



## STATE OF CONNECTICUT STATE EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT COMMISSION

A regular meeting of the State Employees Retirement Commission (the “Commission”) was held on January 19, 2023 in the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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
- John Flores, General Counsel Office of the Treasurer, Ex Officio Member
- David Krayeski, Trustee
- Sal Luciano, Trustee
- Karen Nolen, Trustee
- Claude Poulin, Trustee
- Angel Quiros, Trustee
- Timothy Ryor, Trustee
- Mark Sciota, Municipal Liaison
- Rebecca Simonsen, Trustee

### Absent

- Robert D. Coffey, Trustee
- Michael O’Brien, 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
- Ed Koebel, Cavanaugh Macdonald
- Colin Newman, Retirement Services Division
- Michael Rose, General Counsel to the Commission, Rose Kallor

### Call to Order



Chairman Adomeit called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. Ms. Cieslak identified those in attendance.

At 9:06 a.m., Mr. Poulin moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to amend the agenda to add the following four items as Items 22, 23, 24, 25, and 26, respectively.

- Request Commission Acceptance of the GASB Statement No. 67 Report for the Connecticut State Employees' Retirement System prepared as of June 30, 2022.
- Request Commission Acceptance of the GASB Statement No. 68 Report for the Connecticut State Employees' Retirement System prepared as of June 30, 2022 Measurement Date for June 30, 2023 Reporting Date.
- Request Commission Acceptance of the GASB Statement No. 67 Report for the Connecticut Judges, Family Support Magistrates and Compensation Commissioners Retirement System prepared as of June 30, 2022.
- Request Commission Acceptance of the GASB Statement No. 68 Report for the Connecticut Judges, Family Support Magistrates and Compensation Commissioners Retirement System prepared as of June 30, 2022 Measurement Date for June 30, 2023 Reporting Date.
- Request Commission Acceptance of the Connecticut Policemen and Firemen Survivors' Benefit Fund Actuarial Valuation Report prepared as of June 30, 2022.

All voted in favor.

### **Chairman's Report**

At 9:08 a.m., the Chairman provided his report and yielded to Ms. Downes who reported that the Divisions of the Comptroller were running smoothly.

### **Division Director's Report**

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

#### **Division Director Report (01/19/2023)**

##### **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 78 Disability Retirement Applications pending of which:
  - 9 New applications received for January 2023, 2 new applications for February 2023
    - 61 Applications have been scheduled for MEB meetings through May 2023



- 17 Applications are awaiting review and scheduling by Unit

	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
2023	<b>78</b>											
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 March 2023.

- 67 Cases are Scheduled
  - January 2023 – 26 Cases
    - 8 SSD Approvals
  - February 2023 – 27 Cases
    - 6 SSD Approvals
  - March 2023 – 14 Cases
- 0 Cases are Overdue
- 29 Cases are Tabled
  - 16 Scheduled
  - 13 Awaiting Due Date for Scheduling
- 7 Case Seeking Reconsideration
  - 2 Scheduled
  - 5 Awaiting Due Date for Scheduling
- 129 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	<b>81</b>												<b>81</b>
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

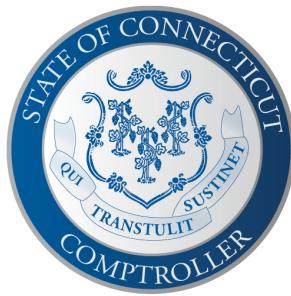
1. Request Commission Approval of the December 15, 2022 minutes.
  - i. At 9:13 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to approve the December 15, 2022 minutes.
  - ii. Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote.
  - iii. The Commission voted unanimously in favor to approve the December 15, 2022 minutes.
2. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut SERS Expenses for the Month of December 2022.
  - i. At 9:13 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to approve the Connecticut SERS Expenses for the Month of December 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 approve the Connecticut SERS Expenses for the Month of December 2022.
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 9:14 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 9:14 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 rendered.
8. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Service Retirements for the Month of December 2022.
  - i. At 9:15 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to approve the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Service Retirements for the Month of December 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 approve the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Service Retirements for the Month of December 2022.
9. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut State Employees System Voluntary Pending Retirements for the Month of December 2022.
  - i. At 9:15 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to approve the Connecticut State Employees System Voluntary Pending Retirements for the Month of December 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 approve the Connecticut State Employees System Voluntary Pending Retirements for the Month of December 2022.
10. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut State Employees System Disability Retirements for the Month of December 2022.
  - 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 December 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 approve the Connecticut State Employees System Disability Retirements for the Month of December 2022.



11. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Retroactive Retirements for the month of December 2022.
  - i. At 9:16 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Disette to approve Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Retroactive Retirements for the month of December 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 approve the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Retroactive Retirements for the month of December 2022.
12. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Municipal Employees Retirements for the Month of December 2022.
  - i. At 9:17 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to approve the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Municipal Employees Retirements for the Month of December 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 approve the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Municipal Employees Retirements for the Month of December 2022.
13. 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.
14. Request Commission Approval of the Municipal Employees Retirement System Disability Retirement Denials.
  - i. At 9:17 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to approve the Municipal Employees Retirement System disability retirement 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 approve the Municipal Employees Retirement System disability retirement 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 November 4, 2022 through December 15, 2022.
- 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 November 4, 2022 through December 15, 2022.
- 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 November 4, 2022 through December 15, 2022.
- 17. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut Probate Judges and Employees Retirement System.
- i. At 9:19 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 Commission Approval of the Connecticut Judges, Family Support Magistrates and Compensation Commissioners Retirement System.
- i. At 9:19 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to approve the Connecticut Judges, Family Support Magistrates and Compensation Commissioners 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 Judges, Family Support Magistrates and Compensation Commissioners Retirement System.
- 19. Request Commission Acceptance of the Purchase of Service and Related Matters Subcommittee recommendation from the meeting held on October 4, 2022.
- i. At 9:20 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to accept the Purchase of Service and Related Matters Subcommittee recommendation from the meeting held on October 4, 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 Purchase of Service and Related Matters Subcommittee recommendation from the meeting held on October 4, 2022.



20. Request Commission Approval of the Recommendations from the Regulations and Overpayment Subcommittee Meeting held on January 11, 2023.
  - i. At 9:20 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to approve the recommendations from the Regulations and Overpayment Subcommittee Meeting held on January 11, 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 recommendations from the Regulations and Overpayment Subcommittee Meeting held on January 11, 2023.
21. Request Commission Review and Acceptance of extension of Rose Kallor contract.
  - i. At 9:20 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to accept the extension of the Rose Kallor contract.
  - 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 extension of the Rose Kallor contract.
22. Request Commission Acceptance of the GASB Statement No. 67 Report for the Connecticut State Employees' Retirement System prepared as of June 30, 2022.
  - i. At 9:21 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to accept the GASB Statement No. 67 Report for the Connecticut State 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 State Employees' Retirement System prepared as of June 30, 2022.
23. Request Commission Acceptance of the GASB Statement No. 68 Report for the Connecticut State Employees' Retirement System prepared as of June 30, 2022 Measurement Date for June 30, 2023 Reporting Date.
  - i. At 9:21 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to accept the GASB Statement No. 68 Report for the Connecticut State Employees' Retirement System prepared as of June 30, 2022 Measurement Date for June 30, 2023 Reporting Date.
  - 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 State Employees' Retirement System prepared as of June 30, 2022 Measurement Date for June 30, 2023 Reporting Date.
24. Request Commission Acceptance of the GASB Statement No. 67 Report for the Connecticut Judges, Family Support Magistrates and Compensation Commissioners Retirement System prepared as of June 30, 2022.



- i. At 9:22 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to accept the GASB Statement No. 67 Report for the Connecticut Judges, Family Support Magistrates and Compensation Commissioners 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 Judges, Family Support Magistrates and Compensation Commissioners Retirement System prepared as of June 30, 2022.

25. Request Commission Acceptance of the GASB Statement No. 68 Report for the Connecticut Judges, Family Support Magistrates and Compensation Commissioners Retirement System prepared as of June 30, 2022 Measurement Date for June 30, 2023 Reporting Date.

- i. At 9:22 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to accept the GASB Statement No. 68 Report for the Connecticut Judges, Family Support Magistrates and Compensation Commissioners Retirement System prepared as of June 30, 2022 Measurement Date for June 30, 2023 Reporting Date.
- 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 Judges, Family Support Magistrates and Compensation Commissioners Retirement System prepared as of June 30, 2022 Measurement Date for June 30, 2023 Reporting Date.

26. Request Commission Acceptance of the Connecticut Policemen and Firemen Survivors' Benefit Fund Actuarial Valuation Report prepared as of June 30, 2022.

- i. At 9:23 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to accept the Connecticut Policemen and Firemen Survivors' Benefit Fund Actuarial Valuation Report 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 Policemen and Firemen Survivors' Benefit Fund Actuarial Valuation Report prepared as of June 30, 2022.

### **Executive Session – discussion and possible action**

1. Giovanni Letteri request to change retirement date (referred from Subcommittee on Purchase of Service and Related Matters) – written legal opinion.
2. Mallory Perry-Eaddy request for reconsideration – written legal opinion.
3. Marc Morgan – written legal opinion.
4. Town of Ellington – pending claim/pending litigation.
5. FOI appeal by Attorney Russell Zimberlin – pending claim/pending litigation.
6. Susan Quinion request for reconsideration – written legal opinion.

At 9:23 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, 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 10:24 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano 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 10:25 a.m., Mr. Carey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano that based on the specific fact pattern presented in this matter, the Commission grant Mr. Letteri's request to change his retirement date to July 1, 2022. All voted in favor.

At 10:25 a.m., Mr. Carey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to accept the recommendation of the Legal & Personnel Subcommittee to deny Ms. Perry-Eddy's request for reconsideration. All voted in favor.

At 10:26 a.m., Mr. Carey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to accept the recommendation of the Legal & Personnel Subcommittee to remand Mr. Morgan's matter back to the Medical Examining Board. All voted in favor.

At 10:26 a.m., Mr. Carey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to remand the Quinon matter to the Overpayments Subcommittee and instruct the Division to gather any additional documentation she can produce in support of her request. All voted in favor.

### **Adjournment**

With no further business before the Commission, Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to adjourn at 10:27 a.m. The Commission voted unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted by:

---

Peter Adomeit, Chairman

---

Prepared by John Herrington  
Director Retirement Services Division