

VETERANS' BONUS APPEAL BOARD

April 3, 2019 at 4:00 p.m.

One Ashburton Place
12th Floor – East Conference Room
Boston, MA 02108

MINUTES (OPEN SESSION)

Attendees: Matthew Landry, Assistant Attorney General, Attorney General's Designee
Crystal Matthews, Deputy General Counsel, Treasurer's Designee

Absent: Shannon McLaughlin, State Judge Advocate, Adjutant General's Designee

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Matthews at approximately 4:04 p.m.

Appeal Request

Mr. Landry presented that the Board should reconsider the order of dismissal In re: Joseph Vezina, docket number 2019- VB-03 from the March 26, 2019 Board meeting. The issue was Mr. Vezina's failure to timely file his appeal within 60 days of the Division's denial on April 20, 2017. Mr. Vezina's appeal was dated March 11, 2019. However, upon further review Mr. Landry noted that the Veterans' Bonus Appeal Board Standing Orders were not approved until November 2017 and thus, were not in effect at the time of the denial of Mr. Vezina's application.

On a motion by Ms. Matthews, seconded by Mr. Landry the Board approved by a majority vote to reconsider its previous decision to dismiss the appeal and schedule a hearing for Mr. Vezina.

It was discussed that Paul Flaherty, docket number 2019-VB-01, was intending to withdraw his appeal. If he in fact does withdraw his appeal, the Board will schedule Mr. Vezina's appeal during that hearing date/time.

Joseph Vezina, docket number 2019-VB-03. Scheduled for May 7, 2019 at 10:00 AM.

Executive Session to Discuss Litigation (Machado et al. v. Goldberg et al.)

Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, section 21, the Board sought to meet in executive session for the purpose of discussing strategy with respect to the Machado et al. v. Goldberg et al. litigation as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the Board's litigation position.

On a motion by Ms. Matthews, seconded by Mr. Landry, the Veterans' Bonus Appeal Board voted unanimously to enter into executive session at approximately 4:10 p.m.