

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

**DISABILITY COMMITTEE MEETING  
Monday, May 20, 2024  
8:30 A.M.  
MINUTES**

**OPEN SESSION**

Chair Oates called the meeting to order at 8:43 a.m.

Recording Secretary administered roll call.

Attendance was as follows: Richard Oates, Chair; Charles Packard, Vice Chair; Roger Hilton, Board Member; Jeremy Vallone, Board Member

Also in Attendance: Steve Delaney, CEO, Suzanne Jenike, Assistant CEO, External Operations; Manuel Serpa, General Counsel; Nicole McIntosh, Director of Disability; Joon Kim, Staff Attorney; Brittany Brayboy, Disability Retirement Investigator; Vanessa Lopez, Disability Investigator; Cesar Rodriguez, Disability Retirement Investigator; Anthony Beltran, Audio Visual Technician; Marielle Horst, Recording Secretary

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

*The Committee did not adjourn to closed session.*

**DISABILITY CONSENT ITEMS**

**DA-1: THERESA WHITNEY**

Eligibility Technician, Orange County Social Services Agency (General)

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

- Deny service-connected disability retirement due to insufficient evidence of permanent incapacity.

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

passed **unanimously**.

### **CONSENT ITEMS**

#### **C-1 MINUTES FROM THE JANUARY 17, 2024, DISABILITY COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Recommendation:** Approve the Minutes.

**MOTION** by Mr. Packard, **seconded** by Mr. Hilton to approve the Disability Committee meeting minutes. The motion passed **unanimously**.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

#### **A-1 INDIVIDUAL ACTION ON ANY ITEM TRAILED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA**

#### **A-2 TRIENNIAL REVIEW OF THE DISABILITY RETIREMENT REASSIGNMENT POLICY**

*Presented by Nicole McIntosh, Director of Disabilities*

**Recommendation:** Review, approve, and recommend that the Board approve the non-substantive revisions to the Disability Retirement Reassignment Policy, as presented. Staff also recommends that the Committee review, approve and recommend that the Board approve the modified title of the policy. "Supplemental Disability Retirement Policy (Reassignment)".

**MOTION** by Mr. Packard, **seconded** by Mr. Vallone to approve staff recommendations. The motion passed **unanimously**.

#### **A-3 TRIENNIAL REVIEW OF THE HEARING OFFICER SELECTION AND RETENTION POLICY**

*Presented by Nicole McIntosh, Director of Disabilities*

**Recommendation:** Review, approve, and recommend that the Board approve the Hearing Officer Selection and Retention Policy, as presented.

After discussion, a **MOTION** by Mr. Packard, **seconded** by Mr. Hilton to approve staff recommendations, with suggested revisions. The motion passed **unanimously**.

#### **A-4 REVISIONS TO THE DISABILITY PRESUMPTIONS OAP**

*Presented by Nicole McIntosh, Director of Disabilities*

**Recommendation:** Review, and recommend that the Board approve the Disability Retirement Presumptions OAP, as presented.

**MOTION** by Mr. Oates, **seconded** by Mr. Packard to approve staff recommendations. The motion passed

Orange County Employees Retirement System  
May 20, 2024  
Disability Committee Meeting Minutes

**unanimously.**

**STAFF COMMENTS**

Ms. McIntosh informed the Committee of the process changes made throughout the Disability Department. She noted that the integration of program software, *Foundation AI*, has shortened the processing time for Medical Case Reviews, thus providing a quicker processing time.

Ms. McIntosh reported to the committee the Disability Seminar “Beyond the Badge, Breaking the Silence: Mental Health Challenges in Safety Professions and Disability Retirement”, presented by OCERS and LACERA at the May 2024 SACRS conference, was very successful. The presentation was informative, moving, and well-received. Ms. Jenike will seek approval to hold an education session for the Board on the same topic.

**COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS**

Mr. Hilton thanked Ms. McIntosh for her presentation at SACRS.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER/ /COUNSEL COMMENTS**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

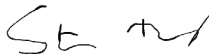
The meeting adjourned at 9:05 a.m.

Submitted by:

DocuSigned by:  
  
A8485C38CF4A402...

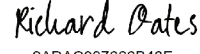
Suzanne Jenike  
Staff Liaison

Submitted by:

DocuSigned by:  
  
C00D5744FF39463...

Steve Delaney  
Secretary to the Board

Approved by:

Signed by:  
  
9ADAC097666B48E...

Richard Oates  
Chair