

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

Thursday, February 22, 2024
8:31 a.m.

Presiding: Chair Brian Williams.

Present: Trustees Travis Balzarini (arrived @ 8:41 a.m.), Joe Tambe, and Bob Williamson; Alternate Retiree Trustee Neil Baker; Assistant Chief Executive Officer/Chief Legal Counsel Cristina Hess; Member Services Manager Jackie Purter; and Retirement Analyst Rebecca Gay.

Public comments were solicited prior to the meeting by emailing Jackie.Purter@sonoma-county.org. Members of the public who joined the Zoom meeting via 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.

I. MINUTES APPROVAL

Approval of the January 18, 2024 Minutes.

Motion was made by Trustee Williamson, seconded by Trustee Tambe to approve the January 18, 2024 Disability Committee Meeting Minutes. The motion carried 4-0-1-0 with voting as follows:

Mr. Baker	Aye
Mr. Balzarini	Absent
Mr. Tambe	Aye
Mr. Williams	Aye
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, the attendees were locked out. 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. JAIME RODRIGUEZ, Correctional Deputy II filed 11/01/22 for a service connected disability retirement.

Case was returned to hearing.

2. ALMA JIMENEZ, Correctional Deputy II filed 06/20/23 for a service connected disability retirement.

Motion was made by Trustee Baker and seconded by Trustee Williamson to recommend that Ms. Jimenez be denied a service connected disability retirement. The motion carried 3-2-0-0 with voting as follows:

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

3. DARIN DOUGHERTY, Sheriff's Captain filed 08/21/23 for a service connected disability retirement.

Motion was made by Trustee Baker and seconded by Trustee Tambe to recommend that Mr. Dougherty be granted a service connected disability retirement. The motion carried 5-0-0-0 with voting as follows:

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

B. Discussion:

Reviewed the February 2024 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.

III. EXECUTIVE SESSION REPORT OUT – OPEN SESSION

Committee Chair Brian Williams reported out in open session that the Committee voted 3-2 recommended to deny a service connected disability retirement to Correctional Deputy II Alma Jimenez. The Committee unanimously recommended to grant a service connected disability retirement to Sheriff's Captain Darin Dougherty.

IV. GENERAL DISCUSSION MATTERS

There were no general discussion matters.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

VI. NEXT MEETING

Scheduled for Thursday, March 21, 2024 at 8:30 a.m. in the SCERA Board Room located at 433 Aviation Boulevard, Suite 100 in Santa Rosa, CA.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 a.m.

VIII. APPROVAL

The above minutes for the Disability Committee meeting on February 22, 2024 were approved at the Disability Committee meeting on April 18, 2024.

BRIAN WILLIAMS, CHAIR