

**SONOMA COUNTY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT BOARD
DISABILITY COMMITTEE MINUTES**

Thursday, June 22, 2023
8:30 a.m.

Members of the public were able to watch or listen to the meeting using one of the two following methods:

1. By joining the Zoom meeting application on a computer, tablet or smartphone:

<https://sonomacounty.zoom.us/j/92031670216?pwd=Q3VrS3lGSVNLdDM5SEVYWIZxOHhuQT09>

2. By calling in and listening to the meeting:

Dial 1-669-900-9128

Enter Webinar ID: 920 3167 0216

Enter passcode: 062223

Public comments were solicited prior to the meeting by emailing Jackie.Purter@sonoma-county.org by 7:30 am June 22, 2023. Members of the public who joined the Zoom Webinar, either through the Zoom app or by calling in, were able to provide live public comment for each agenda item, after the Board and staff provided their comments.

Presiding: Vice Chair Bob Williamson.

Present: Trustees Travis Balzarini, Greg Jahn (non-voting Board member), and Joe Tambe; Alternate Retiree Trustee Neil Baker; Chief Executive Officer Julie Wyne; Assistant Chief Executive Officer/Chief Legal Counsel Cristina Hess; Member Services Manager Jackie Purter; and Retirement Analyst Rebecca Gay.

Absent: Trustee Brian Williams.

Public Via
Zoom: Carlos Chavez; Nicole Bryant.

I. MINUTES APPROVAL

Approval of the May 18, 2023 Minutes.

Motion was made by Trustee Tambe, seconded by Trustee Balzarini to approve the May 18, 2023 Disability Committee Meeting Minutes. The motion carried 4-0-0-1 with voting as follows:

Mr. Baker	Aye
Mr. Balzarini	Aye
Mr. Tambe	Aye
Mr. Williams	Absent
Mr. Williamson	Aye

The Disability Committee moved into Executive Session and closed the meeting to all attendees who were not necessary for the determination of a disability retirement. While the meeting was closed, those attendees were not able to hear or see the meeting. The Zoom screen indicated that the meeting was in closed session and those still present were re-connected to the meeting once the Board returned to open session.

II. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Committee met in closed session pursuant to Government Code section 54957(b) to consider the employment status and evaluation of performance of SCERA members as concerns eligibility for disability retirement and reinstatement to active membership.

A. Applications for Committee Action:

1. JOSEPH MEDEIROS, Correctional Sergeant filed 11/01/22 for a service connected disability retirement.

Motion was made by Trustee Tambe and seconded by Trustee Baker to recommend that Mr. Medeiros be granted a service connected disability retirement. The motion carried 4-0-0-1 with voting as follows:

Mr. Baker	Aye
Mr. Balzarini	Aye
Mr. Tambe	Aye
Mr. Williams	Absent
Mr. Williamson	Aye

II. EXECUTIVE SESSION, continued

A. Applications for Committee Action, continued:

2. KRISTIN MUNIZ BOTTOMLEY, Deputy Sheriff II filed 11/14/22 for a service connected disability retirement.

Motion was made by Trustee Balzarini and seconded by Trustee Baker to recommend that Ms. Muniz Bottomley be granted a service connected disability retirement. The motion carried 4-0-0-1 with voting as follows:

Mr. Baker	Aye
Mr. Balzarini	Aye
Mr. Tambe	Aye
Mr. Williams	Absent
Mr. Williamson	Aye

3. NICOLE BRYANT, Correctional Deputy II filed 11/14/22 for a service connected disability retirement.

Motion was made by Trustee Tambe and seconded by Trustee Balzarini to recommend that Ms. Bryant be granted a service connected disability retirement. The motion carried 4-0-0-1 with voting as follows:

Mr. Baker	Aye
Mr. Balzarini	Aye
Mr. Tambe	Aye
Mr. Williams	Absent
Mr. Williamson	Aye

4. ANDREA HARDIN (AKA KROEZE), Child Protective Services Social Worker filed 11/15/22 for a service connected disability retirement. Consideration under Government Code Section 31725.65 (reemployment plan) is requested.

Motion was made by Trustee Balzarini and seconded by Trustee Baker to recommend that Ms. Bryant be granted a service connected disability retirement under Government Code Section 31725.65. The motion carried 4-0-0-1 with voting as follows:

Mr. Baker	Aye
Mr. Balzarini	Aye
Mr. Tambe	Aye
Mr. Williams	Absent
Mr. Williamson	Aye

II. EXECUTIVE SESSION, continued

A. Applications for Committee Action, continued:

5. MARANEE WEGER (AKA CALVERT), Correctional Deputy II filed 11/28/22 for a service connected disability retirement.

Motion was made by Trustee Baker and seconded by Trustee Balzarini to recommend that Ms. Weger be granted a service connected disability retirement. The motion carried 4-0-0-1 with voting as follows:

Mr. Baker	Aye
Mr. Balzarini	Aye
Mr. Tambe	Aye
Mr. Williams	Absent
Mr. Williamson	Aye

6. AZUZENA ALVAREZ, Correctional Deputy II filed 11/29/22 for a service connected disability retirement.

Motion was made by Trustee Balzarini and seconded by Trustee Baker to recommend that Ms. Alvarez be granted a service connected disability retirement. The motion carried 4-0-0-1 with voting as follows:

Mr. Baker	Aye
Mr. Balzarini	Aye
Mr. Tambe	Aye
Mr. Williams	Absent
Mr. Williamson	Aye

6. CHRISTOPHER HERMAN, Park Ranger I filed 12/02/22 for a service connected disability retirement. Consideration under Government Code Section 31724 (date allowance becomes effective) is requested.

Motion was made by Trustee Balzarini and seconded by Trustee Baker to recommend that Mr. Herman be denied a service connected disability retirement. The motion carried 4-0-0-1 with voting as follows:

Mr. Baker	Aye
Mr. Balzarini	Aye
Mr. Tambe	Aye
Mr. Williams	Absent
Mr. Williamson	Aye

II. EXECUTIVE SESSION, continued

A. Applications for Committee Action, continued:

7. JORDAN BOX, Correctional Deputy II filed 12/07/22 for a service connected disability retirement.

The case was returned to staff to obtain a supplemental report from our evaluating physician.

8. PETER SKINNER, Correctional Lieutenant filed 02/03/23 for a service connected disability retirement.

Motion was made by Trustee Baker and seconded by Trustee Tambe to recommend that Mr. Skinner be granted a service connected disability retirement. The motion carried 4-0-0-1 with voting as follows:

Mr. Baker	Aye
Mr. Balzarini	Aye
Mr. Tambe	Aye
Mr. Williams	Absent
Mr. Williamson	Aye

9. CARLOS CHAVEZ, Deputy Sheriff II filed 02/23/23 for a service connected disability retirement.

Motion was made by Trustee Tambe and seconded by Trustee Baker to recommend that Mr. Chavez be granted a service connected disability retirement. The motion carried 4-0-0-1 with voting as follows:

Mr. Baker	Aye
Mr. Balzarini	Aye
Mr. Tambe	Aye
Mr. Williams	Absent
Mr. Williamson	Aye

B. Discussion:

Reviewed the June 2023 Disability Report.

The Disability Committee moved out of Executive Session and reopened the meeting to all Zoom attendees who were locked out of the meeting during the closed session period.

IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION REPORT OUT – OPEN SESSION

Committee Vice Chair Bob Williamson reported out in open session that the Committee unanimously recommended to grant a service connected disability retirement to Correctional Sergeant Joseph Medeiros, Deputy Sheriff II Kristin Muniz Bottomley, Correctional Deputy II Nicole Bryant, Child Protective Services Social Worker Andrea Hardin, Correctional Deputy II Maranee Weger, Correctional Deputy II Azuzena Alvarez, Correctional Lieutenant Peter Skinner and Deputy Sheriff II Carlos Chavez; and to deny a service connected disability retirement to Park Ranger I Christopher Herman.

V. GENERAL DISCUSSION MATTERS

There were no general discussion matters.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

VII. NEXT MEETING

Scheduled for Thursday, July 20, 2023 at 8:30 a.m. in the SCERA Board Room located at 433 Aviation Boulevard, Suite 100 in Santa Rosa, CA.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 a.m.

IX. APPROVAL

The above minutes for the Disability Committee meeting on June 22, 2023 were approved at the Disability Committee meeting on July 20, 2023.

BOB WILLIAMSON, VICE CHAIR