

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

STATE EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT COMMISSION

MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD MEETING

DATE: May 21, 2025

HELD VIA Zoom

CONVENED AT 9:00 A.M.

Present (Via Zoom):

Dr. Frank Gerratana, Chairman

Dr. Nikolai Lieders

Dr. Ralph Rosenberg

Robert Helfand, Retirement Services Division

Patrick Fairbanks, Retirement Services Division

Helena Bartolomeo, Retirement Services Division

Alexandra Cipolla, Retirement Services Division

Cindy Cieslak, Rose Kallor LLP

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

2
3 CHAIRMAN GERRATANA: Good morning, everyone. I'm Dr.
4 Frank Gerratana, Chairperson of today's meeting of the Medical
5 Examining Board which is now in session. The date is May 21,
6 2025.

7 Also present are Board Members Dr. Nikolai Lieders and
8 Dr. Ralph Rosenberg. Present from the Office of the State
9 Comptroller, Retirement Services Division are staff members from
10 the Retirement Services Division Helena Bartolomeo, Alexandra
11 Cipolla, Patrick Fairbanks, Robert Helfand and Nabil Waheed.
12 The General Counsel for the Retirement Commission and Medical
13 Examining Board is Cindy Cieslak.

14 I make a motion that we go into Executive Session for
15 the purposes of discussing individual member's disability health
16 issues, and I request that the members of the Retirement
17 Services Division and Counsel be allowed to remain. Is there a
18 second?

19 DR. LIEDERS: Yes. Lieders, second.

20 CHAIRMAN GERRATANA: Any discussion? All those in
21 favor say, aye. Gerratana, aye.

22 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, aye.

23 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye.

24 CHAIRMAN GERRATANA: The motion is approved.

25 ATTORNEY CIESLAK: All right, thank you, Dr.

1 Gerratana. This is Cindy Cieslak. What that means for everyone
2 here is I'm going to place you in the waiting room. The doctors
3 are going to go through the agenda one by one, because we
4 discuss your confidential medical information it is a private
5 Executive Session so that it's not open to the public.

6 If you're on reconsideration, you'll be invited in to
7 make a statement. Once the doctors have discussed all of the
8 members, we will enter public session and the doctors will
9 announce their decisions in public session. So while you're in
10 the waiting room, just hang tight and it, you know, sometimes
11 these meetings do take a couple of hours. So if you're in the
12 waiting room for a period of time, that is why. We didn't
13 forget about you. We'll invite you in when public session
14 enters again.

15 I'll just note for the record that Nabil Waheed is not
16 here today. So I'm going to start placing everyone in the
17 waiting room, and then we'll get started.

18
19 (Executive Session from 9:06 a.m. to 12:49 a.m.)
20

21 CHAIRMAN GERRATANA: Good afternoon. This is Dr.
22 Gerratana. I have an informational announcement. The Board
23 will be making determinations and voting on those
24 determinations, but would like to remind members that only the
25 final vote will be given today and not the reasons for the vote.

1 In some instances there may not have been enough
2 medical information to make a determination, or perhaps a
3 service connected disability is more likely a non-service
4 connected disability. You may seek reconsideration of an
5 initial denial. You will receive the Board's written
6 determination within 2 to 4 weeks which will provide you with
7 that additional information.

8 The Board will be voting on the applicant's requests,
9 and we'll start with concerning Cynthia Cassada.

10 I move that her request for continued entitlement to
11 be tabled. Is there a second?

12 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, second.

13 CHAIRMAN GERRATANA: Any discussion? All those in
14 favor say aye.

15 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, aye.

16 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye.

17 CHAIRMAN GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye. The motion
18 passes.

19 Concerning Mark Clinton. I move that his request for
20 a continued entitlement to be tabled.

21 DR. LIEDERS: I second, Lieders.

22 CHAIRMAN GERRATANA: Any discussion? All those favor
23 say aye.

24 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, aye.

25 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye.

1 CHAIRMAN GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye. The motion
2 passes.

3 Concerning Adelina Garlaza, I move that her request
4 for continued entitlement to be tabled. Is there a second?

5 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, I second.

6 CHAIRMAN GERRATANA: Any discussion? All those in
7 favor say aye.

8 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, aye.

9 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye

10 CHAIRMAN GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye. The motion
11 passes.

12 Concerning Michael Gallicchio, I move that his request
13 for continued entitlement to be approved.

14 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, I second.

15 CHAIRMAN GERRATANA: Any discussion? All those in
16 favor say aye.

17 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, aye.

18 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye

19 CHAIRMAN GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye. The motion
20 passes.

21 Concerning Tracie Hernandez, I move that her request
22 for continued entitlement be approved.

23 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, I second.

24 CHAIRMAN GERRATANA: Any discussion? All those in
25 favor say aye.

1 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, aye.

2 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye

3 CHAIRMAN GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye. The motion
4 passes.

5 Concerning Henry Kuczenski, I make a motion that his
6 request for continued entitlement be approved.

7 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, I second.

8 CHAIRMAN GERRATANA: Any discussion? All those in
9 favor say aye.

10 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, aye.

11 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye

12 CHAIRMAN GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye. The motion
13 passes.

14 Concerning Kevin Lembo, I move that his request for
15 continued entitlement be approved.

16 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, I second.

17 CHAIRMAN GERRATANA: Any discussion? All those in
18 favor say aye.

19 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, aye.

20 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye

21 CHAIRMAN GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye. The motion
22 passes.

23 Concerning Persio Martinez, I make a motion that his
24 request for continued entitlement be approved.

25 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, I second.

1 CHAIRMAN GERRATANA: Any discussion? All those in
2 favor say aye.

3 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, aye.

4 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye

5 CHAIRMAN GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye. The motion
6 passes.

7 Concerning Nicole McCann, I move that her request for
8 continued entitlement be approved.

9 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, I second.

10 CHAIRMAN GERRATANA: Any discussion? All those in
11 favor say, aye.

12 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, aye.

13 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye

14 CHAIRMAN GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye. The motion
15 passes.

16 Concerning Charles Mercado, I move that his request
17 for continued entitlement be denied. Is there a second?

18 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, second.

19 CHAIRMAN GERRATANA: Any discussion? All those in
20 favor say aye.

21 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye

22 CHAIRMAN GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye. No vote from Dr.
23 Lieders?

24 DR. LIEDERS: Yeah, I vote against it. I vote no.

25 CHAIRMAN GERRATANA: The motion passes two to one.

1 Concerning Robert Mullin, I move that his request for
2 continued entitlement be approved. Is there a second?

3 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, I second.

4 CHAIRMAN GERRATANA: Any discussion? If not, all
5 those favors say aye.

6 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, aye.

7 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye

8 CHAIRMAN GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye. The motion
9 passes.

10 Concerning Brendon Murray, I move that his request for
11 continued entitlement be approved.

12 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, I second.

13 CHAIRMAN GERRATANA: Any discussion? Then all those
14 in favor say, aye.

15 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, aye.

16 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye

17 CHAIRMAN GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye. The motion
18 passes.

19 Concerning Annie Perry, I move that her request for
20 continued entitlement be denied.

21 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, I second.

22 CHAIRMAN GERRATANA: Any discussion? All those in
23 favor say aye.

24 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, aye.

25 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye

1 CHAIRMAN GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye. The motion
2 passes.

3 Concerning Crystal Plummer, I move that her request
4 for continued entitlement be tabled.

5 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, I second.

6 CHAIRMAN GERRATANA: Any discussion? All those in
7 favor say aye.

8 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, aye.

9 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye

10 CHAIRMAN GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye. The motion is
11 approved.

12 Concerning Diane Rogers, I move that her request for
13 continued entitlement be denied.

14 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, I second.

15 CHAIRMAN GERRATANA: Any discussion? All those in
16 favor say aye.

17 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, aye.

18 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye

19 CHAIRMAN GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye. The motion
20 passes.

21 Concerning Yamilet Santiago, I move that her request
22 for continued entitlement be approved.

23 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, I second.

24 CHAIRMAN GERRATANA: Any discussion? All those in
25 favor say aye.

1 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, aye.

2 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye

3 CHAIRMAN GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye. The motion
4 passes.

5 Concerning Noelle Stevenson, I move that her request
6 for continued entitlement be approved.

7 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, I second.

8 CHAIRMAN GERRATANA: Any discussion? All those in
9 favor say aye.

10 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, aye.

11 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye

12 CHAIRMAN GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye. The motion
13 passes.

14 Concerning Lisa Suarez, I move that her request for
15 continued entitlement be tabled.

16 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, I second.

17 CHAIRMAN GERRATANA: Any discussion? All those in
18 favor say aye.

19 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, aye.

20 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye

21 CHAIRMAN GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye. The motion
22 passes.

23 Concerning Marc Wilson, I move that his request for
24 continued entitlement be denied.

25 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, I second.

1 CHAIRMAN GERRATANA: Any discussion? All those in
2 favor say aye.

3 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, aye.

4 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye

5 CHAIRMAN GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye. The motion
6 passes.

7 We also have to vote on individuals for continued
8 entitlement pursuant to the memorandum of understanding of
9 August 6, 2015.

10 I'll read all the names, and then we'll vote on them
11 as a group.

12 I move that the requests of the following individuals
13 be approved for continued entitlement: John Barrett, Kristen
14 Bernier, Michael Brandi, Christopher Cohen, Cynthia Francis,
15 Janet Jubrey, Kelly Knight, Shannon Martin, Kimberly Newman,
16 Deborah Stefaniak, Sean Sullivan and Yotisse Williams.

17 Is there a second?

18 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, I second.

19 CHAIRMAN GERRATANA: Any discussion? All those in
20 favor say aye.

21 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, aye.

22 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye

23 CHAIRMAN GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye. The motion
24 passes.

25 I think that concludes our business this morning.

1 I'll make a motion that we adjourn. Is there a second?

2 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, I second.

3 CHAIRMAN GERRATANA: Any discussion? All those in
4 favor say aye.

5 DR. LIEDERS: Lieders, aye.

6 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye

7 CHAIRMAN GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye. The motion
8 passes.

9 ATTORNEY CIESLAK: Thank you all.

10 (Meeting adjourned at 12:59 p.m.)
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CERTIFICATE

I certify that this document is a true and accurate description of the proceedings obtained from the recorded meeting of the State of Connecticut State Employees' Retirement Commission, Medical Examining Board on May 21, 2025 to the best of my ability.

Wendy Malitsky

Wendy Malitsky

My Commission Expires
March 31, 2030