



BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION

Meeting Minutes - Final Police and Fire Disability Committee

Monday, June 10, 2024

10:00 AM

1737 N. First St. Suite 580, San Jose, CA
95112

HYBRID MEETING

PHYSICAL LOCATION:

1737 North First Street, Suite 580
San Jose, CA 95112

ZOOM INFORMATION:

zoom.us
Dial In: +1 669-219-2599 US (San Jose)
Meeting ID: 949 7058 8111
Pass Code: 979414

DISABILITY COMMITTEE MEMBERS ADVISORY PANEL

Richard Santos, Chair
Dave Wilson, Trustee

Russell Richeda, Counsel
Sandra Castellano, Benefits Div Manager

ALTERNATES

Franco Vado, Trustee
Eswar Menon, Trustee

2nd ALTERNATE

Howard Lee, Trustee
Vacant, Trustee

Present 2 - Richard Santos, and Dave Wilson

The Police and Fire Disability Committee met in person at 1737 N. First St., Suite 580, San Jose, CA 95112 and via Zoom on Monday, June 10, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chair Santos followed by roll call.

Committee members Present: Richard Santos and Dave Wilson.

Retirement Staff Present: Roberto L. Peña, Sandra Castellano, Amy Dickinson, Chris Ha, Edith Aldama, Sherrell Aledo, and David Torres.

Retirement Staff Present via Zoom: Barbara Hayman.

Also Present: Keith Kirmse, Applicant; Richard Caginia, Applicant; Victor Loesche, Applicant; and Sam Swift, Attorney.

Also Present via Zoom: Russ Richeda, Disability Counsel; Aaron Alvarez, Applicant; Fabrice Bellini, Applicant; Leslie Martin, Applicant; Jesus Sanchez, Applicant; James Yumen, Applicant; Kimberly Bellini, Public Attendee; Alex Ennis, Public Attendee; Ian Leslie, Attorney; Jennifer Otani, Police Department; Sandra Dennis, Police Department; Robert Sapien, Fire Department; and Sarah Steele, OER.

- **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

- **ORDERS OF THE DAY**

Chair Santos read the following ground rules into the record:

A FEW GROUND RULES FOR THIS MEETING

- We are holding this meeting as a hybrid meeting, and so those who are attending virtually, please mute yourself unless you are speaking and if you wish to speak, please raise your hand and staff will alert the Chair.

ORDERS OF THE DAY:

- None.

WAIVE SUNSHINE:

- None.

1. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

- a. Approval of the Minutes of the Police & Fire Disability Committee meeting from May 6, 2024.

A motion was made to approve the Consent Calendar.

Approved. (M.S.C. Wilson/Santos 2-0-0).

2. Application for a Service Connected Disability Retirement

- a. **Aaron Alvarez**, Police Officer, Police Department, Request for Service-Connected Disability Retirement, active; 5.70* years of service.

Mr. Alvarez, applicant, was present via Zoom. Amy Dickinson, Senior Benefits Analyst, read the applicant's case information into the record. Russ Richeda, Disability Counsel, clarified for the Committee the specific body parts he focused on. Counsel Richeda also spoke to the service-connection of the injuries, and concluded the Committee should recommend approval for a Service-Connected Disability Retirement to the Board. Mr. Alvarez thanked the committee. Chair Santos and Trustee Wilson both said a few kind words.

A motion was made to recommend approval of a Service-Connected Disability Retirement to the Board. This case will go to the Board on the Consent Calendar on August 1, 2024.

Approved. (M.S.C. Wilson/Santos 2-0-0).

3. Application for a Change of Status to Service-Connected Disability Retirement

- a. **Fabrice Bellini**, Police Sergeant, Police Department, Request for Change of Status to Service-Connected Disability Retirement, effective January 23, 2021; 22.80* years of service.

Mr. Bellini, applicant, was present via Zoom. Amy Dickinson, Senior Benefits Analyst, read the applicant's case information into the record. Russ Richeda, Disability Counsel, clarified for the Committee the specific body parts he focused on. Counsel Richeda also spoke to the service-connection of the injuries, and concluded the Committee should recommend approval for the Change of Status to a Service-Connected Disability Retirement to the Board. Mr. Bellini thanked the committee. Chair Santos and Trustee Wilson both said a few kind words.

A motion was made to recommend approval of a Change in Status to a Service-Connected Disability Retirement to the Board. This case will go to the Board on the Consent Calendar on August 1, 2024.

Approved. (M.S.C. Wilson/Santos 2-0-0).

- b. **Richard Caginia**, Fire Engineer, Fire Department, Request for Change of Status to Service-Connected Disability Retirement, effective February 26, 2021; 25.02* years of service.

Mr. Caginia, applicant, and his attorney Sam Swift were present in person. Amy Dickinson, Senior Benefits Analyst, read the applicant's case information into the record. Russ Richeda, Disability Counsel, clarified for the Committee the specific body parts he focused on. Counsel Richeda also spoke to the service-connection of the injuries, and concluded the Committee should recommend approval for the Change of Status to a Service-Connected Disability Retirement to the Board. Mr. Caginia thanked the committee. Trustee Wilson said a few kinds words.

A motion was made to recommend approval of a Change in Status to a Service-Connected Disability Retirement to the Board. This case will go to the Board on the Consent Calendar on August 1, 2024.

Approved. (M.S.C. Wilson/Santos 2-0-0).

- c. Keith Kirmse**, Fire Engineer, Fire Department, Request for Change of Status to Service-Connected Disability Retirement, effective August 22, 2020; 30.52* years of service.

Mr. Kirmse, applicant, and his attorney Sam Swift were present in person. Amy Dickinson, Senior Benefits Analyst, read the applicant's case information into the record. Russ Richeda, Disability Counsel, clarified for the Committee the specific body parts he focused on. Counsel Richeda also spoke to the service-connection of the injuries, and concluded the Committee should recommend approval for the Change of Status to a Service-Connected Disability Retirement to the Board. Mr. Kirmse said a few comments. Chair Santos said a few kinds words.

A motion was made to recommend approval of a Change in Status to a Service-Connected Disability Retirement to the Board. This case will go to the Board on the Consent Calendar on August 1, 2024.

Approved. (M.S.C. Wilson/Santos 2-0-0).

- d. Victor Loesche**, Fire Captain, Fire Department, Request for Change of Status to Service-Connected Disability Retirement, effective April 3, 2021; 25.67* years of service.

Mr. Loesche, applicant, and his attorney Sam Swift were present in person. Amy Dickinson, Senior Benefits Analyst, read the applicant's case information into the record. Russ Richeda, Disability Counsel, clarified for the Committee the specific body parts he focused on. Counsel Richeda also spoke to the service-connection of the injuries, and concluded the Committee should recommend approval for the Change of Status to a Service-Connected Disability Retirement to the Board. Mr. Loesche thanked the committee. Chair Santos and Trustee Wilson both said a few kinds words.

A motion was made to recommend approval of a Change in Status to a Service-Connected Disability Retirement to the Board. This case will go to the Board on the Consent Calendar on August 1, 2024.

Approved. (M.S.C. Wilson/Santos 2-0-0).

- e. Leslie Martin**, Police Officer, Police Department, Request for Change of Status to Service-Connected Disability Retirement, effective December 5, 2020; 20.30* years of service.

Ms. Martin, applicant, was present via Zoom. Amy Dickinson, Senior Benefits Analyst, read the applicant's case information into the record. Russ Richeda, Disability Counsel, clarified for the Committee the specific body parts he focused on. Counsel Richeda also spoke to the service-connection of the injuries, and concluded the Committee should recommend approval for the Change of Status to a Service-Connected Disability Retirement to the Board. Ms. Martin thanked the committee. Chair Santos and Trustee Wilson both said a few kinds words.

A motion was made to recommend approval of a Change in Status to a Service-Connected Disability Retirement to the Board. This case will go to the Board on the Consent Calendar on August 1, 2024.

Approved. (M.S.C. Wilson/Santos 2-0-0).

- f. Jesus Sanchez**, Fire Engineer, Fire Department, Request for Change of Status to Service-Connected Disability Retirement, effective February 20, 2021; 25.05* years of service.

Mr. Sanchez, applicant, was present via Zoom. Amy Dickinson, Senior Benefits Analyst, read the applicant's case information into the record. Russ Richeda, Disability Counsel, clarified for the Committee the specific body parts he focused on. Counsel Richeda also spoke to the service-connection of the injuries, and concluded the Committee should recommend approval for the Change of Status to a Service-Connected Disability Retirement to the Board. Mr. Sanchez thanked the committee. Chair Santos said a few kinds words.

A motion was made to recommend approval of a Change in Status to a Service-Connected Disability Retirement to the Board. This case will go to the Board on the Consent Calendar on August 1, 2024.

Approved. (M.S.C. Wilson/Santos 2-0-0).

- g. **James Yumen**, Police Sergeant, Police Department, Request for Change of Status to Service-Connected Disability Retirement, effective April 3, 2021; 25.04* years of service.

Mr. Yumen, applicant, was present via Zoom. Amy Dickinson, Senior Benefits Analyst, read the applicant's case information into the record. Russ Richeda, Disability Counsel, clarified for the Committee the specific body parts he focused on. Counsel Richeda also spoke to the service-connection of the injuries, and concluded the Committee should recommend approval for the Change of Status to a Service-Connected Disability Retirement to the Board. Mr. Yumen thanked the committee. Chair Santos and Trustee Wilson both said a few kinds words.

A motion was made to recommend approval of a Change in Status to a Service-Connected Disability Retirement to the Board. This case will go to the Board on the Consent Calendar on August 1, 2024.

Approved. (M.S.C. Wilson/Santos 2-0-0).

- **PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS**

None.

- **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

- **ADJOURNMENT**

This meeting was adjourned at 10:43 a.m.

Minutes Recorded, Prepared and Respectfully submitted by,

Roberto L. Peña, CEO, Office of Retirement Services