn Morron, Yvonne  
17 Muniz, Luis Paulino, Amy Russo-Zehall, Evelyn Sanjurjo  
18 Melendez, Leslie Schleipman, Carla Smith, Michelle  
19 Viltrakis, Chad Wellington, and Victoria Wiggs.

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. KATSETOS: Katsetos, aye.

25 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Motion passes.



1 I make a motion to adjourn this meeting.

2 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

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

5 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

6 DR. KATSETOS: Katsetos, aye.

7 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Motion passes.

8 MS. CIESLAK: Thank you.

9 (Adjourned at 11:49 a.m.)

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

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  
April 19, 2024.

Karin A. Empson

Karin A. Empson

05/05/2024

Date