

Contra Costa County



1025 Escobar Street, 2nd Floor
Martinez, California 94553-1292
(925) 655-2103

MERIT BOARD

Charles Kreling, Chair
Eizo Kobayashi
James Mellander
Dennis Reigle

Walter G. Treanor
Chairman Emeritus

Contra Costa County Merit Board

Minutes of Meeting January 11, 2022

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Presiding Chair | Charles Kreling |
| Staff | Stacey Durocher |
| Members Present | Eizo Kobayashi, James Mellander, Dennis Reigle |
| Merit Board Counsel | Rebecca Hooley, Assistant County Counsel, County Counsel's Office |
| Others Present | Kendra Pappas, Deputy County Counsel, County Counsel's Office |

Other members of the public were present.

Recording of Merit Board Meetings

The Merit Board meetings are recorded and the audio recordings will be retained for a period of approximately ten years.

I. Approval of Consent Items

A. Minutes of December 14, 2021

Chair Kreling asked members of the Merit Board if they had any corrections or modifications to the minutes of December 14, 2021. With minor corrections requested by Assistant County Counsel, Rebecca Hooley to Item III. Discussion Items, the minutes were approved.

II. Public Comment: Persons who wish to address the Board during public comment, or with respect to an Item that is on the Agenda will be limited to two (2) minutes.

A. There were no public comments.

III. Discussion Items:

- A. CONSIDER authorizing the Merit Board to continue teleconference meetings under Government Code section 54953(e) and make related findings; DETERMINE that the Merit Board will hold virtual meetings for the next 30 days; and DIRECT the Secretary of the Merit Board to return this matter to the Merit Board within 30 days for reconsideration.

After some discussion, Chair Kreling moved and Member Reigle seconded and by the following roll call vote, the Merit Board (1) authorized teleconference meetings under Government Code section 54953(3), (2) determined that the Merit Board will hold virtual meetings for the next 30 days, and (3) directed the Secretary of the Merit Board to return this matter to the Merit Board within 30 days for reconsideration in accordance with Government Code, Section 54953 (e).

Ayes: Kobayashi, Mellander, Reigle, Kreling
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

IV. Old Business

- A. None.

V. New Business

- A. Consider the appeal of Patrice Newell from early retirement based on workplace discrimination and harassment as an Utilization Review Coordinator in Behavioral Health Administration of the Health Services Department.

Deputy County Counsel, Kendra Pappas objected to language 'early retirement' in the agenda language.

After a lengthy discussion, Chair Kreling moved and Member Reigle seconded to deny the appeal of Patrice Newell from workplace discrimination and harassment as an Utilization Review Coordinator in Behavioral Health Administration of the Health Services Department due to lack of jurisdiction.

Ayes: Kobayashi, Mellander, Kreling
Noes: Reigle
Abstain: None
Absent: None

There being no further business to consider, Chair Kreling adjourned the meeting at 7:35 PM.

DATED: January 15, 2022

APPROVED: 