



Meeting of the Legal & Personnel Subcommittee of the State Employees Retirement Commission

DATE: December 11, 2024

PRESENT:

Chairman Peter Adomeit
Trustee Michael Carey
Trustee Brian Hill
Trustee Sal Luciano
Trustee Michael O'Brien
Commission Counsel Michael J. 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
Benjamin Sedrowski, Retirement Services Division
Yamuna Menon, General Counsel and Assistant Comptroller

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m. Those present were identified by Ms. Cieslak.

At 8:34 a.m., Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. O'Brien to approve the agenda. All voted in favor.

Executive Session – discussion and possible recommendation

1. Refunded Contributions Following Reemployment by the State – written legal opinion.
2. Roderick Porter petition for declaratory ruling – written legal opinion.
3. Michael Driscoll request for reconsideration – written legal opinion.
4. Kevin Ahlquist request for reconsideration – written legal opinion.
5. Kwaku Antwi request for reconsideration – written legal opinion.
6. Patrick Butler v. SERC – pending litigation.
7. SERC v. Town of Ellington – pending litigation.
8. Town of Redding CMERS participation – written legal opinion.

At 8:34 a.m., Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. O'Brien to suspend the regular meeting and go into executive session for the purposes of discussing Items 1-8. Bruce Barth, Cindy Cieslak, Robert Helfand, Virginia McGarrity, Yam Menon, Michael Rose, and Benjamin Sedrowski were invited by the Subcommittee to enter executive session for Items 1-8 because they may give opinions or factual background with respect to the topics at issue. All voted in favor.

At 8:38 a.m., John Herrington joined the meeting and was invited into executive session because he may give opinions or factual background with respect to the topics at issue.

At 8:40 a.m., Mr. Hill joined the meeting.

At 9:45 a.m., Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. O'Brien to exit executive session. All voted in favor.

Public Session

At 9:45 a.m., Mr. Carey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano that the Subcommittee recommend that the Commission refund contributions upon reemployment for individuals within SERS who made contributions in prior employment and are unable to carry those contributions forward in their selected plan upon reemployment. All voted in favor.

At 9:47 a.m., Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Carey that the Subcommittee recommend that the Commission deny Mr. Porter's request, collect the overpayment, and approve the drafted declaratory ruling. All voted in favor.

At 9:48 a.m., Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Carey that the Subcommittee recommend that the Commission grant the request for reconsideration for Mr. Driscoll and schedule his appearance before the full Commission next week (12/19/24). All voted in favor.

At 9:49 a.m., Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Carey that the Subcommittee recommend that the Commission deny Mr. Ahlquist's request for reconsideration. All voted in favor.

A 9:49 a.m., Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Carey that the Subcommittee recommend that the Commission deny Mr. Antwi's appeal as untimely; however, the Subcommittee notes that it understands that the issue may be resolved through discussions between management and labor. All voted in favor.

MEETING ADJOURNED: With no further business before the Subcommittee, at 9:50 a.m., Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Carey to adjourn the meeting. All voted in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Carey