

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

APRIL 12, 2023 MEETING
HELD VIA ZOOM
CONVENED AT 8:34 a.m.

Present:

Chairman Peter Adomeit
Trustee Michael Carey
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 Elizabeth Gupta (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 8:34 a.m.)

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5 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Okay, Peter Adomeit
6 speaking. This is the April the 12th meeting of the
7 State Employees Retirement Commission Legal & Personnel
8 Subcommittee being held remotely using Zoom technology.

9 Do we have the attendance, Cindy?

10 MS. CIESLAK: Yes. Good morning. This is
11 Cindy Cieslak. Present this morning, we have Chairman
12 Peter Adomeit; Trustee Michael Carey; Trustee Michael
13 O'Brien; Division Director John Herrington; Assistant
14 Director from the Retirement Services Division, Robert
15 Helfand; Yam Menon, General Counsel and Assistant
16 Comptroller; Michael Rose and Cindy Cieslak from Rose
17 Kallor, General Counsel to the Retirement Commission;
18 Bruce Barth and Elizabeth Gupta from Robinson & Cole,
19 Tax Counsel to the Retirement Division. Thank you.

20 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Thank you. We need a
21 motion to approve the agenda.

22 MR. CAREY: This is Mike Carey. So moved.

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

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

1 New business, CMERS SPD. Who is doing the
2 heavy lifting on this one?

3 MR. BARTH: John, I believe.

4 MR. HERRINGTON: Oh, okay, all right. I
5 thought I was off, leaving that to you, Bruce. But
6 yeah, so we're in the process of updating our website
7 across the board, and one of the first steps to that is
8 to ensure that we have updated SPDs for all of the
9 plans. Last month, we sent the non-hybrid SPDs for all
10 of the SERS plans. This month, we have the MERS SPD.

11 The MERS SPD, I think, is complete. There
12 were a couple of edits that Bruce circulated. We're
13 fine with those, and we can circulate that to the group
14 in advance of presentation to the full commission next
15 week, I would say. Unless there's anything that stood
16 out to you, Bruce?

17 MR. BARTH: No, just that one issue I raised,
18 which is a small one. So-

19 MR. HERRINGTON: Right, and that one, we'll
20 get back to you, but that issue is resolved on the
21 form, the form that people fill out-

22 MR. BARTH: Okay.

23 MR. HERRINGTON: --to complete the survivor
24 option. That's where the distinction in terms of where
25 the money goes in the case of a decedent - or a

1 deceased contingent annuitant for the 10- to 20-year
2 option.

3 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Okay. Do you want to put
4 that on the agenda for the next meeting of the
5 commission?

6 MR. HERRINGTON: Okay.

7 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Yeah, we'll have to get -
8 well, the packet hasn't gone out yet.

9 MR. HERRINGTON: Okay.

10 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Okay, executive session,
11 we need a motion to go into executive session, please.

12 MR. CAREY: Mr. Chairman, this is Mike Carey.
13 I move that we go into executive session to discuss
14 Items 1 through 9 on the executive session agenda and
15 that we invite into the session Cindy Cieslak, Bruce
16 Barth, Liz Gupta, Mike Rose, and John Herrington, and
17 Bert Helfand.

18 Did I get everybody?

19 MR. BARTH: Yam.

20 MR. CAREY: Do we have to include Yam in the
21 invite? And Yam Menon as well. Thanks, Bruce.

22 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Yeah.

23 MR. O'BRIEN: Michael O'Brien, second.

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

1 MR. CAREY: Aye.

2 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: It's unanimous; the ayes
3 have it.

4 (The subcommittee was in executive session
5 from 8:37 a.m. until 9:43 a.m.)

6 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Okay, we need a motion on
7 the Lawrence matter.

8 MR. CAREY: Mr. Chairman, this Mike Carey.
9 Regarding the Lawrence matter, I move that we recommend
10 to the full commission that they deny a request for
11 reconsideration.

12 MR. O'BRIEN: Mike O'Brien, second.

13 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Any discussion? Hearing
14 none, all in favor, say aye or raise your hand. Yeah,
15 it's unanimous.

16 Okay. We now need a motion on Weinstein.

17 MR. CAREY: Mr. Chairman, this is Mike Carey.
18 In the Weinstein matter, I move that we recommend to
19 the full commission that given - or based on the
20 limited - or limited to the specific facts of this case
21 and given the record of communication in this matter,
22 and without setting any precedent for any future matter
23 before the commission, that we recommend the commission
24 grant Ms. Weinstein's request.

25 MS. WEINSTEIN: Yes.

1 MR. O'BRIEN: Mike O'Brien, second.

2 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Any discussion? Hearing
3 none, all in favor, say aye or raise your hand.

4 MR. CAREY: Aye.

5 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Opposed, nay or raise your
6 hand. The ayes have it.

7 Well, we made it.

8 MR. CAREY: We did indeed. So then, Mr.
9 Chairman, this is Mike Carey. I move that we adjourn.

10 MR. O'BRIEN: Mike O'Brien, second.

11 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Any discussion? Hearing
12 none, all in favor, say aye or raise your hand. It's
13 unanimous. Thank you all very much.

14 MR. CAREY: Thanks, all. Take care.

15 (Adjourned at 9:44 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 8:34
a.m. on April 12, 2023.

Karin A. Empson

Karin A. Empson

05/10/2023

Date