



## Meeting Minutes - Final

### CONTRA COSTA COUNTY Merit Board

#### MERIT BOARD

Charles Kreling, Chair  
Eizo Kobayashi  
James Mellander  
Dennis Reigle  
Toni Warren

Walter G. Treanor  
Chairman Emeritus  
1981-2002

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Tuesday, January 13, 2026

6:00 PM

1025 Escobar St., Martinez, Conference  
Rm # 110\*/<https://www.zoom.us/Join>  
Meeting ID # 852 8673 4479 Password  
566361/To call in: (214) 765-0478  
Conference Code #3073276

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1. Roll Call and Introductions

**Member Kobayashi appeared by remote teleconference pursuant to Government Code section 54953.8.3(b)(6).**

**Present** Eizo Kobayashi, Charles Kreling, James Mellander, Dennis Reigle, and Toni Warren

2. Consent Items

Approve the Meeting Minutes of December 9, 2025.

[26-27](#)

**Attachments:** [MB Meeting Minutes 12.9.25 Final](#)

**Motion:** Mellander

**Second:** Reigle

**Aye:** Kobayashi, Kreling, Mellander, Reigle, and Warren

**Result:** Passed

3. Public Comment

Persons who wish to address the Board during public comment may address matters within the Merit Board's jurisdiction but that are not listed as items on the agenda.

**There was no public comment.**

4. New Business

A. Consider the appeal of Ijeoma Edoka from rejection on probation as an Eligibility Worker I in the Employment and Human Services Department. [26-28](#)

**After some discussion, Member Reigle moved and Member Warren seconded, to permit the appellant to submit an amended appeal to include additional information regarding alleged discrimination.**

**Motion: Reigle**

**Second: Warren**

**Aye: Kobayashi, Kreling, Mellander, Reigle, and Warren**

**Result: Passed**

B. Consider the appeal of Henry Huang from rejection on probation as an Eligibility Worker I in the Employment and Human Services Department. [26-29](#)

**After some discussion, Member Warren moved and Member Mellander seconded, to deny the appeal of Henry Huang from rejection on probation as an Eligibility Worker I in the Employment and Human Services Department.**

**Motion: Warren**

**Second: Mellander**

**Aye: Kobayashi, Kreling, Mellander, Reigle, and Warren**

**Result: Passed**

5. Old Business

A. Consider whether to adopt the hearing officer's recommended decision in the appeal of Mahzabeen Shaikh-Gingras from rejection on probation as a Physical Therapist II in the Health Services Department. [26-30](#)

**After some discussion, Member Warren moved and Member Kobayashi seconded, to adopt the Hearing Officer's recommended decision to re-instate, Mahzabeen Shaikh-Gingras to her position as a Physical Therapist II in the Health Services Department to complete the remainder of the probationary period.**

**Motion: Warren**

**Second: Kobayashi**

**Aye: Kobayashi, Kreling, Mellander, Reigle, and Warren**

**Result: Passed**

*The meeting adjourned at 9:04pm.*

*The next meeting is currently scheduled for January 27, 2026.*

*The Merit Board will provide reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities planning to attend the Board meetings. Contact the staff person listed below at least 72 hours before the meeting.*

*For Additional Information Contact: Lisa Hopkins (925) 655 - 2103 or [meritboard@hrd.cccounty.us](mailto:meritboard@hrd.cccounty.us)*

*Any disclosable public records related to an open session item on a regular meeting agenda and distributed by the County to a majority of members of the Contra Costa County Merit Board less than 96 hours prior to that meeting are available for public inspection at 1025 Escobar Street, 2nd Floor, Martinez, California during normal business hours.*

*\*Please be advised security screening is required to enter the building:  
[https://www.contracosta.ca.gov/8368/County Administration Building Access](https://www.contracosta.ca.gov/8368/County%20Administration%20Building%20Access)*