



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT COMMISSION**

A regular meeting of the State Employees Retirement Commission (the “Commission”) was held on February 16, 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:

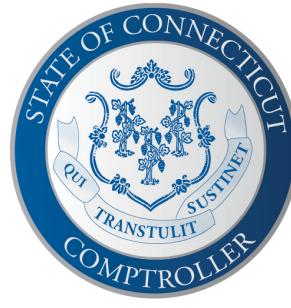
- Peter Adomeit, Chairman
- Michael Bailey, Trustee
- Karen Buffkin, Trustee
- Michael Carey, Trustee
- Carl Chisem, Trustee
- John Disette, Trustee
- Tara Downes, Deputy Comptroller, Ex Officio Member
- David Krayeski, Trustee
- Sal Luciano, Trustee
- Karen Nolen, Trustee
- Michael O’Brien, Trustee
- 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

- Angel Quiros, Trustee

Also present were:

- Bruce Barth, Tax Counsel to the Commission, Robinson & Cole
- Cindy Cieslak, General Counsel to the Commission, Rose Kallor
- Elizabeth Doyon, Tax Counsel to the Commission, Robinson & Cole
- John Garrett, Cavanaugh Macdonald
- Robert Helfand, Assistant Director, Retirement Services Division
- John Herrington, Director, Retirement Services Division
- Charlotte Moller, Director of Policy, Office of the State Comptroller
- Colin Newman, Retirement Services Division
- Michael Rose, General Counsel to the Commission, Rose Kallor
- Justin Raymond, Attorney for Andrew Munson
- Andrew Munson



Call to Order

Chairman Adomeit called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m. Ms. Cieslak identified those in attendance.

At 9:07 a.m., Mr. Poulin moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to amend the agenda to add the following two items as Items 19 and 20, respectively.

- Request Commission Acceptance of the Connecticut Municipal Employees Retirement System Report of the Actuary on the Valuation prepared as of June 30, 2022.
- Request Commission Acceptance of the GASB Statement No. 67 Report for the Connecticut Municipal Employees Retirement System prepared as of June 30, 2022.

All voted in favor.

Chairman's Report

At 9:08 a.m., the Chairman provided his report. The Chairman commended the work of the Division.

At 9:09 a.m., Ms. Downes welcomed Charlotte Moller, the Director of Policy for the Office of the State Comptroller.

Division Director's Report

At 9:09 a.m., Mr. Herrington provided the Division Director's Report.

Division Director Report (02/16/2023)

I. Disability Retirements:

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

- There are 75 Disability Retirement Applications pending of which:
 - 16 New applications received for February 2023
 - 50 Applications have been scheduled for MEB meetings through May 2023
 - 25 Applications are awaiting review and scheduling by Unit

	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
2023	78	75										
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 July 2023.

- 90 Cases are Scheduled
 - February 2023 – 27 Cases
 - March 2023 – 30 Cases
 - April 2023 – 20 Cases
 - May 2023 – 12 Cases
 - June 2023 – 0 Cases
 - July 2023 – 1 Case
- 0 Cases are Overdue
- 24 Cases are Tabled
- 8 Case Seeking Reconsideration
- 109 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
2023	81	60											141
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



New Matters

1. Request Commission Approval of the January 19, 2023 minutes.
 - i. At 9:14 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to approve the January 9, 2023 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 January 19, 2023 minutes.
2. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut SERS Expenses for the Month of January 2023.
 - i. At 9:14 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to approve the Connecticut SERS Expenses for the Month of January 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 January 2023.
3. Request Commission Approval of the State Employees Retirement Commission Chairman's Per Diem Expenses.
 - i. At 9:14 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano 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.
4. Request Commission Approval of the State Employees Retirement Commission Union Trustee Claude Poulin's Per Diem and Travel Expenses Reimbursement.
 - i. At 9:15 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano 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.
5. Request Commission Approval of the State Employees Retirement Commission Management Trustee Timothy A. Ryor's Per Diem Expenses.
 - i. At 9:15 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano 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.
- 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.

6. Request Commission Acceptance of the Invoices from Robinson and Cole for Federal Tax Matters services rendered.

- i. At 9:15 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to accept the invoices from Robinson and Cole for Federal Tax Matters services rendered.
- 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.

7. Request Commission Acceptance of the Invoices from Rose Kallor.

- i. At 9:15 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to accept the invoices from Rose Kallor.
- 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.

8. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Service Retirements for the Month of January 2023.

- i. At 9:16 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to approve the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Service Retirements for the Month of January 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 January 2023.

9. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut State Employees System Voluntary Pending Retirements for the Month of January 2023.

- i. At 9:16 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to approve the Connecticut State Employees System Voluntary Pending Retirements for the Month of January 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 January 2023.

10. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut State Employees System Disability Retirements for the Month of January 2023.

- i. At 9:16 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to approve the Connecticut State Employees System Disability Retirements for the Month of January 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 Disability Retirements for the Month of January 2023.
- 11. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Municipal Employees Retirements for the Month of January 2023.
 - i. At 9:16 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to approve the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Municipal Employees Retirements for the Month of January 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 January 2023.
- 12. Request Commission Approval of the Municipal Employees Retirement System Disability Retirement Approvals.
 - i. At 9:17 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano 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.
- 13. Request Commission Acceptance of the Recommendations by the Medical Examining Board for the Continued Entitlement Approvals.
 - i. At 9:17 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano 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.
- 14. Request Commission Acceptance of the Recommendations by the Medical Examining Board for the Continued Entitlement Tabled and Denials.
 - i. At 9:17 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano 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.
- 15. Request Commission Approval of the Retirement Services Division Request to Discontinue the Disability Applications Due to the One Year Deadline Associated with the Right to Ask for a Reconsideration of the Medical Examining Board Denial.
 - i. At 9:18 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Disette to approve the Retirement Services Division Request to Discontinue the Disability Applications Due to the One Year



Deadline Associated with the Right to Ask for a Reconsideration of the Medical Examining Board Denial.

- 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 Retirement Services Division Request to Discontinue the Disability Applications Due to the One Year Deadline Associated with the Right to Ask for a Reconsideration of the Medical Examining Board Denial.

16. Request Commission Approval of the Probate Judges and Employees Retirement Fund Personnel Expenses for the Pay Period December, 2022 through January, 2023.

- iv. At 9:18 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Disette to approve the Probate Judges and Employees Retirement Fund Personnel Expenses for the Pay Period December, 2022 through January, 2023.
- 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 approve the Probate Judges and Employees Retirement Fund Personnel Expenses for the Pay Period December, 2022 through January, 2023.

17. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut Probate Judges and Employees Retirement System.

- i. At 9:18 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Disette to approve the Connecticut Probate Judges and Employees Retirement System.
- 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 received from Andrew Munson that the Commission consider whether tolling of time limit is appropriate as it relates to him making application for a non-service-connected disability retirement.

- i. At 9:19 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved the request. The Chairman invited Attorney Raymond and Mr. Munson to present his case. Mr. Luciano and Mr. Carey asked questions of Mr. Munson.
- ii. At 9:26 a.m., Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to table the matter until next month to allow the Division to obtain additional information.
- iii. Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote.
- iv. The Commission voted unanimously in favor to table the matter until next month to allow the Division to obtain additional information.

19. Request Commission Acceptance of the Connecticut Municipal Employees Retirement System Report of the Actuary on the Valuation prepared as of June 30, 2022.



- i. At 9:19 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to accept the Connecticut Municipal Employees Retirement System Report of the Actuary on the Valuation 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 Connecticut Municipal Employees Retirement System Report of the Actuary on the Valuation prepared as of June 30, 2022.

20. Request Commission Acceptance the GASB Statement No. 67 Report for the Connecticut Municipal Employees Retirement System prepared as of June 30, 2022.

- i. At 9:19 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to accept the GASB Statement No. 67 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. 67 Report for the Connecticut Municipal Employees Retirement System prepared as of June 30, 2022.

Executive Session – discussion and possible action

1. Sean Kilbride request for hearing pursuant to Regs., Conn. State Agencies 5-155a-2(i) - written legal opinion.
2. Jorge Chavez Carlos request to waive participation - written legal opinion.
3. SERC v. Town of Ellington - pending litigation.
4. Linda Cicarella v. SERC - pending litigation.
5. David J. Dunn v. William Tong et al. - pending litigation.
6. FOI appeal by Attorney Russell Zimberlin - pending claim/pending litigation.

At 9:27 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to suspend the regular meeting and go into executive session for the purposes of discussing Items 1-6. Bruce Barth, Cindy Cieslak, Elizabeth Doyon, Robert Helfand, John Herrington, Charlotte Moller, 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 9:42 a.m., Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey 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 9:43 a.m., Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to set Mr. Kilbride for a disability hearing before the Retirement Commission to decide the issue of tolling. All voted in favor.

At 9:43 a.m., Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to deny the request of Dr. Jorge Chavez Carlos. All voted in favor.

At 9:44 a.m., Mr. Luciano requested a point of personal privilege. Mr. Luciano requested a moment of silence for the trustees who had recently passed – Charles Casella, Sandra Fae Brown Brewton, and Robert Coffey. We will miss them tremendously.

Adjournment

With no further business before the Commission, Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to adjourn at 9:44 a.m. The Commission voted unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Peter Adomeit, Chairman

Prepared by John Herrington
Director Retirement Services Division