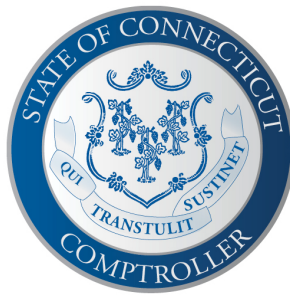


STATE EMPLOYEES
RETIREMENT COMMISSION



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 August 17, 2023 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
- Carl Chisem, Trustee
- John Disette, Trustee
- Tara Downes, Deputy Comptroller, Ex Officio Member
- Brian Hill, Trustee
- David Krayeski, Trustee
- Karen Nolen, Trustee
- Claude Poulin, Trustee
- Timothy Ryor, Trustee
- Mark Sciota, Municipal Liaison
- Rebecca Simonsen, Trustee
- Ted Wright, Chief Investment Officer, Office of the Treasurer, Ex Officio Member

Absent

- Sal Luciano, Trustee
- Michael O’Brien, Trustee
- Angel Quiros, Trustee

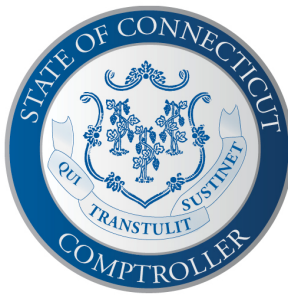
Also present were:

- Bruce Barth, Tax Counsel to the Commission, Robinson & Cole
- Cindy Cieslak, General Counsel to the Commission, Rose Kallor
- John Garrett, Cavanaugh Macdonald
- Robert Helfand, Assistant Director, Retirement Services Division
- John Herrington, Director, Retirement Services Division
- Virginia McGarrity, Tax Counsel to the Commission, Robinson & Cole
- Charlotte Moller, Retirement Services Division
- 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 9:03 a.m.

The Chairman swore in Mr. Hill.

At 9:04 a.m., Mr. Krayeski made remarks regarding Mr. Hill's appointment to the Retirement Commission.

At 9:07 a.m., Ms. Cieslak identified those in attendance.

At 9:08 a.m., Mr. Poulin moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to amend the agenda to include the following as Items 20 and 21:

- Request Commission Acceptance of the GASB Statement No. 68 Report for the Connecticut Municipal Employees Retirement System prepared as of June 30, 2022.
- Request Commission Acceptance of the Connecticut Municipal Employees Retirement System Schedules of Employer Allocations and Pension Amounts by Employer for Year Ended June 30, 2022.

All voted in favor.

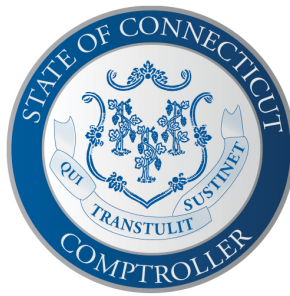
New Matters

1. Request Commission Approval of SERC minutes w/ Directors Report on July 2023.
 - i. At 9:10 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Chisem to approve the SERC minutes w/ Directors Report on July 2023.
 - 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 SERC minutes w/ Directors Report on July 2023.
2. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut SERS Expenses for the Month of July 2023.
 - i. At 9:10 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Chisem to approve the Connecticut SERS Expenses for the Month of July 2023.
 - 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 SERS Expenses for the Month of July 2023.
3. Request Commission Approval of the State Employees Retirement Commission Chairman's Per Diem Expenses for July 2023.
 - i. At 9:11 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Chisem to approve the State Employees Retirement Commission Chairman's Per Diem Expenses for July 2023.
 - 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 for July 2023.
4. Request Commission Approval of the State Employees Retirement Commission Union Trustee Claude Poulin's Per Diem and Travel Expenses Reimbursement for July 2023.

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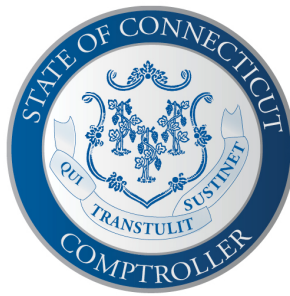
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- i. At 9:11 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Chisem to approve the State Employees Retirement Commission Union Trustee Claude Poulin's Per Diem and Travel Expenses Reimbursement for July 2023.
 - ii. Mr. Poulin abstained.
 - iii. Chairman asked 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 for July 2023.
5. Request Commission Approval of the State Employees Retirement Commission Management Trustee Timothy A. Ryor's Per Diem Expenses for July 2023.
 - i. At 9:11 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Chisem to approve the State Employees Retirement Commission Management Trustee Timothy A. Ryor's Per Diem Expenses for July 2023.
 - ii. Mr. Ryor 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. Ryor abstaining, to approve the State Employees Retirement Commission Management Trustee Timothy A. Ryor's Per Diem Expenses for July 2023.
6. Request Commission Acceptance of the Invoices from Robinson and Cole for Federal Tax Matters services rendered for July 2023.
 - i. At 9:12 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Chisem to accept the invoices from Robinson and Cole for Federal Tax Matters services rendered for July 2023.
 - 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 services rendered for July 2023.
7. Request Commission Acceptance of the Invoices from Rose Kallor for July 2023.
 - i. At 9:12 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Chisem to accept the invoices from Rose Kallor for July 2023.
 - 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 for July 2023.
8. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Service Retirements for the Month of July 2023.
 - i. At 9:12 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Chisem to approve the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Service Retirements for the Month of July 2023.
 - 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 July 2023.

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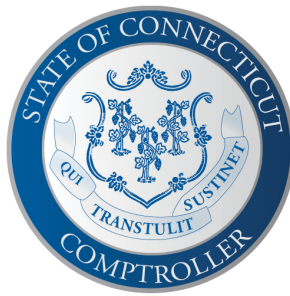
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9. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut State Employees System Voluntary Pending Retirements for the Month of July 2023.
 - i. At 9:12 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Chisem to approve the Connecticut State Employees System Voluntary Pending Retirements for the Month of July 2023.
 - 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 July 2023.
10. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Disability Benefits for the Month of July 2023.
 - i. At 9:12 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Chisem to approve the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Disability Benefits for the Month of July 2023.
 - 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 Disability Benefits for the Month of July 2023.
11. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Pre-Retirement Deaths for the Month of July 2023.
 - i. At 9:12 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Chisem to approve the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Pre-Retirement Deaths for the Month of July 2023.
 - 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 Deaths for the Month of July 2023.
12. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Municipal Employees Retirements for the Month of July 2023.
 - i. At 9:13 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Chisem to approve the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Municipal Employees Retirements for the Month of July 2023.
 - 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 July 2023.
13. Request Acceptance of the Recommendations by the Medical Examining Board for the Continued Entitlement Approvals for July 2023.
 - i. At 9:13 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Chisem to accept the recommendations by the Medical Examining Board for the continued entitlement approvals for July 2023.
 - 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 for July 2023.
14. Request Commission Approval of the Municipal Employees Retirement System Disability Retirement Approvals, Approved from the Medical Examining Board for July 2023.

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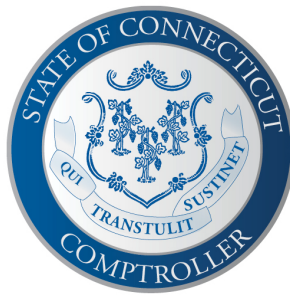
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- i. At 9:13 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Chisem to approve the Municipal Employees Retirement System disability retirement approvals from the Medical Examining Board for July 2023.
 - ii. Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There 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 from the Medical Examining Board for July 2023.
15. Request Commission Approval of the Municipal Employees Retirement System Disability Retirement Tabled and/or Denials from the Medical Examining Board for July 2023.
 - i. At 9:13 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Chisem to approve the Municipal Employees Retirement System disability retirement tabled and/or denials from the Medical Examining Board for the month of July 2023.
 - 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 tabled and/or denials from the Medical Examining Board for the month of July 2023.
16. Request Commission Approval of the RSD to Discontinue Disability Applications Due to the One-Year Limitations August 2023.
 - i. At 9:14 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Chisem to approve the RSD to discontinue disability applications due to the one-year limitations August 2023.
 - 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 RSD to discontinue disability applications due to the one-year limitations August 2023.
17. Request Commission Approval of the Probate Judges and Employees Retirement Fund Personnel Expenses for July 2023.
 - i. At 9:14 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Chisem to approve the Probate Judges and Employees Retirement Fund Personnel Expenses for July 2023.
 - 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 July 2023.
18. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut Probate Judges and Employees Retirement System, Retirement July 2023.
 - i. At 9:15 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Chisem to approve the Connecticut Probate Judges and Employees Retirement System, Retirement July 2023.
 - 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, Retirement July 2023.

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19. Request Commission Acceptance of the Purchase of Service and Related Matters Subcommittee recommendations from the meeting held on August 10, 2023.
 - i. At 9:15 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Chisem to accept the Purchase of Service and Related Matters Subcommittee recommendations from the meeting held on August 10, 2023.
 - 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 Service and Related Matters Subcommittee recommendations from the meeting held on August 10, 2023.

20. Request Commission Acceptance of the GASB Statement No. 68 Report for the Connecticut Municipal Employees Retirement System prepared as of June 30, 2022.
 - i. At 9:16 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Chisem to accept the GASB Statement No. 68 Report for the Connecticut Municipal Employees Retirement System prepared 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 GASB Statement No. 68 Report for the Connecticut Municipal Employees Retirement System prepared as of June 30, 2022.

21. Request Commission Acceptance of the Connecticut Municipal Employees Retirement System Schedules of Employer Allocations and Pension Amounts by Employer for Year Ended June 30, 2022.
 - i. At 9:16 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Chisem to accept the Connecticut Municipal Employees Retirement System Schedules of Employer Allocations and Pension Amounts by Employer for Year Ended 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 Schedules of Employer Allocations and Pension Amounts by Employer for Year Ended June 30, 2022.

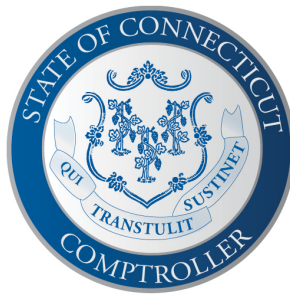
Executive Session – discussion and possible action

1. Patrick Weber appeal – written legal opinion.
2. Evelyn Silva request for reconsideration – written legal opinion.
3. Christina Darling request for reconsideration – written legal opinion.
4. Sean Kilbride request for tolling – written legal opinion.
5. SERC v. Town of Ellington – pending litigation.
6. Linda Cicarella v. SERC – pending litigation.
7. CMERS reforms update – written legal opinion.
8. Robinson and Cole contract extension – personnel matter.

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At 9:20 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Chisem to suspend the regular meeting and go into executive session for the purposes of discussing Items 1-8. Bruce Barth, Cindy Cieslak, Robert Helfand, John Herrington, Virginia McGarrity, Charlotte Moller, Colin Newman, and Michael Rose were invited by the Commission to stay for executive session on Items 1-7. Robert Helfand, John Herrington, Charlotte Moller, and Colin Newman were invited by the Commission to stay for executive session on Items 8. 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 1-8.

At 10:20 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.

Public Session

At 10:21 a.m., Mr. Carey moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to deny Mr. Weber's request and to instruct the Division that in the letter advising him of this decision, the RSD also advises him that it has no authority to grant the request, and to do so would require a legislative change. All voted in favor.

At 10:22 a.m., Mr. Carey moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to grant Ms. Silva's request for reconsideration. All voted in favor.

At 10:22 a.m., Mr. Carey moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to grant Ms. Darling's request to appear before the Commission to make argument or provide additional information; however, she should be advised that while the Commission is willing to hear her, its decision will likely remain unchanged if she does not present any new argument or information. All voted in favor.

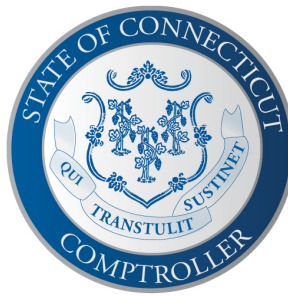
At 10:23 a.m., Mr. Carey moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to deny Mr. Kilbride's appeal. All voted in favor.

At 10:23 a.m., Mr. Carey moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to authorize the second and final authorized extension under the current contract with Robinson and Cole. All voted in favor.

At 10:23 a.m., Mr. Carey moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to authorize the development and issuance of an RFP for tax counsel beginning calendar year 2024. All voted in favor.

Division Director's Report

At 9:17 a.m., Mr. Herrington provided the Division Director's Report.



**Division Director Report
(08/17/2023)**

I. Disability Retirements:

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

- There are 90 Disability Retirement Applications pending of which:
 - 15 New applications received for August 2023
 - 70 Applications have been scheduled for MEB meetings through December 2023
 - 20 Applications are awaiting review and scheduling by Unit

	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
2023	78	75	75	86	88	92	93	90				
2022	76	89	90	111	120	127	146	149	149	129	122	96

B. Twenty-Four Month Reviews: Currently the Disability Retirement Unit is scheduling into November 2023.

- 17 Cases are Scheduled
- 0 Tabled Cases Pending Due Date
- 6 Reconsideration Cases Pending Due Date
- 120 Cases are Awaiting Due Date for 24-Month Review

C. Investigations: The Disability Retirement Unit scheduled 6 investigation cases for August 2023.

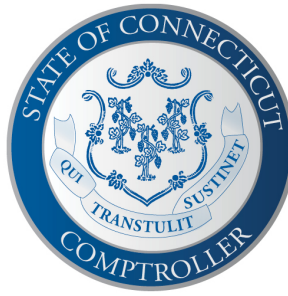
II. Normal Retirements:

	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals
2023	81	60	48	47	50	63	100	75					524
2022	356	268	337	1,137	277	723	1,436	46	52	101	50	30	4,813
Historical Average	179	153	129	255	128	205	262	177	180	248	116	98	2,130

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Adjournment

With no further business before the Commission, Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Carey to adjourn at 10:26 a.m. The Commission voted unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Peter Adomeit, Chairman

Prepared by John Herrington
Director Retirement Services Division