

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

Thursday, September 19, 2024  
8:32 a.m.

Presiding: Chair Brian Williams.

Present: Trustees Travis Balzarini (arrived @ 8:33 a.m.), Joe Tambe and Bob Williamson; Alternate Retiree Trustee Neil Baker; Chief Executive Officer Julie Wyne; 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 July 18, 2024 Minutes.

Motion was made by Trustee Williamson, seconded by Trustee Baker to approve the July 18, 2024 Disability Committee Meeting Minutes. The motion carried 4-0-0-1 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. BRIAN KEEL, Correctional Deputy II filed 12/28/21 for a service connected disability retirement.

Motion was made by Trustee Tambe and seconded by Trustee Baker to recommend that Mr. Keel 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

2. MICHAEL RAASCH, Lieutenant filed 04/25/24 for a service connected disability retirement.

Motion was made by Trustee Williamson and seconded by Trustee Balzarini to recommend that Mr. Raasch 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

II. EXECUTIVE SESSION, continued

A. Applications for Committee Action, continued:

3. JOSEPH BISBIGLIA, general member who retired effective 10/11/20 with a service retirement. On August 8, 2024, Mr. Bisbiglia submitted a request that his retirement be suspended and that he be reinstated per Government Code section 31680.4. He has been offered the position of a Deputy Public Defender IV with the County of Sonoma.

Motion was made by Trustee Baker and seconded by Trustee Williamson to recommend that Mr. Bisbiglia's retirement benefit be suspended and that he be reinstated as an active member in the retirement association pursuant to Government Code Section 31680.4. 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 September 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 unanimously to recommend granting a service connected disability retirement to Correctional Deputy II Brian Keel and Lieutenant Michael Raasch. The Committee voted unanimously to recommend granting Retiree Joseph Bisbiglia's request to suspend his service retirement and to return to work as an active member with the County of Sonoma.

IV. GENERAL DISCUSSION MATTERS

There were no general discussion matters.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

VI. NEXT MEETING

Scheduled for Thursday, October 24, 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 9:00 a.m.

VIII. APPROVAL

The above minutes for the Disability Committee meeting on September 19, 2024 were approved at the Disability Committee meeting on October 24, 2024.

BRIAN WILLIAMS, CHAIR