

STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
STATE EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT COMMISSION

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MARCH 18, 2021 MEETING  
HELD VIA ZOOM  
CONVENED AT 9:00 a.m.

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Present:

Peter Adomeit, Chair  
Michael Bailey, Trustee  
Sandra Fae Brown-Brewton, Trustee  
Karen Buffkin, Trustee  
Michael Carey, Trustee  
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  
Paul Fortier, Trustee  
Sal Luciano, Trustee  
Karen Nolen, Trustee  
Claude Poulin, Trustee  
Angel Quiros, Trustee  
Timothy Ryor, Trustee  
Mark Sciota, Municipal Liaison

Also Present:

Bruce Barth, Tax Counsel to the Commission, Robinson &  
Cole  
Cindy Cieslak, General Counsel to the Commission,  
Rose Kallor  
John Herrington, Director, Retirement Services  
Division  
Colin Newman, Assistant Director, Retirement Services  
Division  
Alisha Sullivan, Tax Counsel to the Commission,  
Robinson & Cole  
Division

Court Reporter: Karen Vibert, CSR No. 00064

1 (Proceedings commenced at 9:00 a.m.)

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3 MR. ADOMEIT: I will call the meeting to  
4 order. This is the March 18, 2021 virtual meeting  
5 of the Connecticut State Employees Commission.

6 Cindy, do you have the role, please?

7 MS. CIESLAK: Sure. Good morning,  
8 everyone. Present today we have Chairman  
9 Peter Adomeit, Trustee Carl Chisem, Actuarial  
10 Trustee Claude Poulin, Division Director  
11 John Herrington, Assistant director for the  
12 Retirement Services Division, Colin Newman, Tax  
13 Counsel from Robinson & Cole, Alisha Sullivan, Tax  
14 counsel from Robinson & Cole, Bruce Barth, General  
15 counsel to the Office the Treasurer, Ex Officio  
16 Member of the Commission John Flores, Deputy  
17 Comptroller, Ex Officio Member of the Commission,  
18 Martha Carlson. Trustee Michael Carey, Trustee  
19 Michael Bailey, Trustee Paul Fortier, Trustee  
20 Robert Coffey, Trustee Sal Luciano, Trustee  
21 Sandra Fae Brown-Brewton, Actuarial Trustee  
22 Tim Ryor, and I'm Cindy Cieslak, General Counsel,  
23 from Rose Kallor.

24 MS. NOLEN: Cindy did you get me?

25 Karen Nolen, OPM.

1 MS. CIESLAK: Karen Nolen, Trustee. Thank  
2 you, Karen.

3 MR. SCIOTA: Mark Sciota, too, Cindy.

4 MS. CIESLAK: Mark Sciota, Municipal  
5 Liaison. Sorry about that. As I let people in from  
6 the waiting room, I was trying to keep track; but,  
7 there were a lot. Thank you.

8 MR. ADOMEIT: Okay. Thank you, Cindy.  
9 The.

10 Chairman's report. It's going to be  
11 a repeat of my former reports, and that is it has  
12 been fantastic to have the skill of the people who  
13 have kept this process going for the last year now  
14 without the in person in the offices. It's been a  
15 real shout-out to Marti, to John, and all the other  
16 people who have really struggled to get this thing  
17 going and now we're on a fairly good clip to keep it  
18 efficient. Thank you very much.

19 Division Director's report?

20 MR. HERRINGTON: Thank you for that  
21 acknowledgment and recognition, Mr. Chairman.

22 In terms of work through the past  
23 month, historically speaking, we reverted back to  
24 the mean a bit so this was a slightly lighter month  
25 in terms of the number of regular audits that came

1 in. January and February, as you'll see, were  
2 historically high; but, March was relatively low.  
3 That allowed us to devote some of our energies on  
4 our multiple projects that we're working through.  
5 We have probably made the biggest dent in the  
6 disability backlog that we've made in quite a long  
7 time. Our goal continues to be to zero out the  
8 disability backlog by the end of this year. We  
9 processed 156 files this past month, and so we are  
10 certainly on pace to achieve that goal, and we're  
11 achieving that goal, obviously, remotely.

12 In terms of a new bit of information  
13 that I'm providing this month would be kind of a  
14 summary of where we are with respect to our release  
15 of the self-service benefit estimator. So, this is  
16 our release of functionality within the pension  
17 module that is going to be of assistance to a very  
18 large population. As I've stated in many previous  
19 months, this is a process through which we hope to  
20 get as much information -- relevant information to  
21 as large a population as possible; but, also is  
22 going to assist us in preparing for the work that  
23 we're going to need to do when and if any of those  
24 individuals retire as part of the retirement surge.

25 So, when we will release the

1 self-service benefit estimator, we are providing a  
2 record review in identifying any obvious flaws in  
3 those records. We have a slightly different  
4 tolerance for disability -- for hazardous duty cases  
5 than for regular cases. For hazardous duty cases,  
6 the real threshold question is whether or not an  
7 individual has satisfied that 20-year requirement  
8 and on what date. So, we are conducting much  
9 stricter audits of those records to really narrow in  
10 on that date. For some of the others where we are  
11 identifying obvious flaws, there may be some  
12 adjustments that will need to be made when those  
13 cases go through audit. All of these cases will be  
14 audited; but, we will have done a lion's share of  
15 the work and so hopefully this will allow us to get  
16 ahead of the game so to speak in advance of 2022.

17           As you'll see, we started this  
18 rollout right before we went out for COVID last  
19 year. We put a pause on that as we kind of adjusted  
20 to the new normal and we have picked that up back up  
21 kind of in earnest from late summer on and we are at  
22 a point where we are releasing this to larger and  
23 larger populations each month going forward. The  
24 goal is for us to release this to all individuals  
25 that are eligible for the 2022 retirement date and

1 hopefully, we would like to achieve that goal again  
2 by the end of this year as well.

3           So, that's where we stand in terms of  
4 our regular work. The other projects that we  
5 continue to work on would be we continue to refine  
6 the compilation of relevant plan provisions and  
7 we're doing that in connection with our preparations  
8 for communicating to the larger populations  
9 regarding the 2022 changes.

10           So, I would say that the key term for  
11 this past month has been minor complexities. We  
12 continue to encounter the small issues that do need  
13 some resolution. My general sense is that the basic  
14 message regarding the 2022 changes is that there are  
15 changes. The changes will impact different  
16 populations differently depending on the some sense  
17 of criteria; but, in many cases, the changes are not  
18 going to be make-or-break changes where someone is  
19 really -- you know, has a strong financial incentive  
20 to retire prior to 2022.

21           There are certain individuals that  
22 did not grandfather that are subject to the change  
23 in the normal retirement age that they may need to  
24 adjust their behavior in terms of delaying their  
25 retirement until they reach that new retirement age.

1 The problem that we have is that there are many  
2 different changes that affect many different  
3 segments of the populations differently, and we have  
4 really kind of honed in on the need for us to  
5 coordinate our efforts in messaging with our  
6 health-care policy unit, because the department  
7 that's most difficult for me is when there are two  
8 different answers for different segments. There is  
9 a question in terms of how the changes to the normal  
10 retirement age would or would not impact individuals  
11 with respect to the retiree's health insurance cost.  
12 So that's something that we work through.

13           Also, in terms of another project  
14 that's perhaps on the horizon, there has been some  
15 discussion between the parties regarding a holdover  
16 population that have a combination of ARP and hybrid  
17 service, and we need to identify that population and  
18 present a possible remedy for individuals that were  
19 not afforded a remedy under either SAG or the  
20 ARP-to-hybrid transfer programs. The problem that  
21 we have there, again, is one of complexity. It's  
22 very hard for us to have a simple set of black and  
23 white rules because that population, the higher-ed  
24 population they are very transient. There are lots  
25 of starts and stops, and it's very hard to apply a

1 set of rules across the board.

2           That highlights another issue that  
3 we've encountered with respect to the compilation in  
4 terms of there has -- I think as everyone knows,  
5 there's been an evolution to our enrollment rules in  
6 terms of the same-day election rule. That has  
7 changed over time. It's been implemented  
8 differently in some cases per campus. There are  
9 also other bargaining agreements that apply at UConn  
10 that don't necessarily apply at the State  
11 universities and community colleges. So, there are  
12 a host of issues that we need to resolve.

13           Last year, just prior to going out on  
14 COVID, we started to engage the higher-ed  
15 institutions in identifying all of the underlying  
16 issues, concerns, questions regarding enrollment,  
17 with the hopes of establishing a clearer set of  
18 rules that we can apply going forward. That, again,  
19 is something that we placed on pause based on the  
20 COVID in our responses to going out on Telework;  
21 but, that's something that we plan to re-engage over  
22 the next' couple of months and hopefully we can  
23 resolve some of those issues this year in connection  
24 with the release of the compilation. Hopefully we  
25 will be in a position to release a document specific



1 to the higher-ed population and all of these issues  
2 in terms of combining and transferring the service  
3 from ARP and/or SERS, and/or the Teachers  
4 Retirement System.

5 Those are the issues that we've been  
6 working on this month.

7 MR. ADOMEIT: Thank you, John.

8 Does anyone have any questions?  
9 Hearing none, Marti, do you have any comments?

10 MS. CARLSON: Just a couple of things.

11 John, would you remind the Commission  
12 of what we think the total eligibility population is  
13 against this 7,000 that we've already rolled out?

14 MR. HERRINGTON: Right. That is a  
15 difficult and and evasive number; but, I would say  
16 it's somewhere around 14,000. One of the  
17 complexities that we're dealing with is identifying  
18 these individuals through something called a dynamic  
19 role in core, where we set up a set number of  
20 criteria. The more criteria that we have, the more  
21 difficult it is to capture that population. So, in  
22 terms of identifying the people that we're rolling  
23 our self-service out to, we actually are slightly  
24 over-inclusive. So, some of the numbers would be as  
25 high as 15,000 or so; but, that includes some

1 Tier III members who may have that 10 years but will  
2 not have satisfied the age 58; whereas, for  
3 everybody else it's age 55. But it's somewhere  
4 between 14,000 and 15,000. We're just about halfway  
5 through at this point.

6 MS. CARLSON: That was just the point I  
7 wanted to make that despite the pandemic and on  
8 remote we're halfway through cleaning the data for  
9 the eligibles for the 2022.

10 Secondly, you may or not hear -- let  
11 me back it up.

12 Some of you know that there's been an  
13 HR consolidation at DAS and the component or pod or  
14 silo that is working on retirement is having a rocky  
15 start because of many factors. We've been assisting  
16 them in getting -- in smoothing it out and we have  
17 come into somewhat of a snag on retirement  
18 counseling.

19 Now, those of you who have been here  
20 a long time that know that over the course of  
21 history, at least as long as I've been here, we've  
22 had in-person retirement counseling sessions at the  
23 agency a few times a year, one I think specifically  
24 only for hazardous duty.

25 We figured that that covered about

1 20 percent of the population; so, there was not any  
2 right or expectation that we had that we would be  
3 able to counsel every single employee who wants to  
4 retire in group or individually. Obviously, we  
5 don't have the staff to do it.

6           Because of the HR consolidation, many  
7 of the folks at agencies who would be available for  
8 someone to go and talk to about their retirement no  
9 longer have that personal touch.

10           It's DAS's position that we are  
11 responsible for retirement counseling. So, despite  
12 the fact that I'm jumping up and down kicking and  
13 screaming, we are trying to address that. We've  
14 developed with our COMS division a video with an  
15 explanation of how to retire. John and I and the  
16 COMS team are working on the possibility of a short  
17 webinar produced by our counseling unit, maybe in  
18 animated form, maybe in personal form, with some  
19 FAQs and then some time for personal -- for  
20 individual questions of anyone who's on the webinar.

21           Clearly, that are going to be people  
22 that have a question they wanted answered not in a  
23 public way, so we're also thinking about  
24 establishing a regular weekly -- I don't know --  
25 retirement office hours in our call center where one

1 or two people will be assigned from like 11:00 to  
2 2:00 on a Friday, or whenever people can call in.

3 I just point this out to you, that if  
4 you hear complaints, we are real trying to work  
5 through it. There has been a downstream impact  
6 that's pretty significant to us from the HR  
7 consolidation. We're clearly not against it. It's  
8 an executive-agency decision, but we're sort of  
9 struggling on the back end of what that means to us  
10 with our resources.

11 And then specifically for Fae, this  
12 new agreement, we really need to sit down -- John  
13 and I and his staff need to sit down and figure out  
14 what it means if it ends up being signed. We think  
15 initially it's a pretty significant impact folded  
16 into everything else we're trying to do with the  
17 self-service calculator and helping the HR  
18 consolidation. You know us. We stand ready to do  
19 anything that the parties need us to do; but, I just  
20 wanted to put a marker down that it's going to be  
21 complicated to for us to complete it and I want to  
22 watch that time line.

23 MS. BROWN-BREWTON: Which is precisely why  
24 I sent it to John, because I told Danny that the  
25 Division has to implement this.

1 MS. CARLSON: Right.

2 MS. BROWN-BREWTON: I'm not going to sign  
3 off on it without their input, because it's one  
4 thing for me to agree to something and then hurl it  
5 in your direction and say, Fly.

6 MS. CARLSON: Right.

7 MS. BROWN-BREWTON: So, I think it would  
8 make sense if we got in a room with Danny and went  
9 through it. Okay?

10 MS. CARLSON: Yup. Sure. That would be  
11 great. I just want to understand it myself. I  
12 literally just -- I think I just heard it. I didn't  
13 just hear about it yesterday; but, John sent me the  
14 document yesterday. We will have an internal  
15 discussion. We will set something up with you and  
16 Danny to walk through it.

17 MS. BROWN-BREWTON: Great.

18 MR. HERRINGTON: I just wanted to make a  
19 couple points regarding retirement counseling. We  
20 certainly are capable of talking to the entire  
21 population and providing them with general  
22 information about retirement and retirement  
23 counseling. So, we can advise anyone regarding the  
24 general provisions, the health insurance  
25 eligibility, eligibility for -- the general

1 calculation of a benefit, survivor options. The  
2 issue is the personal touch, whether we're giving  
3 individuals information that's specific to their  
4 case, specific dollar amounts.

5           The self-service rollout provides  
6 that information and that's why that has been our  
7 emphasis. In past years when we've had the  
8 retirement incentives, we have not been able to  
9 provide any individualized information to anyone.  
10 It's always been the general presentation in that  
11 the agencies and HR assisted the members by  
12 providing some information and, in many cases, the  
13 individuals calculated their own benefits without  
14 this level of expertise. Our focus has been to  
15 provide everyone with a meaningful number prior to  
16 their retirement.

17           So, that's why our emphasis, I would  
18 say, is absolutely on the self-service benefit  
19 estimator. I think there are different notions of  
20 what retirement counseling is and what retirement  
21 counseling means; but, in the past, every person  
22 that completed their retirement paperwork had the  
23 opportunity to speak with an actual HR professional.  
24 That no longer exists and we have never had the  
25 ability in terms of staffing to actually meet with

1 every person that's retiring in a year. I mean, if  
2 we had more staff we could absolutely do that. We  
3 could absolutely do a great job. The question is  
4 finding the right balance. As Marti said,  
5 leveraging technology to get the most information to  
6 the largest population possible.

7 MS. CARLSON: Just one more thing.  
8 Speaking of technology, we are acutely aware,  
9 particularly having been doing the testing and  
10 vaccinations of State employees, that there is  
11 technology hesitancy and there's simply technology  
12 incapability in certain, you know -- cohort is not  
13 the right word of -- State employees. We are fully  
14 aware of that. We don't want to throw out a webinar  
15 and some major technology out to the entire State  
16 population that's eligible and forget about those  
17 who are just not -- you know, either not technically  
18 capable of doing it or don't have the equipment to  
19 do it; so, they're on our minds as well.

20 MR. ADOMEIT: Thank you, Marti. Thank  
21 you, John. Anybody have any questions or comments.

22 MR. FLORES: Is there any requirement -- I  
23 believe there is not -- as to the notice the employee  
24 has to give in the sense that we had a senior-level  
25 individual in one of our divisions at the treasury

1 who was with us for over 15 years just give three  
2 weeks' notice, and the reason -- you know, so that's  
3 an issue from a management point. But, also from the  
4 employee perspective, if that employee's anticipating  
5 that within three weeks they'll be able to shift from  
6 pay to getting retirement pay, I would suspect that's  
7 not going to happen in all instances. Is there any  
8 communication out there as to how long it takes to  
9 process this stuff? Because I would think some  
10 people might be thinking they're going to retire  
11 quickly, specially if they're asked to come back to  
12 work and they don't want to, and they're going to  
13 expect a retirement pension check sooner than is  
14 reasonable.

15 MS. CARLSON: John, they can retire. I  
16 can put my paperwork in on March 31st for an  
17 April -- am I right, John? For an April 1st  
18 retirement and I will get an April pension check.

19 MR. FLORES: Oh, you will? Okay.

20 MS. CARLSON: Oh, yeah. It's not easy.  
21 Am I right, John?

22 MR. HERRINGTON: Right. There's two  
23 issues. Part of it is, you know, what I could call  
24 kind of the HR side prior to that retirement date,  
25 then the next is where we stand, you know, on the



1 retirement side. Our requirement is that we receive  
2 completed retirement paperwork on the last business  
3 day prior to the effective retirement date. If that  
4 occurs, we will honor that retirement date. It's  
5 possible that in some instances someone may submit a  
6 completed retirement application, or in many cases  
7 maybe a partially-completed retirement application  
8 that would essentially serve as a placeholder for  
9 honoring that date. There may be additional  
10 information that's required that had that individual  
11 given the agency 60 or 90 days' notice, probably all  
12 would have come in at one time. Say in that  
13 example, if we receive a retirement application but  
14 a partial package on March 31st, it's unlikely that  
15 we would have an opportunity to process that, honor  
16 that, and put that person on the payroll for  
17 April 1st, that being that there may be questions  
18 that we would have to go back and forth with the  
19 agency and April is a very heavy month.

20                   What would happen, however, is likely  
21 once all issues have been resolved, they would be  
22 resolved for the May payroll and be paid retroactive  
23 to April.

24                   It causes inconvenience; but, it's  
25 not as though if someone gives two weeks' notice,

1 that the agency has kind of like an absolutely right  
2 to not complete the retirement paperwork. I guess  
3 it's a question of whether that's a practical  
4 concern or not. What does the agency do if someone  
5 comes into work on noon on the 31st and says, I want  
6 to retire? They have that right. As a practical  
7 matter, there's likely to be a delay.

8 MR. CHISEM: Mr. Chairman?

9 MR. ADOMEIT: Go ahead.

10 MR. CHISEM: I appreciate you, Marti,  
11 recognizing there's a good portion of the membership  
12 that doesn't have the technical skill because we have  
13 a small portion of people that are like that.

14 No. 2, the ones that do sign up to go  
15 retire, they haven't heard anything going through  
16 the process, no emails, no phone calls back, and  
17 they're calling HR. HR doesn't know where to send  
18 them and they're sending emails to the pod and not  
19 getting anything back. And they have another group  
20 that just yesterday that -- and there's a couple  
21 people that actually had to put off their retirement  
22 for two or three months because they haven't heard  
23 anything back going through the process of, you  
24 know, emails and stuff like that and not hearing  
25 anything back.

1                   So, what we've done, there's a staff  
2 rep has a -- we're putting together a list of  
3 questions so that we can somewhat get them ready so  
4 that when they do get an answer back, they'll have  
5 an idea of the questions they need to answer. Have  
6 a staff rep here who takes care of insurance and  
7 retirement Workmen's Comp.

8                   I understand it's complicated; but, I  
9 do appreciate you recognizing that. There's a lot  
10 of people that don't have -- that are not tech  
11 savvy.

12                  MS. CARLSON: I can tell you that some of  
13 those calls are coming to us, whether they're coming  
14 from the agency or the agency MR people are saying,  
15 If you can't get the pod, call us, which is -- we're  
16 not overwhelmed by them, but we are concerned by  
17 them. It just goes back to my point of that we are  
18 really trying to help the pod get stood up.

19                  My personal opinion is HR  
20 consolidation is great; but, that pod was  
21 under-resourced. There's just not enough people in  
22 that pod working to be able to answer a question.

23                  And I think, Fae -- I think I saw an  
24 email or a form or something that the pod is  
25 requesting -- I don't think they can require, but

1 they're requesting notification of some period of  
2 time, John, ahead of retirement?

3 MS. BROWN-BREWTON: That's absolutely  
4 correct, Marti. Because this led to some discussion  
5 with Danny. The pod was initially requiring  
6 60 days' notice of retirement, and, of course, they  
7 can't require that because that was not negotiated.

8 MS. CARLSON: Right.

9 MS. BROWN-BREWTON: So, we modified their  
10 form to reflect that they would like -- they would  
11 prefer, it would be nice if you could give 60 days'  
12 notice, but it's not a mandate.

13 And, Carl, let's talk off line about  
14 your situations because I'd like to assist in  
15 getting those issues resolved with people not  
16 getting voice responses from the pod.

17 MR. CHISEM: I appreciate that.

18 MR. HERRINGTON: Can I just chime in? I  
19 think in terms of our fiduciary responsibility, I  
20 can't think of anything more important that we do  
21 than giving people fairly accurate numbers in terms  
22 of what they can expect when they retire. It's a  
23 life decision. To Carl's point, even though they're  
24 ready to go, they feel like they have to wait the  
25 two, three, four months to try to make sure that

1 they understand how much money they're getting so  
2 they can make an informed decision.

3 MR. ADOMEIT: Thank you. Are there any  
4 more questions or comments?

5 MS. CIESLAK: I would like to note for the  
6 record that Karen Buffkin and Angel Quiros, both  
7 trustees, joined us. Thank you.

8 MR. ADOMEIT: Thank you, Cindy.

9 Okay. We can move on to new matters.  
10 Sal?

11 MR. LUCIANO: Motion to move item 1, the  
12 minutes.

13 MR. BAILEY: Second.

14 MR. ADOMEIT: Any discussion? Hearing  
15 none, all in favor say aye. Opposed nay. The ayes  
16 have it.

17 MR. LUCIANO: Motion to move the  
18 chairman's per diem expenses.

19 MR. BAILEY: Second.

20 MR. ADOMEIT: Any discussion? Hearing  
21 none. All in favor say aye. Opposed nay. The ayes  
22 have it.

23 MR. LUCIANO: Motion to move Item 3 with  
24 Claude abstaining.

25 MR. BAILEY: Second.

1 MR. ADOMEIT: Any discussion? Hearing  
2 none, all in favor say aye. Opposed nay. The ayes  
3 have it.

4 MR. LUCIANO: Motion to move Item 4 with  
5 Tim abstaining.

6 MR. BAILEY: Second.

7 MR. ADOMEIT: Any discussion? Hearing  
8 none, all in favor say aye. Opposed nay. The ayes  
9 have it.

10 MR. LUCIANO: Motion to accept Items 5  
11 through 7.

12 MR. BAILEY: Second.

13 MR. ADOMEIT: Any discussion? Hearing  
14 none, all in favor say aye. Opposed nay. The ayes  
15 have it.

16 MR. LUCIANO: Motion to approve Items 8  
17 and 9.

18 MR. BAILEY: Second.

19 MR. ADOMEIT: Any discussion? Hearing  
20 none, all in favor say aye. Opposed nay. The ayes  
21 have it.

22 MR. LUCIANO: Motion to approve Item 10.

23 MR. BAILEY: Second.

24 MR. ADOMEIT: Any discussion? Hearing  
25 none, all in favor say aye. Opposed nay. The ayes

1 have it.

2 MR. LUCIANO: Motion to approve Items 11  
3 And 12.

4 MR. BAILEY: Second.

5 MR. ADOMEIT: Any discussion? Hearing  
6 none, all in favor say aye. Opposed nay. The ayes  
7 have it.

8 MR. LUCIANO: Motion to approve Items 13  
9 and 14.

10 MR. BAILEY: Second.

11 MR. ADOMEIT: Any discussion? Hearing  
12 none, all in favor say aye. Opposed nay. The ayes  
13 have it.

14 MR. LUCIANO: Motion to accept Items 15,  
15 both A and B.

16 MR. BAILEY: Second.

17 MR. ADOMEIT: Any discussion? Hearing  
18 none, all in favor say aye. Opposed nay. The ayes  
19 have it.

20 MR. LUCIANO: I would like to make a  
21 motion that we go into executive session on West  
22 Hartford with the usual suspects remaining.

23 MR. BAILEY: Second.

24 MS. CARLSON: That's official.

25 MR. ADOMEIT: It is. Cindy, do you want

1 to add who we're inviting in, please?

2 MS. CIESLAK: For the record, invited into  
3 executive session will be Alisha Sullivan,  
4 Bruce Barth, Cindy Cieslak, Colin Newman and  
5 John Herrington.

6 MR. ADOMEIT: All right. All in favor of  
7 the motion say aye. Opposed nay. The ayes have it.

8 The Commission was in executive session  
9 from 9:32 a.m. until 10:26 a.m.)

10 MR. ADOMEIT: Item No. 1, West Hartford  
11 inquiry.

12 MR. CAREY: Mr. Chairman, I'll make a  
13 motion on that matter.

14 So, I would move that the Commission  
15 direct the Division to contact the OSC legislative  
16 liaison for the purposes of making a legislative  
17 proposal to correct MERS legislation such that a  
18 MERS retiree who's collecting a pension may accept  
19 employment from a non-participating municipality and  
20 participate in the retirement system of that  
21 non-participating municipality for the period of  
22 such employment.

23 MR. POULIN: Second.

24 MS. CARLSON: I do have a question. I  
25 just want to sure that that that is not exactly the



1 language that you want inserted, Mike, that we need  
2 to make the technical correction. I think we can do  
3 it through a strike.

4 John, help me out here.

5 MR. HERRINGTON: We would have to strike  
6 the language; but, there also would be the addition  
7 of language as well.

8 MS. CARLSON: Okay.

9 MR. CAREY: I was not proposing specific  
10 language but the intent of the proposal to  
11 accomplish that.

12 MS. CARLSON: I was just making sure.  
13 Thank you.

14 MR. CAREY: Thanks, Marti.

15 MR. ADOMEIT: Any further discussion?  
16 Hearing none, all in favor say aye. Opposed nay.  
17 The ayes have it.

18 No. 5. Spousal waiver.

19 MR. LUCIANO: I would like to make a  
20 motion that re permit electronic signatures, except  
21 for spousal waivers, which must be witnessed and  
22 notarized.

23 MR. CHISEM: Second.

24 MR. ADOMEIT: Any further discussion?  
25 Hearing none, all in favor say aye. Opposed nay.

1 The ayes have it.

2 MS. CIESLAK: Who seconded Sal's motion?

3 MR. ADOMEIT: Carl.

4 MS. CIESLAK: Thank you.

5 MR. CHISEM: Sorry.

6 MR. ADOMEIT: All right. We are on No. 8,

7 Jessica Marquez.

8 MR. LUCIANO: Motion to deny

9 reconsideration.

10 MR. CAREY: Second.

11 MR. ADOMEIT: Any discussion? Hearing

12 none, all in favor say aye. Opposed nay. The ayes

13 have it.

14 We are through with the agenda.

15 MS. CIESLAK: Mr. Chairman, I do think

16 there needs to be a motion on No. 6,

17 Mylinh Le-Jones.

18 MR. ADOMEIT: Oh, thank you very much.

19 Yes. I missed that.

20 MR. LUCIANO: Motion to deny and direct is

21 what my notes say. Does somebody else want to give

22 this a shot.

23 MR. CAREY: I'll fill that in. I'll make

24 the motion, Sal.

25 I move that the Commission deny

1 Ms. Le-Jones' petition for a declaratory ruling and  
2 direct the Division to process her application so  
3 that it may be presented before the MEB.

4 MR. LUCIANO: I'll second that.

5 MR. CAREY: Thank you, Sal.

6 MR. ADOMEIT: All right. Thank you. Is  
7 there any further discussion on this? Hearing none,  
8 all in favor say aye. Opposed nay. The ayes have  
9 it.

10 MR. LUCIANO: Motion to adjourn.

11 MR. FORTIER: Second.

12 MR. ADOMEIT: Any discussion? Hearing  
13 none, all in favor say aye. Opposed nay. The ayes  
14 have it.

15 (Concluded at 10:30 a.m.)

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1 STATE CONNECTICUT:  
2 COUNTY OF HARTFORD : ss: Bristol

3  
4 I, Karen Vibert, LSR No. 00064, a  
5 Notary Public for the State of Connecticut, do hereby  
6 certify that the preceding pages are an accurate  
7 transcription of the meeting held electronically via  
8 Zoom, convening at 9:00 a.m., on March 18, 2021.

9  
10 Dated at Bristol, Connecticut,  
11 this 5th day of April, 2021.

12  
13  
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15  
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19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24 Karen Vibert



25 Karen Vibert, Notary Public  
My commission expires: 08/31/2024.

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