



BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION

Meeting Minutes - Final Police and Fire Disability Committee

Monday, December 11, 2023

10:00 AM

1737 N. 1st 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: 969 6933 9836
Pass Code: 959747

DISABILITY COMMITTEE MEMBERS ADVISORY PANEL

Richard Santos, Chair
Vacant, Trustee

Russell Richeda, Counsel
Sandra Castellano, Benefits Div Manager

ALTERNATES

Franco Vado, Trustee
Eswar Menon, Trustee

2nd ALTERNATES

Dave Wilson, Trustee
Howard Lee, Trustee

Present 2 - Richard Santos, and Dave Wilson

The Police and Fire Disability Committee met in person at 1737 N. First St., Suite 580 and via Zoom on Monday, December 11, 2023. The meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m. by Chair Santos followed by roll call.

Committee members present: Richard Santos and Dave Wilson.

Retirement Staff Present: Barbara Hayman, Sandra Castellano, Amy Dickinson, Chris Ha, Edith Aldama, Cynthia Ayala, David Torres and Sherrell Aledo.

Retirement Staff Present via Zoom: Veronica Solorio.

Also Present: Russ Richeda, Disability Counsel; Joseph Abasolo, Applicant; Bryan Aquino, Applicant; Matthew Paiss, Applicant; Douglas Schmidt, Applicant; Stephanie Lau, Fire Department; and Sam Swift, Attorney.

Also Present via Zoom: Sarah Steele, OER; and Sandra Dennis, Police Department.

- **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 P & F Disability Committee meeting from November 6, 2023.

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. **Aneez Raghavan**, Police Officer, Police Department, Request for Service-Connected Disability Retirement, active; 22.28* years of service. (*With Reciprocity - 18.88 CSJ YOS + 3.41 PERS YOS*).

Amy Dickinson, Benefits Analyst, read the applicant's case information into the record. Aneez Raghavan, applicant, was not present. Russ Richeda, Disability Counsel, clarified for the Committee the specific body parts he focused on in his review of the records. Counsel Richeda also spoke to the service-connection of the injuries, and concluded the Committee should recommend approval for the Service Connected Disability Retirement to the Board. Chair Santos and Trustee Wilson thanked staff and 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 January 4, 2024.

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

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

- a. **Joseph Abasolo**, Fire Engineer, Fire Department, Request for Change in Status to Service-Connected Disability Retirement, effective January 31, 2020; 25.63* years of service.

Amy Dickinson, Benefits Analyst, read the applicant's case information into the record. Joseph Abasolo, applicant, and his attorney Sam Swift were present in person. Russ Richeda, Disability Counsel, clarified for the Committee the specific body parts he focused on in his review of the records. Counsel Richeda also spoke to the service-connection of the injuries, and concluded the Committee should recommend approval for the Change in Status to a Service-Connected Disability Retirement to the Board. Mr. Abasolo and Mr. Swift thanked the Committee for their time and consideration. Chair Santos and Trustee Wilson 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 January 4, 2024.

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

- b. **Bryan Aquino**, Fire Engineer, Fire Department, Request for Change in Status to Service-Connected Disability Retirement, effective January 24, 2019; 25.11* years of service.

Amy Dickinson, Benefits Analyst, read the applicant's case information into the record. Bryan Aquino, applicant, and his attorney Sam Swift were present in person. Russ Richeda, Disability Counsel, clarified for the Committee the specific body parts he focused on in his review of the records. Counsel Richeda also spoke to the service-connection of the injuries, and concluded the Committee should recommend approval for the Change in Status to a Service-Connected Disability Retirement to the Board. Mr. Aquino thanked the Committee for their time and consideration. Chair Santos and Trustee Wilson 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 January 4, 2024.

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

- c. **Matthew Paiss**, Fire Captain, Fire Department, Request for Change in Status to Service-Connected Disability Retirement, effective January 12, 2019; 22.49* years of service.

Amy Dickinson, Benefits Analyst, read the applicant's case information into the record. **Matthew Paiss**, applicant, and his attorney **Sam Swift** were present in person. **Russ Richeda**, Disability Counsel, clarified for the Committee the specific body parts he focused on in his review of the records. Counsel **Richeda** also spoke to the service-connection of the injuries, and concluded the Committee should recommend approval for the Change in Status to a Service-Connected Disability Retirement to the Board. Mr. **Paiss** thanked the Committee for their time and consideration. Chair **Santos** and Trustee **Wilson** 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 January 4, 2024.

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

- d. **Douglas Schmidt**, Fire Engineer, Fire Department, Request for Change in Status to Service-Connected Disability Retirement, effective July 13, 2019; 25.08* years of service.

Amy Dickinson, Benefits Analyst, read the applicant's case information into the record. **Douglas Schmidt**, applicant, and his attorney **Sam Swift** were present in person. **Russ Richeda**, Disability Counsel, clarified for the Committee the specific body parts he focused on in his review of the records. Counsel **Richeda** also spoke to the service-connection of the injuries, and concluded the Committee should recommend approval for the Change in Status to a Service-Connected Disability Retirement to the Board. Chair **Santos** and Trustee **Wilson** 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 January 4, 2024.

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

- **PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS**

None.

- **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

- **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Next P&F Board Meeting: January 4, 2023

Next P&F Disability Committee Meeting: January 8, 2023

The next P&F Board Meeting: January 4, 2024

The next P&F Disability Committee Meeting: January 8, 2024

Minutes Recorded, Prepared and Respectfully submitted by,

Roberto L. Peña, CEO, Office of Retirement Services