

STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
STATE EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT COMMISSION  
LEGAL & PERSONNEL SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

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SEPTEMBER 13, 2023 MEETING  
HELD VIA ZOOM  
CONVENED AT 8:36 a.m.

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Present:

Chairman Peter Adomeit  
Trustee Michael Carey  
Trustee Brian Hill  
Trustee Michael O'Brien  
Commission Counsel Michael Rose (Rose Kallor, LLP)  
Commission Counsel Cindy Cieslak (Rose Kallor, LLP)  
Commission Tax Counsel Bruce Barth (Robinson & Cole LLP)  
Commission Tax Counsel Virginia McGarrity (Robinson & Cole LLP)  
John Herrington, Retirement Services Division Director  
Robert Helfand, Retirement Services Division Assistant Director  
Yamuna Menon, General Counsel and Assistant Comptroller

TRANSCRIPTIONIST: Karin A. Empson

1 (Proceedings commenced at 8:36 a.m.)

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5 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Okay. This is the meeting  
6 of the State Employees Retirement Commission Legal &  
7 Personnel Subcommittee being held with Zoom technology.

8 Cindy, do you have the attendance, please?

9 MS. CIESLAK: Good morning. This is Cindy  
10 Cieslak. Present today, we have Chairman Peter  
11 Adomeit, Trustee Michael Carey, Trustee Brian Hill,  
12 Trustee Michael O'Brien. From the Retirement Services  
13 Division, we have Division Director John Herrington,  
14 Assistant Director Robert Helfand, and we also have  
15 Assistant Comptroller and General Counsel Yam Menon.

16 From Robinson & Cole Tax Counsel, we have  
17 Bruce Barth and Virginia McGarrity, and from General  
18 Counsel, Rose Kallor, we have Michael Rose and Cindy  
19 Cieslak.

20 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Okay, thank you. We need  
21 a motion to approve the agenda, please.

22 MR. HILL: So moved.

23 MR. O'BRIEN: Second, Mike O'Brien.

24 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: All in favor, say aye or  
25 raise your hand. Opposed, nay or raise your hand.

1 Unanimous; the ayes have it.

2 New business, executive session. We need a  
3 motion to go in, please.

4 MR. HILL: So moved, Brian Hill.

5 MR. O'BRIEN: Second, Mike O'Brien.

6 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: All in favor, say aye or  
7 raise your hand. Opposed, nay or raise your hand.  
8 It's unanimous.

9 Item Number 1, Linda Savitsky.

10 MS. CIESLAK: Mr. Chairman, can I confirm  
11 that the motion to go into executive session includes  
12 an invitation to John Herrington, Yam Menon, Bert  
13 Helfand, Bruce Barth, Virginia McGarrity, Michael Rose,  
14 and Cindy Cieslak to be invited into executive session?

15 So Brian Hill and Michael O'Brien, I'm just  
16 asking you to confirm that you are inviting the  
17 individuals I listed into executive session.

18 MR. HILL: Yes.

19 MR. O'BRIEN: Yep.

20 MS. CIESLAK: Thank you.

21 (The subcommittee was in executive session  
22 from 8:37 a.m. until 9:06 a.m.)

23 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Okay. On the Linda  
24 Savinsky appeal, we need a motion to recommend to the  
25 commission.

1 MR. HILL: So moved, Hill.

2 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: What's the recommendation?  
3 We should put that in our motion.

4 MR. HILL: Can you please remind me of—

5 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Yeah. Cindy, do you have  
6 it down there?

7 MS. CIESLAK: Yeah, give me one second. I  
8 believe the recommendation is that her benefit be  
9 recalculated in a manner that includes the chip she  
10 received in the 2003 (inaudible).

11 MR. HILL: I move that her benefit be  
12 recalculated.

13 MR. O'BRIEN: Second, Mike O'Brien.

14 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Any further discussion?  
15 Hearing none, all in favor, say aye or raise your hand.  
16 Opposed, nay or raise your hand.

17 MR. CAREY: Carey, nay.

18 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Okay. It looked like it  
19 was two-to-one.

20 MS. CIESLAK: Yes. Mr. Chairman, this is  
21 Cindy Cieslak. The statute requires, when it's not  
22 unanimous, that a roll-call vote be taken.

23 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Okay.

24 MS. CIESLAK: Mr. Hill, do you vote in favor  
25 or opposed to the motion?

1 MR. HILL: In favor.

2 MS. CIESLAK: Mr. O'Brien, do you vote in  
3 favor or opposed to the motion?

4 MR. O'BRIEN: In favor.

5 MS. CIESLAK: Mr. Carey, do you vote in favor  
6 or opposed to the motion?

7 MR. CAREY: Opposed.

8 MS. CIESLAK: Mr. Chairman, as you said, it  
9 is two-to-one.

10 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Okay. The next would be  
11 the Butler matter. We need a motion to recommend.

12 MR. O'BRIEN: Mike O'Brien. I move we  
13 recommend to the commission that we issue a declaratory  
14 ruling.

15 MR. HILL: Second.

16 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Any discussion? Hearing  
17 none, all in favor, say aye or raise your hand.  
18 Opposed, nay or raise your hand. The ayes have it.

19 MS. CIESLAK: Mr. Chairman, I'll just note  
20 for the record that Mr. Hill seconded that motion.

21 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Okay. Harris, Ricardo  
22 Harris.

23 MR. O'BRIEN: Mike O'Brien. I recommend that  
24 we remand his case for further review by the MEB.

25 MR. HILL: Second, Brian Hill.

1                   CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Any further discussion?  
2           Hearing none, all in favor, say aye or raise your hand.  
3           Opposed, nay or raise your hand. It's unanimous; the  
4           ayes have it.

5                   Okay. I think we're down to adjournment.

6                   MR. O'BRIEN: Mike O'Brien. I make a motion  
7           we adjourn.

8                   MR. HILL: Second, Brian Hill.

9                   CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: All in favor, say aye or  
10          raise your hand. It's unanimous; the ayes have it.

11                   Thank you all very much.

12                   (Adjourned at 9:09 a.m.)

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I, Karin A. Empson, do hereby  
certify that the preceding pages are an accurate  
transcription of the Connecticut State Employees  
Retirement Commission, Legal & Personnel Subcommittee  
meeting held electronically via Zoom, conducted at 8:36  
a.m. on September 13, 2023.

Karin A. Empson

Karin A. Empson

09/25/2023

Date