

**ORANGE COUNTY EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM  
2223 E. WELLINGTON AVENUE, SUITE 100  
SANTA ANA, CALIFORNIA 92701**

**DISABILITY COMMITTEE MEETING**

**October 18, 2021**

**8:30 a.m.**

**MINUTES**

**OPEN**

**SESSION**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 8:34 a.m.

Attendance was as follows:

Present via Zoom Video conference pursuant to Government Code § 54953, as amended by AB 361:

Adele Tagaloa, Chair; Charles Packard; Jeremy Vallone

Also Present via Zoom:

Steve Delaney, Chief Executive Officer; Gina Ratto, General Counsel; Suzanne Jenike, Assistant CEO, External Operations; Megan Cortez, Disability Manager; Isabel Linares, Disability Investigator; Cammy Torres, Recording Secretary; Anthony Beltran, Audio Visual Technician

**COMMITTEE FINDINGS PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE § 54953, AS AMENDED BY AB 361**

*Presentation by Gina Ratto, General Counsel, OCERS*

**Recommendation:** The Committee is asked to make the following findings (a majority vote is required):

- (1) The Committee has reconsidered the circumstances of the state of emergency; and
- (2) The Committee has determined that one or both of the following circumstances exist:
  - a. The state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members of the Committee to meet safely in person; and/or
  - b. State or local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing.

Ms. Ratto presented the findings as amended by AB 361.

**MOTION** by Packard, **seconded** by Vallone, to approve staff's recommendation on the committee findings pursuant to Government Code § 54953, as amended by AB 361.

The motion passed **unanimously.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**CONSENT ITEMS**

**MOTION** by Vallone, **seconded** by Packard, to approve staff's recommendation on all of the following items on the Consent Agenda:

The motion passed **unanimously**.

**DC-1: MANUEL DeBACA**

Firefighter, Orange County Fire Authority (Safety Member)

**Recommendation:** Staff recommends that the Disability Committee forward to the Board of Retirement a recommendation to:

- Grant service connected disability retirement.
- Set the effective date as March 26, 2021.

**DC-2: TIMOTHY DUFFY**

Emergency Transport Technician, Orange County Fire Authority (General Member)

**Recommendation:** Staff recommends that the Disability Committee forward to the Board of Retirement a recommendation to:

- Grant service connected disability retirement.
- Set the effective date as February 2, 2018.

**DC-3: JOHN LAMB**

Fire Captain, Orange County Fire Authority (Safety Member)

**Recommendation:** Staff recommends that the Disability Committee forward to the Board of Retirement a recommendation to:

- Grant service connected disability retirement.
- Set the effective date as November 6, 2020.

**DC-4: CHARLES LEGG**

Fire Apparatus Engineer, Orange County Fire Authority (Safety Member)

**Recommendation:** Staff recommends that the Disability Committee forward to the Board of Retirement a recommendation to:

- Grant service connected disability retirement.
- Set the effective date as January 15, 2021.

**DC-5: WILLIAM MATTERN**

Battalion Chief, Orange County Fire Authority (Safety Member)

**Recommendation:** Staff recommends that the Disability Committee forward to the Board of Retirement a recommendation to:

- Grant service connected disability retirement.
- Set the effective date as March 26, 2021.

**DC-6: CHRISTINA WATSON**

Deputy Sheriff II, Orange County Sheriff's Department (Safety Member)

**Recommendation:** Staff recommends that the Disability Committee forward to the Board of Retirement a recommendation to:

- Grant service connected disability retirement.
- Set the effective date as January 15, 2021.

*The Committee recessed into Closed Session at 8:42 a.m.*

*The Committee resumed into Open Session at 8:47 a.m.*

**OPEN SESSION**

**ACTION ITEMS**

**DA-1: INDIVIDUAL ACTION ON ANY ITEM TRAILED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA**

N/A

**A. REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION**

**DA-2: LIDIA CARMONA**

Social Worker II, Orange County Social Services Agency (General Member)

**Recommendation:** Staff recommends that the Disability Committee forward to the Board of Retirement a recommendation to:

- Grant non-service connected disability retirement.
- Set the effective as October 22, 2010.
- Deny service connected disability retirement due to insufficient evidence of job causation.

**MOTION** by Vallone, **seconded** by Packard to approve staff recommendation.

The motion passed **unanimously.**

**DA-3: KELLY LUPRO**

Administrative Manager II, Orange County Health Care Agency (General Member)

**Recommendation:** Staff recommends that the Disability Committee forward to the Board of Retirement a recommendation to:

- Grant non-service connected disability retirement.
- Set the effective as March 29. 2019.

- Deny service connected disability retirement due to insufficient evidence of job causation.

**MOTION** by Packard, **seconded** by Vallone to approve staff recommendation.

The motion passed **unanimously**.

**B. MINUTES FROM THE SEPTEMBER 20, 2021 DISABILITY COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Recommendation:** Approve the Minutes.

**MOTION** by Packard, **seconded** by Vallone to approve September 20, 2021 Disability Committee meeting minutes.

The motion passed **unanimously**.

**COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS**

N/A

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER/STAFF COMMENTS**

N/A

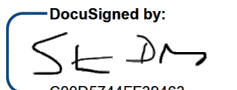
**COUNSEL COMMENTS**

N/A

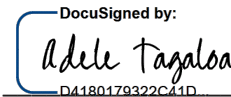
**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:49 a.m.

Submitted by:

DocuSigned by:  
  
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Steve Delaney

Approved by:

DocuSigned by:  
  
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Adele Tagalao