

1 STATE OF CONNECTICUT
2 STATE EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT COMMISSION
3 MEDICAL EXAMINING Board
4

5 DATE: August 6, 2025

6 LOCATION: VIA ZOOM

7 **Present:**
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9 Dr. Lynn Rudich

10 Dr. Ralph Rosenberg

11 Dr. Eric Shore

12 Robert Helfand, Retirement Services Division

13 Helena Bartolomeo, Retirement Services Division

14 Patrick Fairbanks, Retirement Services Division.

15 Alexandra Cipolla, Retirement Services Division

16 Cindy Cieslak, Rose Kallor, LLP
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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 (Proceedings commenced at 9:10 a.m.)

3 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Okay. The August 6th,
4 2025 meeting of the Medical Examining Board is now
5 in session. I am Dr. Lynn Rudich, Chairperson. We
6 also have Dr. Ralph Rosenberg and Dr. Eric Shore.

7 Present from the Office of the State
8 Comptroller Retirement Services Division are Helena
9 Bartolomeo, Alexandra Cipolla, Patrick Fairbanks,
10 and Robert Helfand. We also have general counsel
11 for the Retirement Commission and Medical Examining
12 Board, Cindy Cieslak.

13 I'm going to make a motion to go into executive
14 session. I request that the members of the
15 Retirement Commission and counsel be allowed to
16 remain.

17 DR. SHORE: Second, Shore.

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

20 DR. SHORE: Shore, aye.

21 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye.

22 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Motion passes.

23 ATTORNEY CIESLAK: All right. This is Cindy
24 Cieslak. What this means is the doctors are going
25 to discuss your medical information in executive

1 session, so I'm going to place all of the applicants
2 and members of the public back into the waiting
3 room.

4 When the doctors are ready to hear from anyone
5 on reconsideration, you'll be invited into executive
6 session to make your statement. After the doctors
7 have reviewed all of the files, the doctors will re-
8 enter public session and make all of their decisions
9 in public session.

10 At that point in time, you'll be brought back
11 in from the waiting room so that you can hear the
12 decision.

13 All right, so I'm going to start putting people
14 in the waiting room.

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16 (Executive Session from 9:11 a.m. to 12:40 p.m.)
17

18 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: The Board will be making
19 determinations and voting on those determinations,
20 but would like to remind members that only the final
21 vote will be given today and not the reason for the
22 vote.

23 In some instances, there may not have been
24 enough medical information to make a determination,
25 or perhaps a non-service-connected disability is

1 more likely than a service-connected disability.

2 You may seek reconsideration of an initial
3 denial. You'll receive the Board's written
4 determination within two to four weeks, which will
5 provide you with that additional information.

6 I make a motion to deny service-connected
7 disability retirement of Pasquale Albino. Is there
8 a second?

9 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, second.

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

12 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye.

13 DR. SHORE: Shore, aye.

14 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Motion passes.

15 I make a motion to deny the service-connected
16 disability retirement of Jonathan Andino. Is there
17 a second?

18 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, second.

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

21 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye.

22 DR. SHORE: Shore, aye.

23 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Motion passes.

24 I make a motion to table the non-service-
25 connected disability retirement of Marc Arrigoni.

1 Is there a second?

2 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, second.

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

5 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye.

6 DR. SHORE: Shore, aye.

7 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Motion passes.

8 I make a motion to deny the non-service-
9 connected disability retirement of Kathleen
10 Belanger. Is there a second?

11 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, second.

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

14 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye.

15 DR. SHORE: Shore, aye.

16 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Motion passes.

17 I make a motion to deny the service-connected
18 disability retirement or non-service-connected
19 disability retirement of Laurie Bernier. Is there a
20 second?

21 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, second.

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

24 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye.

25 DR. SHORE: Shore, aye.

1 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Motion passes.

2 I make a motion to deny a non-service-connected
3 disability retirement of John Church. Is there a
4 second?

5 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, second.

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

8 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg? Aye.

9 DR. SHORE: Shore, aye.

10 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Motion passes.

11 I make a motion to deny service-connected
12 disability retirement of Casey Corcoran, but the
13 Board would look favorably on non-service-connected
14 disability retirement. Is there a second?

15 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, second.

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

18 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye.

19 DR. SHORE: Shore, aye.

20 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Motion passes.

21 I make a motion to deny the service-connected
22 disability retirement of Cathy Crowe. Is there a
23 second?

24 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, second.

25 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Any discussion? All in

1 favor say aye. Rudich, aye.

2 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye.

3 DR. SHORE: Shore, aye.

4 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Motion passes.

5 I make a motion to approve the non-service
6 connected disability retirement of Rosa Cuadrado. Is
7 there a second?

8 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, second.

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

11 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye.

12 DR. SHORE: Shore, aye.

13 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Motion passes.

14 I make a motion to deny service-connected
15 disability retirement but approve non-service-
16 connected disability retirement of Kimberly Diaz.
17 Is there a second?

18 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, second.

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

21 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye.

22 DR. SHORE: Shore, aye.

23 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Motion passes.

24 I make a motion to approve the non-service-
25 connected disability retirement of Kathleen

1 Fletcher. Is there a second?

2 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, second.

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

5 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye.

6 DR. SHORE: Shore, aye.

7 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: I make a motion to table
8 the non-service-connected disability retirement of
9 Denice Fortin. Is there a second?

10 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, second.

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

13 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye.

14 DR. SHORE: Shore, aye.

15 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Motion passes.

16 I make a motion to table the service-connected
17 disability retirement of Desmond Gregor. Is there a
18 second?

19 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, second.

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

22 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye.

23 DR. SHORE: Shore, aye.

24 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Motion passes.

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

1 connected disability retirement of Janice Jackson.
2 Is there a second?

3 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, second.

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

6 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye.

7 DR. SHORE: Shore, aye.

8 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Motion passes.

9 I make a motion to deny the service-connected
10 disability retirement of Michael Johnson, but the
11 Board would look favorably upon an application for a
12 non-service-connected disability retirement. Is
13 there a second?

14 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, second.

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

17 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye.

18 DR. SHORE: Shore, aye.

19 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: The motion passes.

20 I make a motion to remove the service-connected
21 disability retirement application of Michael Mudry
22 from the agenda, according to his request. Is there
23 a second?

24 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, second.

25 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Any discussion? All in

1 favor say aye. Rudich, aye.

2 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye.

3 DR. SHORE: Shore, aye.

4 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Motion passes.

5 I make a motion to table the service-connected
6 Disability Retirement of Victor Perez. Is there a
7 second?

8 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, second.

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

11 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye.

12 DR. SHORE: Shore, aye.

13 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Motion passes.

14 I make a motion to approve the service-
15 connected disability retirement of Christopher
16 Proudfoot. Is there a second?

17 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, second.

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

20 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye.

21 DR. SHORE: Shore, aye.

22 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Motion passes.

23 I make a motion to approve the non-service-
24 connected disability retirement of LeRoy Smith. Is
25 there a second?

1 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, second.

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

4 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye.

5 DR. SHORE: Shore, aye.

6 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Motion passes.

7 I make a motion to deny the service-connected
8 and non-service-connected disability retirement
9 applications of Dina Sokol. Is there a second?

10 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, second.

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

13 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye.

14 DR. SHORE: Shore, aye.

15 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Motion passes.

16 I make a motion to deny the service-connected
17 disability retirement of Lisa Valenti, but the Board
18 would look favorably on an application for non-
19 service-connected disability retirement. Is there a
20 second?

21 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, second.

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

24 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye.

25 DR. SHORE: Shore, aye.

1 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Motion passes.

2 I make a motion to deny the application for
3 non-service-connected disability retirement of
4 Jonathan Zabin. Is there a second?

5 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, second.

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

8 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye.

9 DR. SHORE: Shore, aye.

10 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Motion passes. I make a
11 motion to adjourn the Board Meeting. Is there a
12 second?

13 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, second.

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

16 DR. ROSENBERG: Rosenberg, aye.

17 DR. SHORE: Shore, aye.

18 CHAIRPERSON RUDICH: Motion passes.

19 We're out of session.

20 ATTORNEY CIESLAK: Thank you all.

21 (Adjourned at 12:40 p.m.)
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REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify that the foregoing is, to the best of my skill and ability, a true and accurate transcript of the State Employees' Retirement Commission, Medical Examining Board Meeting held on August 6, 2025.

Wendy Malitsky

Wendy Malitsky, Notary Public

My commission expires in March 2030.