



# BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION

## Meeting Minutes - Final Federated Disability Committee

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Tuesday, February 4, 2025

10:00 AM

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

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### HYBRID MEETING

#### PHYSICAL LOCATION:

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

#### ZOOM INFORMATION:

zoom.us  
Dial In: +1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)  
Meeting ID: 988 6625 7043  
Passcode: 636077

#### **DISABILITY COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

*Mark Linder, Chair (Term Expires 11/30/28)*  
*Julie Jennings, Trustee (Term Expires 11/30/27) -- 855 E. Hilton Dr., Boulder Creek, CA 95006*  
*Matthew Faulkner, Trustee (Term Expires 11/30/27)*

*John Flynn, CEO, Office of Retirement Services*  
*Sandra Castellano, Benefits Division Manager*

*Russ Richeda, Disability Counsel*  
*Maytak Chin, General and Fiduciary Counsel*

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**Present** 3 - Mark Linder, Julie Jennings, and Matthew Faulkner

The Federated Disability Committee met in person at 1737 N. First St., Ste 580, San Jose, CA 95112 and via Zoom on Tuesday, February 4, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. The meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m. by Chair Linder followed by roll call.

**Board Members Present:** Mark Linder and Matthew Faulkner.

**Board Members Present via Zoom utilizing the Traditional Brown Act rules:** Julie Jennings. Chair Linder questioned Trustee Jennings on whether she met the qualifications to teleconference under the Brown Act, and Trustee Jennings responded in the affirmative.

**Retirement Staff Present:** John Flynn, Barbara Hayman, Sandra Castellano, Amy Dickinson, Cynthia Ayala, Gabriela Romero, Edith Aldama, Sherrell Aledo, Veronica Solorio, and Chris Ha.

**Also Present:** William Danko Jr., Applicant; Russ Richeda, Disability Counsel; and Nathan Nakagawa, Environmental Services Department.

**Also Present via Zoom:** Sarah Steele, OER; Judith Roberto, Applicant; Ulises Aguirre, Attorney; Nicholas Roberto, Public Member; and Michael Fraga, Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services.

**I. AB 2449 REMOTE APPEARANCE(S)**

**a. Just Cause Circumstance(s) (Gov't Code § 54953)**

- i. The following Trustee(s) have notified the Board of a "Just Cause" to attend this meeting via teleconference.

NONE

- ii. Call for Trustee(s) who wish to notify the Board of a "Just Cause" to attend this meeting via teleconference.

**b. Emergency Circumstance(s) (Gov't Code § 54953)**

- i. The following Trustee(s) have requested the Board approve their attendance of this meeting via teleconference due to an "Emergency Circumstance."
- ii. Call for Trustee(s) requesting the Board approve their attendance of this meeting via teleconference due to an "Emergency Circumstance."

NONE

iii. Take action on request(s) for remote appearance.

- **CALL TO ORDER**

- **ORDERS OF THE DAY**

Chair Linder read the following into the record:

**A FEW GROUND RULES FOR THIS MEETING**

- All votes will be roll call votes.
- 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 motion was made to approve the Consent Calendar.

Approved. (M.S.C. Faulkner/Jennings 3-0-0) .The motion passed by roll call vote.

- a. Approval of the Minutes of the Federated Disability Committee meeting from November 20, 2024.

2. **APPLICATION FOR A CHANGE OF STATUS TO SERVICE CONNECTED DISABILITY**

- a. **William Danko Jr.**, Industrial Electrician, Environmental Services Department, Request for Change of Status to Service-Connected Disability Retirement, effective January 10, 2025; 15.68\* years of service.

Amy Dickinson, Senior Benefits Analyst, read the applicant's case information into the record. William Danko Jr., applicant, was present in person. 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. Mr. Danko spoke to the item and thanked the Committee. Sarah Steele, OER, spoke to the item. Trustee Jennings also spoke to the item. Chair Linder and Sandra Castellano added comments.

A motion was made to recommend the approval of the applicant's Change of Status to a Service-Connected Disability Retirement to the Board. This case will go to the Board on the Consent Calendar on February 20, 2025.

Approved. (M.S.C. Faulkner/Jennings 3-0-0). This motion passed by roll call vote.

- b. **Judith Roberto**, Entertainment Coordinator, Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services, Request for Change of Status to Service-Connected Disability Retirement, effective November 16, 2018; 7.61\* years of service.

Amy Dickinson, Senior Benefits Analyst, read the applicant's case information into the record. Judith Roberto, applicant, and her attorney, Ulises Aguirre, were present via Zoom. 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. Attorney, Ulises Aguirre, added comments.

A motion was made to recommend the approval of the applicant's Change of Status to a Service-Connected Disability Retirement to the Board. This case will go to the Board on the Consent Calendar on February 20, 2025.

Approved. (M.S.C. Jennings/Faulkner 3-0-0). This motion passed by roll call vote.

Chair Linder thanked Benefits Division staff for their work.

### 3. **NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Federated Quarterly Disability Retirement Applications Dashboard.

Amy Dickinson, Senior Disability Analyst, spoke to the item and answered questions from the Committee. Sandra Castellano, Benefits Division Manager, also assisted in answering questions from the Committee.

- **PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS**

The March and April 2025 meetings were canceled. The next meeting will take place in May.

- **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

- **ADJOURNMENT**

This meeting was adjourned at 10:41 a.m.

Minutes Recorded, Prepared and Respectfully submitted by,

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John Flynn, CEO, Office of Retirement Services

In accordance with the requirements of AB 2449, the Board of Administration ("Board") will generally, upon request, provide appropriate aids and services leading to effective communication for individuals with disabilities so they can participate equally in the Board's meetings, including qualified sign language interpreters, documents in Braille, and other ways of making information and communications accessible to people who have speech, hearing, vision or other disabilities.

Anyone who requires an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication to participate in a Board meeting should contact the designated contact in Office of Retirement Services as far in advance of the scheduled meeting as possible. The Board strongly encourages individuals with disabilities to endeavor to submit requests for reasonable accommodation no later than five (5) business days before the scheduled meeting, as the Board may not be able to grant requests for reasonable accommodations without sufficient advance notice. The Board strongly encourages individuals with disabilities to submit their written requests via email or regular mail to facilitate tracking and response; however, if the submission of a written request constitutes a hardship, individuals may call the Office of Retirement Services to submit an oral request.

The designated contact in the Office of Retirement Services will endeavor to respond to each request within three (3) business days of receipt of the request. Depending on the request, the designated contact in the Office of Retirement Services may ask to schedule a time to discuss the request (which may occur virtually) to determine the most appropriate auxiliary aid or service, before the request is resolved.

**ADA Designated Contact Information**

Attention: Deputy Director/Chief Operations Officer, Office of Retirement Services

Address: 1737 N First St #600, San Jose, CA 95112

Email: #Retire\_Admin@sanjoseca.gov

Phone: 408-794-1000 (ORS Main Line)

**THE LEVINE ACT**

The Levine Act requires a Party in a Proceeding before the City of San José that involves any action related to their contract, license, permit, or use entitlement to disclose any campaign contributions to City elected or appointed officials totaling more than \$500 within the 12 months prior to the City decision. A Participant to a Proceeding may voluntarily report a campaign contribution on the form located on the Levine Act webpage.

**The Code of Conduct**

(<https://www.sanjoseca.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/12901/636670004966630000>) is intended to promote open meetings that welcome debate of public policy issues being discussed by the City Council, their Committees, and City Boards and Commissions in an atmosphere of fairness, courtesy, and respect for differing points of view.

**1. Public Meeting Decorum:**

- a) Persons in the audience will refrain from behavior which will disrupt the public meeting. This will include making loud noises, clapping, shouting, booing, hissing or engaging in any other activity in a manner that disturbs, disrupts or impedes the orderly conduct of the meeting.
- b) Persons in the audience will refrain from creating, provoking or participating in any type of disturbance involving unwelcome physical contact.
- c) Persons in the audience will refrain from using cellular phones and/or pagers while the meeting is in session.
- d) Appropriate attire, including shoes and shirts are required in the Council Chambers and Committee Rooms at all times.
- e) Persons in the audience will not place their feet on the seats in front of them.
- f) No food, drink (other than bottled water with a cap), or chewing gum will be allowed in the Council Chambers and Committee Rooms, except as otherwise pre-approved by City staff.
- g) All persons entering the Council Chambers and Committee Rooms, including their bags, purses, briefcases and similar belongings, may be subject to search for weapons and other dangerous materials.

**2. Signs, Objects or Symbolic Material:**

- a) Objects and symbolic materials, such as signs or banners, will be allowed in the Council Chambers and Committee Rooms, with the following restrictions: § No objects will be larger than 2 feet by 3 feet.
  - No sticks, posts, poles or other such items will be attached to the signs or other symbolic materials.
  - The items cannot create a building maintenance problem or a fire or safety hazard.
- b) Persons with objects and symbolic materials such as signs must remain seated when displaying them and must not raise the items above shoulder level, obstruct the view or passage of other attendees, or otherwise disturb the business of the meeting.
- c) Objects that are deemed a threat to persons at the meeting or the facility infrastructure are not allowed. City staff is authorized to remove items and/or individuals from the Council Chambers and Committee Rooms if a threat exists or is perceived to exist. Prohibited items include, but are not limited to: firearms (including replicas and antiques), toy guns, explosive material, and ammunition; knives and other edged weapons; illegal drugs and drug paraphernalia; laser pointers, scissors, razors, scalpels, box cutting knives, and other cutting tools; letter openers, corkscrews, can openers with points, knitting needles, and hooks; hairspray, pepper spray, and aerosol containers; tools; glass containers; and large backpacks and suitcases that contain items unrelated to the meeting.

**3. Addressing the Council, Committee, Board or Commission:**

- a) Persons wishing to speak on an agenda item or during open forum are requested to complete a speaker card and submit the card to the City Clerk or other administrative staff at the meeting.
- b) Meeting attendees are usually given two (2) minutes to speak on any discussion item and/or during open forum; the total amount of time allocated for public testimony for each public speaker or for an agenda item is in the discretion of the Chair of the meeting and may be limited when appropriate. (California Government Code Section 54954.3; Council Policy 0-37) Applicants and appellants in land use matters are usually given more time to speak. Speakers using a translator will be given twice the time allotted to ensure non-English speakers receive the same opportunity to directly address the Council, Committee, Board or Commission.
- c) Speakers should discuss only the agenda item when called to speak for that item, and only topics related to City business when called to speak during open forum on the agenda.
- d) Speakers' comments should be addressed to the full body. Requests to engage the Mayor, Council Members, Board Members, Commissioners or Staff in conversation will not be honored. Abusive language is inappropriate.

- e) Speakers will not bring to the podium any items other than a prepared written statement, writing materials, or objects that have been inspected by security staff.
  - f) If an individual wishes to submit written information, he or she may give it to the City Clerk or other administrative staff at the meeting.
  - g) Speakers and any other members of the public will not approach the dais at any time without prior consent from the Chair of the meeting.
- Failure to comply with this Code of Conduct which will disturb, disrupt or impede the orderly conduct of the meeting may result in removal from the meeting and/or possible arrest.