

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

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT COMMISSION**

A regular meeting of the State Employees Retirement Commission (the “Commission”) was held on October 20, 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 9:00 a.m. and the following members of the Commission were present:

- Peter Adomeit, Chairman
- Michael Bailey, Trustee
- Karen Buffkin, Trustee
- Michael Carey, Trustee
- Martha Carlson, Deputy Comptroller, Ex Officio Member
- Carl Chisem, Trustee
- John Disette, Trustee
- John Flores, General Counsel Office of the Treasurer, Ex Officio Member
- David Krayski, Trustee
- Karen Nolen, Trustee
- Michael O’Brien, Trustee
- Claude Poulin, Trustee
- Timothy Ryor, Trustee
- Mark Sciota, Municipal Liaison
- Rebecca Simonsen, Trustee

Absent

- Robert D. Coffey, Trustee
- Sal Luciano, Trustee
- Angel Quiros, Trustee

Also present were:

- Bruce Barth, Tax Counsel to the Commission, Robinson & Cole
- Orlena Bordiere, Retirement Services Division
- Cindy Cieslak, General Counsel to the Commission, Rose Kallor
- Tara Downes, Assistant Comptroller
- Robert Helfand, Assistant Director, Retirement Services Division
- John Herrington, Director, Retirement Services Division
- Yamuna Menon, General Counsel/Assistant State Comptroller, Office of the State Comptroller
- Colin Newman, Retirement Services Division
- Michael Rose, General Counsel to the Commission, Rose Kallor

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Call to Order

Chairman Adomeit called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Chairman’s Report

At 9:05 a.m., the Chairman provided his report. The Chairman commended the work of Ms. Carlson, Mr. Herrington, and the Retirement Services Division.

Division Director’s Report

At 9:06 a.m., Mr. Herrington provided the Division Director’s Report.

Division Director Report (10/20/2022)

I. **Disability Retirements:**

A. **Pending Disability Applications for the Initial Review by the Medical Examining Board:** Currently the Disability Retirement Unit is scheduling into February 2023.

- There are 129 Disability Retirement Applications pending of which:
 - 9 New applications received for October 2022
 - 111 Applications have been scheduled for MEB meetings through February 2023
 - 18 Applications are awaiting review and scheduling by Unit

	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
2022	76	89	90	111	120	127	146	149	149	129		
2021	114	107	103	117	125	90	89	85	77	79	99	71

B. **Twenty-Four Month Reviews:**

- 47 Cases are Scheduled
 - October 2022 – 25 Cases
 - 9 SSD Approvals
 - November 2022 – Cancelled
 - Changed to an Initial Meeting due to High Volume
 - December 2022 – Cancelled
 - Changed to an Initial Meeting due to High Volume
 - January 2023 – 22 Cases
 - 2 SSD Approvals
- 0 Cases are Overdue
- 22 Cases are Tabled
 - 9 Scheduled
 - 13 Awaiting Due Date for Scheduling
- 6 Case Seeking Reconsideration
 - 3 Scheduled
 - 3 Awaiting Due Date for Scheduling
- 123 Cases are Awaiting Due Date for 24-Month Review

II. **Normal Retirement Audits:**

	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals
2022	356	268	337	1,137	277	723	1,436	46	52	101			4,733
2021	243	192	124	337	152	244	291	213	234	331	159	136	2,656
10-Yr. Avg.	179	153	129	255	128	205	262	177	180	248	116	98	2,130

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At 9:09 a.m., Ms. Cieslak identified those in attendance.

At 9:10 a.m., Ms. Carlson welcomed David Krayeski as trustee.

New Matters

1. Request Commission Approval of the September 15, 2022 minutes.
 - i. At 9:11 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Carey to approve the September 15, 2022 minutes.
 - ii. Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote.
 - iii. The Commission voted unanimously in favor to approve the September 15, 2022 minutes.
2. Request Commission Approval of the State Employees Retirement Commission Chairman's Per Diem Expenses.
 - i. At 9:11 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Carey to approve the State Employees Retirement Commission Chairman's Per Diem Expenses
 - ii. Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote.
 - iii. The Commission voted unanimously in favor 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.
 - i. At 9:12 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Carey to approve the State Employees Retirement Commission Union Trustee Claude Poulin's Per Diem and Travel Expenses Reimbursement.
 - ii. Mr. Poulin abstained.
 - iii. Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote.
 - iv. The Commission voted unanimously in favor, with Mr. Poulin abstaining, 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.
 - i. At 9:12 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Carey to approve the State Employees Retirement Commission Management Trustee Timothy A. Ryor's Per Diem Expenses.
 - ii. Mr. Ryor abstained.
 - iii. Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote.

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- iv. The Commission voted unanimously in favor, with Mr. Ryor abstaining, to approve the State Employees Retirement Commission Management Trustee Timothy A. Ryor's Per Diem Expenses.
5. Request Commission Acceptance of the Invoices from Robinson and Cole for Federal Tax Matters rendered for the month of September 2022.
 - i. At 9:13 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Carey to accept the invoices from Robinson and Cole for Federal Tax Matters rendered for the month of September 2022.
 - ii. Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote.
 - iii. The Commission voted unanimously in favor to accept the invoices from Robinson and Cole for Federal Tax Matters rendered for the month of September 2022.
6. Request Commission Acceptance of the Invoices from Rose Kallor rendered for the month of September 2022.
 - i. At 9:13 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Carey to accept the invoices from Rose Kallor rendered for the month of September 2022.
 - ii. Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote.
 - iii. The Commission voted unanimously in favor to accept the invoices from Rose Kallor rendered for the month of September 2022.
7. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Service Retirements for the Month of September 2022.
 - i. At 9:13 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Carey to approve the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Service Retirements for the Month of September 2022.
 - ii. Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote.
 - iii. The Commission voted unanimously in favor to approve the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Service Retirements for the Month of September 2022.
8. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut State Employees System Voluntary Pending Retirements for the Month of September 2022.
 - i. At 9:13 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Carey to approve the Connecticut State Employees System Voluntary Pending Retirements for the Month of September 2022.
 - ii. Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote.
 - iii. The Commission voted unanimously in favor to approve the Connecticut State Employees System Voluntary Pending Retirements for the Month of September 2022.

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9. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut State Employees System Disability Retirements for the Month of September 2022.
 - i. At 9:14 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Carey to approve the Connecticut State Employees System Disability Retirements for the Month of September 2022.
 - ii. Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote.
 - iii. The Commission voted unanimously in favor to approve the Connecticut State Employees System Disability Retirements for the Month of September 2022.

10. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Retroactive Retirements for the month of September 2022.
 - i. At 9:14 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Carey approve Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Retroactive Retirements for the month of September 2022.
 - ii. Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote.
 - iii. The Commission voted unanimously in favor to approve the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Retroactive Retirements for the month of September 2022.

11. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Pre-Retirement Death Benefits for the Month of September 2022.
 - i. At 9:14 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Carey to approve the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Pre-Retirement Death Benefits for the Month of September 2022.
 - ii. Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote.
 - iii. The Commission voted unanimously in favor to approve the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Pre-Retirement Death Benefits for the Month of September 2022.

12. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Municipal Employees Retirements for the Month of September 2022.
 - i. At 9:14 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Carey to approve the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Municipal Employees Retirements for the Month of September 2022.
 - ii. Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote.
 - iii. The Commission voted unanimously in favor to approve the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Municipal Employees Retirements for the Month of September 2022.

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13. Request Commission Approval of the Municipal Employees Retirement System Disability Retirement Approvals.
 - i. At 9:15 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Carey to approve the Municipal Employees Retirement System disability retirement approvals.
 - ii. Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote.
 - iii. The Commission voted unanimously in favor to approve the Municipal Employees Retirement System disability retirement approvals approvals.

14. Request Commission Approval of the Municipal Employees Retirement System Disability Retirement Denials.
 - i. At 9:15 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Carey to approve the Municipal Employees Retirement System disability retirement denials.
 - ii. Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote.
 - iii. The Commission voted unanimously in favor to approve the Municipal Employees Retirement System disability retirement denials.

15. Request Commission Acceptance of the Recommendations by the Medical Examining Board for the Continued Entitlement Approvals.
 - i. At 9:15 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Carey to accept the recommendations by the Medical Examining Board for the continued entitlement approvals.
 - ii. Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote.
 - iii. The Commission voted unanimously in favor to accept the recommendations by the Medical Examining Board for the continued entitlement approvals.

16. Request Commission Acceptance of the Recommendations by the Medical Examining Board for the Continued Entitlement Tabled and Denials.
 - i. At 9:15 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Carey to accept the recommendations by the Medical Examining Board for the continued entitlement tabled and denials.
 - ii. Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote.
 - iii. The Commission voted unanimously in favor to accept the recommendations by the Medical Examining Board for the continued entitlement tabled and denials.

17. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut Probate Judges and Employees Retirement System.
 - i. At 9:16 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Carey to approve the Connecticut Probate Judges and Employees Retirement System.

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- ii. Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote.
 - iii. The Commission voted unanimously in favor to approve the Connecticut Probate Judges and Employees Retirement System.

18. Request Commission Approval of the Probate Judges and Employees Retirement Fund Personnel Expenses for the Pay Period August 12, 2022 through September 8, 2022.
 - i. At 9:16 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Carey to approve the Probate Judges and Employees Retirement Fund Personnel Expenses for the Pay Period August 12, 2022 through September 8, 2022.
 - ii. Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote.
 - iii. The Commission voted unanimously in favor to approve the Probate Judges and Employees Retirement Fund Personnel Expenses for the Pay Period August 12, 2022 through September 8, 2022.

19. a. Request Commission Review and Acceptance of the Probate Judges and Employees Retirement Fund Statement of Operations for Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2022.
 - i. At 9:16 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Carey to accept the Probate Judges and Employees Retirement Fund Statement of Operations for Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2022.
 - ii. Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote.
 - iii. The Commission voted unanimously in favor to accept Probate Judges and Employees Retirement Fund Statement of Operations for Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2022.
 - b. Request Commission Review and Acceptance of the Probate Judges and Employees Retirement Fund Balance Sheet as of June 30, 2022.
 - i. At 9:16 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Carey to accept the Probate Judges and Employees Retirement Fund Balance sheet as of June 30, 2022.
 - ii. Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote.
 - iii. The Commission voted unanimously in favor to accept Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Carey to accept the Probate Judges and Employees Retirement Fund Balance sheet as of June 30, 2022.

20. a. Request Commission Review and Acceptance of the Judges, Family Support Magistrates and Compensation Commissioners Fund Statement of Operations for Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2022.

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- i. At 9:17 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Carey to accept the Judges, Family Support Magistrates and Compensation Commissioners Fund Statement of Operations for Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2022.
 - ii. Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote.
 - iii. The Commission voted unanimously in favor to accept the Judges, Family Support Magistrates and Compensation Commissioners Fund Statement of Operations for Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2022.
- b. Request Commission Review and Acceptance of the Judges, Family Support Magistrates and Compensation Commissioners Fund Balance Sheet as of June 30, 2022.
- iv. At 9:17 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Carey to accept Judges, Family Support Magistrates and Compensation Commissioners Fund Balance sheet as of June 30, 2022.
 - v. Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote.
 - vi. The Commission voted unanimously in favor to accept the Judges, Family Support Magistrates and Compensation Commissioners Fund Balance sheet as of June 30, 2022.
21. a. Request Commission Review and Acceptance of the Connecticut Policemen and Firemen Survivors Benefit Fund Statement of Operations for Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2022.
- i. At 9:17 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Carey to accept the Connecticut Policemen and Firemen Survivors Benefit Fund Statement of Operations for Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2022.
 - ii. Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote.
 - iii. The Commission voted unanimously in favor to accept the Connecticut Policemen and Firemen Survivors Benefit Fund Statement of Operations for Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2022.
- b. Request Commission Review and Acceptance of the Connecticut Policemen and Firemen Survivors Benefit Fund Balance Sheet as of June 30, 2022.
- i. At 9:17 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Carey to accept the Connecticut Policemen and Firemen Survivors Benefit Fund Balance Sheet as of June 30, 2022.
 - ii. Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote.
 - iii. The Commission voted unanimously in favor to accept the Connecticut Policemen and Firemen Survivors Benefit Fund Balance Sheet as of June 30, 2022.
22. a. Request Commission Review and Acceptance of the Public Defenders Retirement Fund Statement of Operations for Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2022.

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- i. At 9:18 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Carey to accept the Public Defenders Retirement Fund Statement of Operations for Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2022.
 - ii. Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote.
 - iii. The Commission voted unanimously in favor to accept the Public Defenders Retirement Fund Statement of Operations for Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2022.
 - b. Request Commission Review and Acceptance of the Public Defenders Retirement Fund Balance Sheet as of June 30, 2022.
 - i. At 9:18 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Carey to accept the Public Defenders Retirement Fund Balance Sheet as of June 30, 2022.
 - ii. Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote.
 - iii. The Commission voted unanimously in favor to accept the Public Defenders Retirement Fund Balance Sheet as of June 30, 2022.
23. a. Request Commission Review and Acceptance of the General Assembly Pension Fund Statement of Operations for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2022.
 - i. At 9:18 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Carey to accept the General Assembly Pension Fund Statement of Operations for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2022.
 - ii. Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote.
 - iii. The Commission voted unanimously in favor to accept the General Assembly Pension Fund Statement of Operations for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2022.
- b. Request Commission Review and acceptance of the General Assembly Pension Fund Balance Sheet as of June 30, 2022.
 - i. At 9:18 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Carey to accept the General Assembly Pension Fund Balance Sheet as of June 30, 2022.
 - ii. Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote.
 - iii. The Commission voted unanimously in favor to accept the General Assembly Pension Fund Balance Sheet as of June 30, 2022.
24. a. Request Commission Review and Acceptance of the State Attorneys Retirement Fund Statement of Operations for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2022.
 - i. At 9:19 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Carey to accept the State Attorneys Retirement Fund Statement of Operations for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2022.
 - ii. Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote.

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- iii. The Commission voted unanimously in favor to accept the State Attorneys Retirement Fund Statement of Operations for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2022.
 - b. Request Commission Review and Acceptance of the State Attorneys Retirement Fund Balance Sheet as of June 30, 2022.
 - i. At 9:19 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Carey to accept the State Attorneys Retirement Fund Balance Sheet as of June 30, 2022.
 - ii. Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote.
 - iii. The Commission voted unanimously in favor to accept the State Attorneys Retirement Fund Balance Sheet as of June 30, 2022.
25. a. Request Commission Review and Acceptance of the State Employees Retirement System Statement of Operations for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2022.
 - i. At 9:19 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Carey to accept the State Employees Retirement System Statement of Operations for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2022.
 - ii. Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote.
 - iii. The Commission voted unanimously in favor to accept the State Employees Retirement System Statement of Operations for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2022.
- b. Request Commission Review and Acceptance of the State Employees Retirement System Balance Sheet as of June 30, 2022.
 - iv. At 9:19 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Carey to accept the State Employees Retirement System Balance Sheet as of June 30, 2022.
 - v. Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote.
 - vi. The Commission voted unanimously in favor to accept the State Employees Retirement System Balance Sheet as of June 30, 2022.
26. a. Request Commission Review and Acceptance of the Connecticut Municipal Employees Retirement System Fund B Statement of Operations for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2022.
 - i. At 9:20 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Carey to accept the Connecticut Municipal Employees Retirement System Fund B Statement of Operations for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2022.
 - ii. Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote.
 - iii. The Commission voted unanimously in favor to accept the Connecticut Municipal Employees Retirement System Fund B Statement of Operations for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2022.

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- b. Request Commission Review and Acceptance of the Connecticut Municipal Employees Retirement System Fund B Balance Sheet as of June 30, 2022.
- vii. At 9:20 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Carey to accept the Connecticut Municipal Employees Retirement System Fund B Balance Sheet as of June 30, 2022.
 - viii. Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote.
 - ix. The Commission voted unanimously in favor to accept the Connecticut Municipal Employees Retirement System Fund B Balance Sheet as of June 30, 2022.
27. Request Commission Acceptance of the Purchase of Service and Related Matters Subcommittee recommendations from the meeting held on October 4, 2022.
- i. At 9:20 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Carey to accept the Purchase of Services and Related Matters Subcommittee recommendations from the meeting held on October 4, 2022.
 - ii. Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote.
 - iii. The Commission voted unanimously in favor to accept the Purchase of Services and Related Matters Subcommittee recommendations from the meeting held on October 4, 2022.

Executive Session – discussion and possible action

1. Ronald Johnson v. SERC – pending litigation.
2. Christina Darling appeal – written legal opinion.
3. Town of Ellington participation in CMERS – written legal opinion.
4. Cynthia Dabbs-Lindenberger petition for declaratory ruling – written legal opinion.
5. Patrick Butler request for reconsideration – written legal opinion.
6. FOI appeal by Attorney Russell Zimberlin – pending claim/pending litigation.

At 9:21 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Carey to suspend the regular meeting and go into executive session for the purposes of discussing Items 1-6. Bruce Barth, Orlena Bordiere, Cindy Cieslak, Tara Downes, Robert Helfand, John Herrington, Yamuna Menon, Colin Newman, and Michael Rose were invited by the Commission to stay for executive session. The Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote. The Commission voted unanimously in favor to enter executive session to discuss Items 1-6.

At 10:15 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Carey 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.

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Public Session

At 10:15 a.m., Mr. Carey moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to deny the appeal of Christina Darling. The Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote. All voted in favor.

At 10:16 a.m., Mr. Carey moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to deny Mr. Butler's request for reconsideration. The Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote. All voted in favor.

Adjournment

With no further business before the Commission, Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Carey to adjourn at 10:16 a.m. The Commission voted unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Peter Adomeit, Chairman

Prepared by John Herrington
Director Retirement Services Division