



# BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION

## Meeting Minutes - Final Police and Fire Disability Committee

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Monday, November 6, 2023

10:00 AM

1737 N. 1st 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: +1 669-219-2599 US (San Jose)**  
**Meeting ID: 969 6933 9836**  
**Pass Code: 959747**

**DISABILITY COMMITTEE MEMBERS    ADVISORY PANEL**

*Richard Santos, Chair*  
*Andrew Lanza, Trustee*

*Russell Richeda, Counsel*  
*Sandra Castellano, Benefits Div Manager*

**ALTERNATES**

*Franco Vado, Trustee*  
*Eswar Menon, Trustee*

**2nd ALTERNATES**

*Dave Wilson, Trustee*  
*Howard Lee, Trustee*

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**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, November 6, 2023. 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, Barbara Hayman, Sandra Castellano, Amy Dickinson, Veronica Solorio, Chris Ha, Edith Aldama, Cynthia Ayala, David Torres and Sherrell Aledo.

Retirement Staff Present via Zoom: Linda Alexander and Anh Trinh.

Also Present: Russ Richeda, Disability Counsel; Jose Chavez, Applicant; Collin Crooker, Applicant; Jeanette Sivertsen, Applicant; and Sam Swift, Attorney.

Also Present via Zoom: Fred Mills, Applicant; Robert Finnie, Applicant; Tom Boyle, Attorney; Sarah Steele, OER; Lisa Perez, 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.

Chair Santos thanked Drew Lanza for his service to the Board and the Committee.

- 1. CONSENT CALENDAR**

- a. Approval of the Minutes of the P & F Disability Committee meeting from September 15, 2023.

A motion was made to approve the Consent Calendar.

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

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

- a. **Jose Chavez**, Fire Captain, Fire Department, Request for Change in Status to Service-Connected Disability Retirement, effective August 25, 2018; 23.85\* years of service.

**Amy Dickinson, Benefits Analyst**, read the applicant's case information into the record. **Jose Chavez**, 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. Chavez thanked the Committee for their time and consideration.

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 December 7, 2023.

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

- b. **Collin Crooker**, Police Officer, Police Department, Request for Change in Status to Service-Connected Disability Retirement, effective August 10, 2019; 22.73\* years of service. (*With Reciprocity - 20.69 CSJ YOS + 2.04 PERS YOS*)

**Amy Dickinson, Benefits Analyst**, read the applicant's case information into the record. **Collin Crooker**, applicant, was present in person and spoke on his own behalf. **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. Crooker 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 December 7, 2023.

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

- c. **Robert Finnie**, Police Sergeant, Police Department, Request for Change in Status to Service-Connected Disability Retirement, effective August 4, 2019; 25.03\* years of service.

**Amy Dickinson, Benefits Analyst**, read the applicant's case information into the record. **Robert Finnie**, applicant, was present via Zoom and spoke on his own behalf. **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. Finnie thanked the Committee for their time and consideration. Chair Santos said a few kind words and Trustee Wilson said a few comments.

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 December 7, 2023.

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

- d. **Fred Mills**, Police Officer, Police Department, Request for Change in Status to Service-Connected Disability Retirement, effective July 12, 2019; 25.96\* years of service.

**Amy Dickinson, Benefits Analyst**, read the applicant's case information into the record. **Fred Mills**, applicant, was present via Zoom and spoke on his own behalf. **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. Mills 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 December 7, 2023.

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

- e. **Jeanette Sivertsen**, Police Officer, Police Department, Request for Change in Status to Service-Connected Disability Retirement, effective November 16, 2019; 26.67\* years of service.

**Amy Dickinson, Benefits Analyst**, read the applicant's case information into the record. **Jeanette Sivertsen**, applicant, and her 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. Ms. Sivertsen said a few comments and 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 December 7, 2023.

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

• **PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS**

None.

• **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

• **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

**Next P&F Board Meeting: December 7, 2023**

**Next P&F Disability Committee Meeting: December 11, 2023**

Minutes Recorded, Prepared and Respectfully submitted by,

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Roberto L. Peña, CEO, Office of Retirement Services