

#### ALAMEDA COUNTY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION BOARD OF RETIREMENT MINUTES

#### THIS MEETING WAS CONDUCTED VIA TELECONFERENCE WITH VIDEO

## Thursday, September 15, 2022

Vice-Chair Liz Koppenhaver called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

| Trustees Present: | Dale Amaral<br>Ophelia Basgal<br>Keith Carson<br>Liz Koppenhaver<br>Henry Levy ( <i>Arrived After Roll Call</i> )<br>Kellie Simon<br>Darryl Walker ( <i>Alternate</i> )   |
|-------------------|---|
| Trustees Excused: | Tarrell Gamble<br>Jaime Godfrey<br>George Wood<br>Nancy Reilly ( <i>Alternate</i> )   |
| Staff Present:    | Angela Bradford, Executive Secretary<br>Kathy Foster, Assistant Chief Executive Officer-Benefits<br>Erica Haywood, Fiscal Services Officer<br>Jessica Huffman, Benefits Manager<br>Harsh Jadhav, Chief of Internal Audit<br>Vijay Jagar, Retirement Chief Technology Officer, ACERA<br>Lisa Johnson, Assistant Chief Executive Officer-Operations<br>David Nelsen, Chief Executive Officer<br>Jeff Rieger, Chief Counsel<br>Betty Tse, Chief Investment Officer |
| Staff Excused:    | Victoria Arruda, Human Resource Officer<br>Sandra Dueñas-Cuevas, Benefits Manager   |

#### PUBLIC INPUT

None.

# CONSENT CALENDAR

## **REPORTS AND ACTION ITEMS**

#### **REPORT ON SERVICE RETIREMENTS**

Appendix A

# LIST OF DEFERRED RETIREMENTS

Appendix B

#### LIST OF DECEASED MEMBERS

Appendix C

## APPROVE REQUEST(S) FOR UP TO 130 BI-WEEKLY PAYMENTS TO RE-DEPOSIT CONTRIBUTIONS AND GAIN CREDIT

None

#### APPROVE UNCONTESTED STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS ON DISABILITY RETIREMENTS AND DEATH BENEFITS Appendix E

Appendix E

#### APPROVE UNCONTESTED HEARING OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DISABILITY RETIREMENTS AND DEATH BENEFITS None

## **APPROVE MINUTES of BOARD and COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

August 18, 2022 Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting September 7 2022 Retirees Committee Minutes

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

- Proposed Findings Regarding State of Emergency Pursuant to Gov't Code § 54953(e)(3): Staff Recommendation: The Board finds that it has reconsidered the circumstances of the state of emergency and (1) the state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person, and (2) state or local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing.
- Operating Expenses and Budget Summary as of 07/31/22
- Approve Staff Recommendation regarding the County of Alameda's Amendment to Pay Item/Code One Time Special Payment – 718
- Approve Staff Recommendation regarding the County of Alameda's New Pay Item/Code Union Shop Steward/Officers Extended LOA UNL
- Approve Staff Recommendations regarding Superior Court of California's New Pay Items/Codes:
  - *Part-Time Court Interpreter INT11*
  - Court Interpreter Video Remote Interpreting Region 2 with 25% Premium Pay - INT25

## <u>22-54</u>

It was moved by Ophelia Basgal and seconded by Keith Carson that the Board adopt the Consent Calendar. The motion carried 6 yes (*Amaral, Basgal, Carson, Koppenhaver, Simon, Walker*), 0 no, and 0 abstentions. *Trustee Levy was not present for the vote on the motion*.

#### REGULAR CALENDAR REPORTS AND ACTION ITEMS

## DISABILITY, DEATH AND OTHER BENEFIT CLAIMS

#### This Item was addressed in Closed Session, pursuant to Gov't Code § 54957(b).

Service-Connected Disability Retirement Application of Pius Bachan, Deputy Sheriff II for the County of Alameda: Consideration of Hearing Officer's Proposed Findings of Fact and Recommended Decision, pursuant to Gov't Code § 31534.

This item was moved to the end of the agenda. See CLOSED SESSION below for the report out on Closed Session.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND MOTIONS

This month's Committee reports were presented in the following order:

#### Retirees:

Liz Koppenhaver gave an oral report stating that the Retirees Committee met on September 7, 2022 and discussed offering Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage Plan Enrollees with the optional Silver&Fit® Benefit for Plan Year 2023.

## <u>22-55</u>

It was moved by Liz Koppenhaver and seconded by Kellie Simon that the Board approve offering the optional Silver&Fit® benefit for Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage plan enrollees for the 2023 Plan Year, at an estimated annual cost of \$139,003. The motion carried 6 yes (*Amaral, Carson, Koppenhaver, Levy, Simon, Walker*), 0 no, and 1 abstention (*Basgal*).

Trustee Koppenhaver further reported that the Committee discussed including a hearing aid benefit for early (non-Medicare eligible) retirees enrolled in the Kaiser Permanente group medical plan.

## <u>22-56</u>

It was moved by Liz Koppenhaver and seconded by Kellie Simon that the Board approve including a \$1,000 hearing aid benefit per ear every 36 months to the Kaiser Permanente non-Medicare coverage for Plan Year 2023. The motion carried 7 yes (*Amaral, Basgal, Carson, Koppenhaver, Levy, Simon, Walker*), 0 no, and 0 abstentions.

Staff presented information on the following Information Items at the Retirees Committee meeting: 1) Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage Plan Optional Riders for Plan Year 2023; 2) Retired Member (Lump Sum) Death Benefit; 3) Active Death Equity Benefit; 4) Plans for Open Enrollment and Retiree Health and Wellness Fair; and 5) Miscellaneous Updates.

Trustee Koppenhaver announced that ACERA will host its annual (Virtual) Retiree Health and Wellness Fair on Thursday, October 27, 2022 at 9:30 a.m. Trustee Koppenhaver reported that the REAC Luncheon scheduled for October 10, 2022 was cancelled due to low participation.

Minutes of the meeting were approved as part of the Consent Calendar.

#### Investment:

Chief Investment Officer Betty Tse gave an oral report stating that the Investment Committee met on September 14, 2022 and that the Committee discussed an up to \$55 million investment in Audax Private Equity Fund VII, L.P. as part of ACERA's Private Equity Portfolio – Buyout, pending completion of Legal and Investment due diligence and successful contract negotiations. Ms. Tse reported that ACERA's previous \$25 million investment in this fund is performing very well.

## <u>22-57</u>

It was moved by Liz Koppenhaver and seconded by Keith Carson that the Board approve an up to \$55 million investment in Audax Private Equity Fund VII, L.P. as part of ACERA's Private Equity Portfolio – Buyout, pending completion of Legal and Investment due diligence and successful contract negotiations. The motion carried 6 yes (*Amaral, Basgal, Carson, Koppenhaver, Simon, Walker*), 0 no, and 1 abstention (*Levy*).

Ms. Tse further reported that the Committee discussed issuing a Request For Proposal (RFP) for a General Investment Consultant following the Proposed Timeline Search. Ms. Tse reported that Staff is planning to design this RFP to look for a full-service consultant who also has a real estate practice, capabilities and experience so that ACERA may potentially expand its relationship to include real estate coverage should there be a need in the future.

## <u>22-58</u>

It was moved by Liz Koppenhaver and seconded by Darryl Walker that the Board authorize Staff to issue a Request For Proposal (RFP) for a General Investment Consultant following the Proposed Search Timeline. The motion carried 7 yes (*Amaral, Basgal, Carson, Koppenhaver, Levy, Simon, Walker*), 0 no, and 0 abstentions.

Staff presented information on the following Information Items at the Investment Committee meeting: 1) Review of the Emerging Investment Manager (EIM) Policy; and 2) Report on the meeting date of the November 2022 Investment Committee meeting.

Minutes of the meeting will be presented to the Board for adoption on the Consent Calendar at the October 20, 2022 Board meeting.

## NEW BUSINESS:

## Council of Institutional Investors (CII) Voting Proxy

Mr. Nelsen presented his September 15, 2022, memo regarding Voting Proxy for the Council of Institutional Investors (CII) Fall Conference wherein he provided three options for the Board's consideration regarding the ACERA Board's proxy vote at the CII Fall Conference. The Options are: 1) Do not designate a proxy; 2) Designate a proxy, and give them authority to vote using their discretion; and 3) Designate a proxy, and provide direction on how to vote for each of the items. Mr. Nelsen recommended option 2, which is to designate Trustee Levy, who is attending the CII Fall Conference, to use his discretion to vote ACERA's proxy on behalf of the Board of Retirement at the CII Business Meeting – similar to the type of vote ACERA participates in at the SACRS Conference Business meeting. Mr. Nelsen reported that CII's items up for vote are non-controversial, which are: 1) approval of a bylaw amendment to enable electronic voting; 2) approval of a bylaw amendment to the CII Board the authority to set dues for all members; 3) approval of the 2023 budget; and 4) approval of an update to Section 2.11 of CII Corporate Governance Policies on Board size and service.

## <u>22-59</u>

It was moved by Darryl Walker and seconded by Ophelia Basgal that the Board authorize and select Trustee Henry Levy, who is attending the Council of Institutional Investors (CII) Fall Conference, to review CII's materials and to use his discretion to vote ACERA's Proxy on behalf of the Board of Retirement at the CII Fall Conference Business Meeting. The motion carried 7 yes (*Amaral, Basgal, Carson, Koppenhaver, Levy, Simon, Walker*), 0 no, and 0 abstentions.

## David Nelsen, Chief Executive Officer's Report

Chief Executive Officer Dave Nelsen presented his September 15, 2022 written CEO Report which provided an update on: 1) Senior Management Recruitment; 2) Committee and Board Action Items; 3) Conference/Event Schedule; 4) Other Items: a) COVID-19 Responses; b) Pension Administration System Project; c) Legislative Items; d) Strategic Planning; e) and 5) Key Performance Indicators.

Mr. Nelsen gave a brief description of and provided an update on the following bills: 1) SB 1328 passed the Senate, but did not move in the Assembly; 2) SACRS sponsored bills AB 1824 and AB were signed by the Governor; 3) AB 2493 was amended and passed in the Senate but was pulled by the bill sponsor in the Assembly, given the County opposition and word that it would likely be vetoed by the Governor; and 4) AB 2449 passed out of the legislature and was signed by the Governor. Mr. Nelsen reported that candidates' interviews for the Assistant Chief Executive Officer of Benefits position are underway. Mr. Nelsen will provide the Board with an update sometime next week.

Mr. Nelsen provided an update on the Board Elections stating that some candidates have already submitted their completed Nomination Packets and that those that were submitted have been certified by Staff. Mr. Nelsen announced that the Nomination Period ends on Monday, September 26, 2022 (at 5 p.m.). Mr. Nelsen will provide the Board with an update sometime next month.

## **CONFERENCE/ORAL REPORTS**

Trustee Levy reported that he attended Conexus' Financial Sustainability in Practice Conference and urged other Trustees to consider attending the Conference next year.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Board and Staff congratulated Kathy Foster on her recent retirement from her role as the Assistant Chief Executive Officer of Benefits and expressed their appreciation to Ms. Foster for her professionalism, support and dedication to ACERA's Stakeholders. Ms. Foster will be truly missed!

## **BOARD INPUT**

None.

## CLOSED SESSION

Item 5A: Service-Connected Disability Retirement Application of member Pius Bachan, Deputy Sheriff II.

The Board reconvened into Open Session and the following Trustees returned: *Amaral, Basgal, Koppenhaver, Levy, and Walker* 

Chief Counsel Jeff Rieger reported that the Board took the following action in Closed Session:

## <u>22-60</u>

The Board adopted the Hearing Officer's Proposed Recommendation to deny Pius Bachan, Deputy Sheriff II, a Service-Connected Disability Retirement. The votes were 3 yes (*Basgal, Koppenhaver, Levy*), 2 no (*Amaral, Walker*), and 0 abstentions.

To view the September 15, 2022 Board meeting in its entirety, click on the link below: <u>https://youtu.be/Ob-WqmgmeMI</u>.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:51 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

J Melse

10/20/22

David Nelsen Chief Executive Officer Date Adopted

ALZONA, Rhett Effective: 7/23/2022 Zone 7

BYRD, Tawanedda Effective: 7/9/2022 Social Services Agency

CARD, Alena Effective: 7/9/2022 District Attorney

CASEY, Lisa Effective: 7/23/2022 Probation Department

CLARK, Jacqueline Effective: 6/30/2022 Social Services Agency

EJALE, Francisca Effective: 6/26/2022 Alameda Health System

ELDRIDGE, Quamrun Effective: 7/9/2022 Health Care Services Agency

GERONIMO, Juzena Effective: 7/2/2022 Social Services Agency

ISIBOR, Elsie Effective: 7/9/2022 Alameda Health System

JIMENEZ, Sarah Effective: 6/4/2022 Health Care Services Agency

JOHNSON, Sonna Effective: 7/2/2022 Social Services Agency

KESSLER, Kelley Effective: 7/5/2022 Social Services Agency KING, Sherry Effective: 7/9/2022 Probation Department

LEE, Robert Effective: 6/11/2022 Health Care Services Agency

LOCKARD, Josephine Effective: 6/25/2022 Probation Department

MALIN, Christina Effective: 7/9/2022 Health Care Services Agency

MCGUINNESS, Marlene Effective: 6/25/2022 Auditor-Controller

METH, Ricardo Effective: 7/25/2022 Information Technology Department

PATTERSON, Troy Effective: 7/13/2022 Probation Department

PETERS, Robert Effective: 7/9/2022 Social Services Agency

PHAM, Colby Effective: 6/11/2022 Sheriff's Department

REED, Davonna Effective: 6/25/2022 Social Services Agency

RENIGAR, Michelle Effective: 8/1/2022 Superior Court

ROSENBERG, Graham Effective: 7/9/2022 Health Care Services Agency

#### APPENDIX A REPORT ON SERVICE RETIREMENTS

SMITH-WINN, Millie Effective: 7/7/2022 Superior Court

SPORER, Karl Effective: 6/25/2022 Health Care Services Agency

SPRINGFIELD, Deborah Effective: 6/11/2022 Social Services Agency VALENTIN, Jose Effective: 5/28/2022 Assessor

WILLIAMS, Dana Effective: 6/25/2022 Social Services Agency

WRIGHT, Linda Effective: 3/1/2022 Social Services Agency

#### APPENDIX B LIST OF DEFERRED RETIREMENTS

ABD RAHMAN, Waitun Aidah Binti Information Technology Department Effective Date: 7/22/2022

ABSHER, Richard A. Health Care Services Agency Effective: 3/18/2022

ALDERSON, Michelle E. Social Services Agency Effective: 6/3/2022

ALVAREZ, Susana Social Services Agency Effective: 5/13/2022

ANTHONY, Devin Social Services Agency Effective: 3/14/2022

BEAMAN, Audrey A. County Counsel Effective: 8/5/2022

BLACK, Jenna M. Sheriff's Department Effective: 7/23/2022

BLYTHE, Alexandria G. Public Defender Effective: 6/3/2022 BROWN, Briana Board of Supervisors Effective: 7/14/2022

BUGGS, yler J. Alameda Health System Effective: 7/8/2022

BURROUGHS, Hadley R. Health Care Services Agency Effective: 3/25/2022

CHEN, Frances F. County Counsel Effective: 7/29/2022

CHOI, Gan Wha Health Care Services Agency Effective: 7/8/2022

CHU, Chiu Ming Treasurer-Tax Collector Effective: 8/5/2022

CHURCH, Tamara Shri C. Zone 7 Effective: 6/10/2022

COLEMAN, Rebecca G. Community Development Agency Effective: 6/24/2022

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CORTES, Sarah M. Social Services Agency Effective: 5/13/2022

DAVIS, Denee A. Social Services Agency Effective: 6/24/2022

DAVIS, Jonahthan B. Health Care Services Agency Effective: 7/19/2022

DEL CID, Jesenia D. Social Services Agency Effective: 6/10/2022

DORADO, Sarah M. Alameda Health System Effective: 7/1/2022

DOUGLAS, Robert B. Health Care Services Agency Effective: 7/12/2022

DURAN-PEREDA, Ariana E. Auditor-Controller Effective: 6/30/2022

EVANS, Caroline R. Social Services Agency Effective: 6/30/2022

FAROLE, Deana Annette Superior Court Effective: 6/3/2022

FISHER, Diane C. Health Care Services Agency Effective: 4/1/2022

FORT, Jessica K. Probation Department Effective: 7/8/2022 GIL, Jesenia J. Social Services Agency Effective: 3/18/2022

GROVE, Jesse B. Public Defender Effective: 3/18/2022

GUZMAN GUERRERO, Denisse E. Human Resource Services Effective: 7/11/2022

HADJARZADEH, Hedayat General Services Agency Effective: 6/3/2022

HAULK, Jennifer L. County Counsel Effective: 6/30/2022

HUANG, Wendy Health Care Services Agency Effective: 7/8/2022

ISHII, Emma F. Board of Supervisors Effective: 7/21/2022

ISORDA, Rodney B. Alameda Health System Effective: 3/11/2022

JONES, Chalada A. Alameda Health System Effective: 6/19/2022

KC, Suvi S. Alameda Health System Effective: 7/4/2022

KUMAR, Ranjani Alameda Health System Effective: 7/9/2022 LEE, Kelly L. Alameda Health System Effective: 6/24/2022

LI, Dan Ping Alameda Health System Effective Date: 5/31/2022

LO, Dong Venh Sheriff's Department Effective: 7/9/2022

LUBINSKY, Amy M Alameda Health System Effective: 7/15/2022

LY, Daivy Sheriff's Department Effective: 7/9/2022

MARQUEZ, Tricia A. Departmnet of Child Support Services Effective: 7/22/2022

MENDOZA, Alejandra Social Services Agency Effective: 6/17/2022

MIELCAREK, Camden T. Zone 7 Effective: 7/8/2022

MONROE, Lisa E. Alameda Health System Effective: 7/8/2022

MOORE, Artishia J. Alameda Health System Effective: 6/25/2022

NGUYEN, Tyler Superior Court Effective: 7/13/2022

NUMERA, Lealoa C. First 5 Effective: 7/5/2022 OLIVER, Loretha N. Social Services Agency Effective: 7/8/2022

PIMWONG, Jasmine C. District Attorney Effective: 7/19/2022

QUACH, Josephine M. Auditor-Controller Effective: 7/15/2022

RAMIREZ, Theresa M. Health Care Services Agency Effective: 6/30/2022

RAMOS, Maria L. Alameda Health System Effective: 6/24/2022

ROBINSON, Katherine M. Adult & Aging Services Effective: 7/20/2022

SAMBRANO, Jose W. Alameda Health System Effective: 4/8/2022

SARMIENTO, Loraine R. Social Services Agency Effective: 6/30/2022

SHANNON, Megan LARPD Effective: 4/15/2022

SHAUVIN, Jamie E. Alameda Health System Effective: 4/15/2022

SIMPSON, Tameka Alameda Health System Effective: 5/12/2022

SPICER-WILSON, Stephanie M. Child Support Services Effective: 5/31/2022

## APPENDIX B LIST OF DEFERRED RETIREMENTS

STIMACH, Sol Y. District Attorney Effective: 8/5/2022

SULLIVAN, Kirk M. District Attorney Effective: 6/17/2022

THIYAGARAJAN, Venkateshan Information Technology Department Effective: 7/18/2022

TRUONG, Dao H. Alameda Health System Effective: 8/6/2022

TUNG, Nancy H. District Attorney Effective: 7/29/2022 TURNER, Dajuana Y. Superior Court Effective: 4/4/2022

VOHRA, Ila Social Services Agency Effective: 6/17/2022

VUONG, John Alameda Health System Effective: 6/10/2022

WILSON, Javarre C. Health Care Services Agency Effective: 7/19/2022

YUEN, Wing N. Health Care Servcies Agency Effective: 8/2/2022

#### APPENDIX C LIST OF DECEASED MEMBERS

BONESTEEL, Suzanne Social Services Agency 7/30/2022

COSBY, Clara Public Health 7/23/2022

DANIELSON, Lois Non-Mbr Survivor of Laurence Danielson 7/22/2022

DAVIS, Darrell Superior Court 8/13/2022

FOLEY, Rosita Health Care Services Agency 8/4/2022

GRAUMANN, Terri Public Works Agency 7/30/2022 HENDERSON, Robert Social Services Agency 8/4/2022

HIGGINS, Carolyn Health Care Services Agency 8/7/2022

KING, Sonja Probation Department 6/4/2022

KYRIACOS, Kenneth Sheriff's Department 8/14/2022

LEWIS, John District Attorney 8/17/2022

LUONG, Selina Social Services Agency 8/16/2022

#### APPENDIX C LIST OF DECEASED MEMBERS

MELODY, Vivian Non-Mbr Survivor of Robert Melody 7/31/2022

MERCADO, Zenaida Non-Mbr Survivor of Conrado Mercado 7/24/2022

MOOREHEAD, Debra General Services Agency 6/9/2022

MORANTON, Odette Non-Mbr Survivor of Marcel Moranton 8/8/2022

MOYA, Manuel Sheriff's Department 6/26/2022

MUTCH, Donald Social Services Agency 8/11/2022

OSHEROFF, Carolyn Non-Mbr Survivor of Gregory Osheroff 8/3/2022

RIDEOUT-HARVEY, Ayda Alameda Health System 7/16/2022 SANDERS, Carolyn Probation Department 7/19/2022

SCOTT, Dennis Health Care Services Agency 8/13/2022

SPIKES, Cecile Social Services Agency 8/22/2022

SWENSON, Erik Public Defender 7/22/2022

THOMPSON, Marjorie Probation Department 7/9/2022

TIU, Socorro Alameda Health System 7/23/2022

WOHLFROM, Marian Alameda Health System 7/31/2022

WOLFE, Michael Public Works Agency 7/10/2022

#### APPENDIX E APPROVE UNCONTESTED STAFF RECOMMENDTIONS ON DISABILITY RETIREMENTS AND DEATH BENEFITS

Name:Alizio, DavidType of Claim:Service-Connected

Staff's Recommendation:

Adopt the findings and conclusions and approve and adopt the recommendation contained in the Medical Advisor's report, including but not limited to, granting Mr. Alizio's application for a service-connected disability, and waiving future annual medical examinations and questionnaires.

Name:Allen, SandraType of Claim:Service-Connected

Staff's Recommendation:

Adopt the findings and conclusions and approve and adopt the recommendation contained in the Medical Advisor's report, including but not limited to, granting Ms. Allen's application for a service-connected disability, and waiving future annual medical examinations and questionnaires at this time.

Name:Carrigan, KendallType of Claim:Service-Connected

Staff's Recommendation:

Adopt the findings and conclusions and approve and adopt the recommendation contained in the Medical Advisor's report, including but not limited to, granting Ms. Carrigan application for a service-connected disability, and waiving future annual medical examinations and questionnaires at this time.

Name:Costanzo, JosephineType of Claim:Service-Connected

Staff's Recommendation:

Adopt the findings and conclusions and approve and adopt the recommendation contained in the Medical Advisor's report, including but not limited to, granting Ms. Costanzo application for a service-connected disability, and waiving future annual medical examinations and questionnaires at this time.

Based on the Medical Advisor's and Staff's review and determination of Ms. Costanzo's ability to determine the permanency of her incapacity, to grant Ms. Costanzo's request for an earlier effective date.

#### APPENDIX E APPROVE UNCONTESTED STAFF RECOMMENDTIONS ON DISABILITY RETIREMENTS AND DEATH BENEFITS

Name:Ladner, MichaelType of Claim:Service-Connected

Staff's Recommendation:

Adopt the findings and conclusions and approve and adopt the recommendation contained in the Medical Advisor's report, including but not limited to, granting Mr. Ladner's application for a service-connected disability, and waiving future annual medical examinations and questionnaires at this time.

Name:Mc Comas, JustinType of Claim:Service-Connected

Staff's Recommendation:

Adopt the findings and conclusions and approve and adopt the recommendation contained in the Medical Advisor's report, including but not limited to, granting Mr. Mc Comas's application for a service-connected disability, and waiving future annual medical examinations and questionnaires at this time.

Name:Thomas, TiffanyType of Claim:Service-Connected

Staff's Recommendation:

Adopt the findings and conclusions and approve and adopt the recommendation contained in the Medical Advisor's report, including but not limited to, granting Ms. Thomas application for a service-connected disability, and waiving future annual medical examinations and questionnaires at this time.