

STATE EMPLOYEES
RETIREMENT COMMISSION



MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD
for DISABILITY RETIREMENT



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
RETIREMENT SERVICES DIVISION
OFFICE *of the* STATE COMPTROLLER
165 Capitol Ave.
Hartford, CT 06106

PHONE: (860) 702-3480 | EMAIL: OSC.RSD@CT.GOV

**MINUTES OF MEETING
STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT COMMISSION**

A regular meeting of the State Employees Retirement Commission (the “Commission”) was held on February 17, 2022, in the 3rd Floor Conference Room at 165 Capitol Ave. Hartford, CT; however, due to COVID-19, the meeting was held electronically via Zoom. The meeting convened at 9:07 a.m. and the following members of the Commission were present:

- Peter Adomeit, Chairman
- Martha Carlson, Deputy Comptroller, Ex Officio Member
- Carl Chisem, Trustee
- Robert D. Coffey, Trustee
- John Flores, General Counsel Office of the Treasurer, Ex Officio Member
- John Disette, Trustee
- Karen Nolen, Trustee
- Michael O’Brien, Trustee
- Karen Buffkin, Trustee
- Claude Poulin, Trustee
- Sal Luciano, Trustee
- Angel Quiros, Trustee
- Mark Sciota, Municipal Liaison
- Timothy Ryor, Trustee
- Michael Bailey, Trustee
- Rebecca Simonsen, Trustee

Absent

- Michael Carey, Trustee
- Sandra Fae Brown Brewton, Trustee

Also present were:

- Alisha Sullivan, Tax Counsel to the Commission, Robinson & Cole
- Bruce Barth, Tax Counsel to the Commission, Robinson & Cole
- Michael Rose, General Counsel to the Commission, Rose Kallor
- Vicky Pilon, Paralegal, Rose Kallor
- John Herrington, Director, Retirement Services Division
- Yamuna Menon, General Counsel/Assistant State Comptroller, Office of the State Comptroller

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Call to Order

Chairman Adomeit called the meeting to order at 9:09 a.m.

Attorney Rose identified those in attendance.

Chairman's Report

At 9:10 a.m., the Chairman provided his report.

Division Director's Report

At 9:11 a.m., Mr. Herrington provided the Division Director's Report.

Division Director Report (2/17/2022)

I. Disability Retirements:

A. Pending Disability Applications for the Initial Review by the Medical Examining Board: The Division is in the process of adding additional meetings for 2022 in attempt to reduce the wait period. Currently scheduling into April 2022.

- There are 89 Disability Retirement Applications pending of which:
 - 19 New applications received for February 2022
 - 25 Applications have been scheduled for MEB hearings through April 2022
 - 64 Applications are awaiting additional medical documentation

	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
2022	76	89										
2021	114	107	103	117	125	90	89	85	77	79	99	71

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B. Twenty-Four Month Reviews:

147 Cases are due for a 24-month review (i.e. approved within the past 24 months)

- 4 Cases – are receiving SSD benefits (Expedited Approvals Process)
- 143 Cases – Retiree does not appear to be receiving SSD benefits.
 - 34 have retirement dates beyond 24 months old.
 - 8 have been scheduled for February 2022

C. Disability Files Processed:

	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
2022	11	11										
2021	60	85	156	115	101	145	163	184	173	240	163	40

II. Normal Retirement Audits:

	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals
2022	356	268											624
2021	243	192	124	337	152	244	291	213	234	331	159	136	2656
10-Yr. Avg.	179	153	129	255	128	205	262	177	180	248	116	98	2130

III. Projected 2022 Retirements:

Projected Retirements (As of February 17, 2022)		
D.O.R.	Number of Intents to Retire Received	Number of Retirement Applications Received
1/1/2022	365	356
2/1/2022	263	268
3/1/2022	273	102
4/1/2022	877	6
5/1/2022	100	36
6/1/2022	211	1
7/1/2022	136	None Yet
Totals:	2,225	769

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Projected Retirements (As of January 19, 2022)		
D.O.R.	Number of Intents to Retire Received	Number of Retirement Applications Received
1/1/2022	327	356
2/1/2022	263	73
3/1/2022	243	3
4/1/2022	607	6
5/1/2022	62	
6/1/2022	149	
7/1/2022	80	
Totals:	1,769	405

At 9:13 a.m. Mr. Poulin made a Motion to Amend the Agenda, seconded by Mr. Bailey, to add the Valuation Report for the Connecticut Municipal Employees Retirement System prepared as of June 30, 2021 (Item # 15). The Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote. The Commission voted unanimously to add the Valuation Report for the Connecticut Municipal Employees Retirement System prepared as of June 30, 2021 to the 2/17/22 Agenda.

At 9:13 a.m. Mr. Poulin made a Motion to Amend the Agenda, seconded by Mr. Bailey, to add the Valuation Report for the Connecticut Policemen and Firemen Survivors' Benefit Fund prepared as of June 30, 2021 (Item # 16). The Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote. The Commission voted unanimously to add the Valuation Report for the Connecticut Policemen and Firemen Survivors' Benefit Fund prepared as of June 30, 2021 to the 2/17/22 Agenda.

At 9:14 a.m. Mr. Poulin made a Motion to Amend the Agenda, seconded by Mr. Bailey, to add the GASB 67 Report for the Connecticut Municipal Employees Retirement System prepared as of June 30, 2021 (Item # 17). The Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote. The Commission voted unanimously to add the GASB 67 Report for the Connecticut Municipal Employees Retirement System prepared as of June 30, 2021 to the 2/17/22 Agenda.

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At 9:14 a.m. Mr. Poulin made a Motion to Amend the Agenda, seconded by Mr. Bailey, to add the GASB 67 Report for the Connecticut Judges, Family Support Magistrates and Compensation Commissioners Retirement System prepared as of June 30, 2021 (Item # 18). The Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote. The Commission voted unanimously to add the GASB 67 Report for the Connecticut Judges, Family Support Magistrates and Compensation Commissioners Retirement System prepared as of June 30, 2021 to the 2/17/22 Agenda.

At 9:15 a.m. Mr. Poulin made a Motion to Amend the Agenda, seconded by Mr. Bailey, to add the GASB 68 Report for the Connecticut Judges, Family Support Magistrates and Compensation Commissioners Retirement System prepared as of June 30, 2021 (Item # 19). The Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote. The Commission voted unanimously to add the GASB 68 Report for the Connecticut Judges, Family Support Magistrates and Compensation Commissioners Retirement System prepared as of June 30, 2021 to the 2/17/22 Agenda.

At 9:16 a.m. Mr. Poulin made a Motion to Amend the Agenda, seconded by Mr. Bailey, to add the GASB 67 Report for the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System prepared as of June 30, 2021. (Item # 20). The Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote. The Commission voted unanimously to add the GASB 67 Report for the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System prepared as of June 30, 2021 to the 2/17/22 Agenda.

At 9:16 a.m. Mr. Poulin made a Motion to Amend the Agenda, seconded by Mr. Bailey, to add the GASB 68 Report for the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System prepared as of June 30, 2021. (Item # 21). The Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote. The Commission voted unanimously to add the GASB 68 Report for the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System prepared as of June 30, 2021 to the 2/17/22 Agenda.

New Matters

1. Request Commission Approval of January 20, 2022 Minutes.

At 9:19 am Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey, to approve the motion. The Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the January 20, 2022 Minutes.

2. Request Commission Approval of the State Employees Retirement Commission Chairman's Per Diem Expenses.

At 9:19 am Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey, to approve the motion. The Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote. The Commission

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voted unanimously to approve the State Employees Retirement Commission Chairman's Per Diem Expenses.

3. Request Commission Approval of the State Employees Retirement Commission Union Trustee Claude Poulin's Per Diem and Travel Expenses Reimbursement.

At 9:19 am Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey (Mr. Poulin abstained), to approve the motion. The Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the State Employees Retirement Commission Union Trustee Claude Poulin's Per Diem and Travel Expenses Reimbursement.

4. Request Commission Approval of the State Employees Retirement Commission Management Trustee Timothy A. Ryor's Per Diem Expenses.

At 9:20 am Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey (Mr. Ryor abstained), to approve the motion. The Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the State Employees Retirement Commission Management Trustee Timothy A. Ryor's Per Diem Expenses.

5. Request Commission Acceptance of Invoice from Robinson and Cole for Federal Tax Matters rendered for the month of January 2022.

At 9:21 am Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey, to approve the motion. The Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the Invoice from Robinson and Cole for Federal Tax Matters rendered for the month of January 2022.

6. Request Commission Acceptance of Invoices from Rose Kallor rendered for the month of January 2022.

At 9:21 am Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey, to approve the motion. The Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the Invoices from Rose Kallor rendered for the month of January 2022.

7. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Service Retirements for the Month of January 2022.

At 9:21 am Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey, to approve the motion. The Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote. The Commission

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voted unanimously to approve the State Employees Retirement System Service Retirements for the Month of January 2022.

8. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Voluntary Pending Retirements for the Month of January 2022.

At 9:21 am Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey, to approve the motion. The Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the State Employees Retirement System Voluntary Pending Retirements for the Month of January 2022.

9. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Disability Retirements for the Month of January 2022.

At 9:21 am Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey, to approve the motion. The Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the State Employees Retirement System Disability Retirements for the Month of January 2022.

10. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Municipal Employees Retirements for the Month of January 2022.

At 9:21 am Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey, to approve the motion. The Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the State Employees Retirement System Municipal Employees Retirements for the Month of January 2022.

11. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Retroactive Retirements for the Month of January 2022.

At 9:22 am Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey, to approve the motion. The Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the State Employees Retirement System Retroactive Retirements for the Month of January 2022.

12. Request Commission Acceptance of the Recommendations by the Medical Examining Board for the Continued Entitlement Approvals.

At 9:22 am Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey, to approve the motion. The Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote. The Commission

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voted unanimously to approve the Medical Examining Board for the Continued Entitlement Approvals.

13. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut Probate Judges and Employees Retirement System.

At 9:23 am Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey, to approve the motion. The Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the Connecticut Probate Judges and Employees Retirement System.

14. Request Commission Approval of the Probate Judges and Employees Retirement Fund Personnel Expenses for the Pay Period December 17, 2021 through January 13, 2022.

At 9:23 am Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey, to approve the motion. The Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the Probate Judges and Employees Retirement Fund Personnel Expenses for the Pay Period December 17, 2021 through January 13, 2022.

15. Request Commission Approval of the Valuation Report for the Connecticut Municipal Employees Retirement System prepared as of June 30, 2021.

At 9:23 am Mr. Poulin moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey, to approve the motion. The Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the Valuation Report for the Connecticut Municipal Employees Retirement System prepared as of June 30, 2021.

16. Request Commission Approval of the Valuation Report for the Connecticut Policemen and Firemen Survivors' Benefit Fund prepared as of June 30, 2021.

At 9:24 am Mr. Poulin moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey, to approve the motion. The Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the Valuation Report for the Connecticut Policemen and Firemen Survivors' Benefit Fund prepared as of June 30, 2021.

17. Request Commission Approval of the GASB 67 Report for the Connecticut Municipal Employees Retirement System prepared as of June 30, 2021.

At 9:24 am Mr. Poulin moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey, to approve the motion. The Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote. The Commission

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voted unanimously to approve the GASB 67 Report for the Connecticut Municipal Employees Retirement System prepared as of June 30, 2021.

18. Request Commission Approval of the GASB 67 Report for the Connecticut Judges, Family Support Magistrates and Compensation Commissioners Retirement System prepared as of June 30, 2021.

At 9:24 am Mr. Poulin moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey, to approve the motion. The Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the GASB 67 Report for the Connecticut Judges, Family Support Magistrates and Compensation Commissioners Retirement System prepared as of June 30, 2021.

19. Request Commission Approval of the GASB 68 Report for the Connecticut Judges, Family Support Magistrates and Compensation Commissioners Retirement System prepared as of June 30, 2021.

At 9:25 am Mr. Poulin moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey, to approve the motion. The Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the GASB 68 Report for the Connecticut Judges, Family Support Magistrates and Compensation Commissioners Retirement System prepared as of June 30, 2021.

20. Request Commission Approval of the GASB 67 Report for the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System prepared as of June 30, 2021.

At 9:25 am Mr. Poulin moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey, to approve the motion. The Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the GASB 67 Report for the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System prepared as of June 30, 2021.

21. Request Commission Approval of the GASB 68 Report for the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System prepared as of June 30, 2021.

At 9:26 am Mr. Poulin moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey, to approve the motion. The Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the GASB 68 Report for the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System prepared as of June 30, 2021.

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Executive Session – discussion and possible recommendation

1. Ronald Johnson v. SERC – pending claim/pending litigation- letter to CHRO.
2. Catherine Crandle v. SERC – pending claim.
3. Douglas Latham – Request for Declaratory Ruling – tabled for further review opinion.
4. William Kenney – Appeal – remand back to MEB.
5. FOI appeal by Attorney Russell Zimberlin – pending claim/pending litigation.
6. Michael Vogt Appeal to SERC of MEB decision – pending claim.

At 9:27 a.m. Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to suspend the regular meeting and go into executive session for the purposes of discussing Item # 1, Ronald Johnson v. SERC. Attorney Sullivan, Attorney Barth, Attorney Rose, John Herrington, and Attorney Menon, were invited by the Commission to stay for executive session. The Commission exited executive session at 9:31 a.m.

At 9:31 a.m. Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to suspend the regular meeting and go into executive session for the purposes of discussing Item # 2, Catherine Crandle v. SERC. Attorney Sullivan, Attorney Barth, Attorney Rose, John Herrington, and Attorney Menon, were invited by the Commission to stay for executive session. The Commission exited executive session at 9:33 a.m.

At 9:33 a.m. Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to suspend the regular meeting and go into executive session for the purposes of discussing Item # 3, Douglas Latham. Attorney Sullivan, Attorney Barth, Attorney Rose, John Herrington, and Attorney Menon, were invited by the Commission to stay for executive session. The Commission exited executive session at 9:48 a.m.

At 9:48 a.m. Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to suspend the regular meeting and go into executive session for the purposes of discussing Item # 4, William Kenney. Attorney Sullivan, Attorney Barth, Attorney Rose, John Herrington, and Attorney Menon, were invited by the Commission to stay for executive session. The Commission exited executive session at 9:49 a.m.

At 9:49 a.m. Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to suspend the regular meeting and go into executive session for the purposes of discussing Item # 5, FOI Appeal Russell Zimberlin. Attorney Sullivan, Attorney Barth, Attorney Rose, John Herrington, and Attorney Menon, were invited by the Commission to stay for executive session. The Commission exited executive session at 9:50 a.m.

At 9:51 a.m. Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to suspend the regular meeting and go into executive session for the purposes of discussing Item #6, Michael Vogt appeal. Attorney Sullivan, Attorney Barth, Attorney Rose, John Herrington, and Attorney Menon, were invited by the Commission to stay for executive session. The Commission exited executive session at 9:51 a.m.

No votes were taken during executive session.

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At 9:51 a.m., Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to exit executive session. The Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote. The Commission voted unanimously to exit executive session.

Public Session

At 9:52 a.m., Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey, to table Douglas Latham's request for declaratory ruling. There being no discussion, the Chairman called for a vote. The Commission voted unanimously to table Mr. Latham's request for declaratory ruling.

Adjournment

With no further business before the Commission, Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to adjourn at 9:52 a.m. The Commission voted unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Peter Adomeit, Chairman

Prepared by John Herrington
Director Retirement Services Division