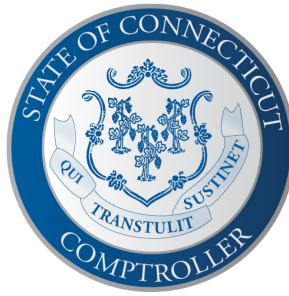


STATE EMPLOYEES
RETIREMENT COMMISSION



MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD
for DISABILITY RETIREMENT



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
RETIREMENT SERVICES DIVISION
OFFICE *of the* STATE COMPTROLLER
165 Capitol Ave.
Hartford, CT 06106

PHONE: (860) 702-3480 | EMAIL: OSC.RSD@CT.GOV

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT COMMISSION**

A regular meeting of the State Employees Retirement Commission (the “Commission”) was held on April 18, 2024. The meeting was held electronically via Zoom. The meeting convened at 9:00 a.m. and the following members of the Commission were present:

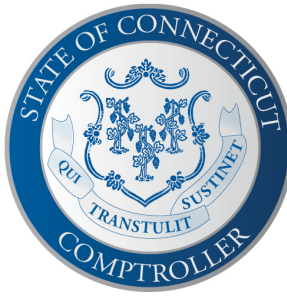
- Peter Adomeit, Chairman
- Michael Bailey, Trustee
- Karen Buffkin, Trustee
- Michael Carey, Trustee
- John Disette, Trustee
- Tara Downes, Deputy Comptroller, Ex Officio Member
- Brian Hill, Trustee
- David Krayski, Trustee
- Sal Luciano, Trustee
- Karen Nolen, Trustee
- Michael O’Brien, Trustee
- Claude Poulin, Trustee
- Angel Quiros, Trustee
- Timothy Ryor, Trustee
- Mark Sciota, Municipal Liaison
- Rebecca Simonsen, Trustee
- Ted Wright, Chief Investment Officer, Office of the Treasurer, Ex Officio Member

Absent were:

- Carl Chisem, Trustee

Also present were:

- Bruce Barth, Tax Counsel to the Commission, Robinson & Cole
- Cindy Cieslak, General Counsel to the Commission, Rose Kallor
- Robert Helfand, Assistant Director, Retirement Services Division
- John Herrington, Director, Retirement Services Division
- Virginia McGarrity, Tax Counsel to the Commission, Robinson & Cole
- Yamuna Menon, General Counsel & Assistant Comptroller
- Michael Rose, General Counsel to the Commission, Rose Kallor
- Ben Sedrowski, Retirement Services Division



Call to Order

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

At 9:08 a.m., Attorney Menon provided an update regarding the Statements of Financial Interest.

Division Director’s Report

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

Division Director Report (04/18/2024)

I. Disability Retirements:

A. Pending Disability Applications for the Initial Review by the Medical Examining Board:

Currently the Disability Retirement Unit is scheduling into September 2024.

- There are 75 initial Disability Retirement Applications pending of which:
 - 12 New Applications Received for April 2024
 - 74 Applications are Scheduled
 - 1 Applications are Awaiting Review and Scheduling by Unit

	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
2023	78	75	75	86	88	92	93	90	80	79	71	69
2024	76	79	74	75								

- In addition, the number of tabled cases and re-consideration cases are as follows:
 - 5 Tabled Cases Pending Due Date
 - 8 Reconsideration Cases Pending Due Date

B. Twenty-Four Month Reviews: Currently the Disability Retirement Unit is scheduling into September 2024.

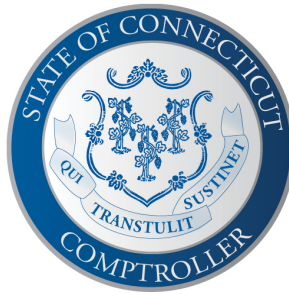
- 59 Cases are Scheduled
- 5 Tabled Cases Pending Due Date
- 1 Reconsideration Cases Pending Due Date
- 100 Cases are Awaiting Due Date for 24-Month Review

C. Investigations: The Disability Retirement Unit scheduled 0 investigation cases.

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II. Normal SERS Retirements:

	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals
2024	111	87	98	96									392
2023	81	60	48	47	50	63	100	75	79	67	66	68	804
Historical Average	179	153	129	255	128	205	262	177	180	248	116	98	2,130

New Matters

1. Request Commission Approval of SERC minutes w/ Directors Report from March 2024.
 - i. At 9:11 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to approve the SERC minutes w/ Directors Report from March 2024.
 - 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 SERC minutes w/ Directors Report from March 2024.

2. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut SERS Expenses for March 2024.
 - i. At 9:11 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to approve the Connecticut SERS Expenses for March 2024.
 - 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 March 2024.

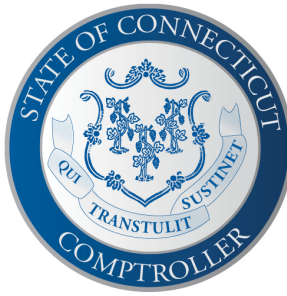
3. Request Commission Approval of the State Employees Retirement Commission Chairman's Per Diem Expenses for March 2024.
 - i. At 9:11 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to approve the State Employees Retirement Commission Chairman's Per Diem Expenses for March 2024.
 - ii. Chairman asked 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 for March 2024.

4. Request Commission Approval of the State Employees Retirement Commission Union Trustee Claude Poulin's Per Diem and Travel Expenses Reimbursement for March 2024.
 - i. At 9:12 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 for March 2024.

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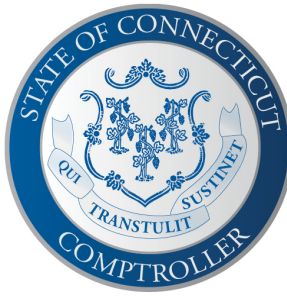
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- ii. Mr. Poulin abstained.
 - iii. Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote.
 - iv. The Commission voted unanimously in favor, with Mr. Poulin abstaining, to approve the State Employees Retirement Commission Union Trustee Claude Poulin's Per Diem and Travel Expenses Reimbursement for March 2024.
5. Request Commission Approval of the State Employees Retirement Commission Management Trustee Timothy A. Ryor's Per Diem Expenses for March 2024.
 - i. At 9:12 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 for March 2024.
 - 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 for March 2024.
6. Request Commission Acceptance of the Invoices from Robinson and Cole for Federal Tax Matters services for March 2024.
 - i. At 9:12 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to accept the invoices from Robinson and Cole for Federal Tax Matters services for March 2024.
 - 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 for March 2024.
7. Request Commission Acceptance of the Invoices from Rose Kallor for March 2024.
 - i. At 9:12 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to accept the invoices from Rose Kallor for March 2024.
 - 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 for March 2024.
8. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Service Retirements for March 2024.
 - i. At 9:13 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to approve the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Service Retirements for March 2024.
 - ii. Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote.

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- iii. The Commission voted unanimously in favor to approve the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Service Retirements for March 2024.
9. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Voluntary Pending Retirements for March 2024.
 - i. At 9:13 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to approve the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Voluntary Pending Retirements for March 2024.
 - 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 Voluntary Pending Retirements for March 2024.
10. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Disability Retirements for March 2024.
 - i. At 9:13 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to approve the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Disability Retirements for March 2024.
 - 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 Disability Retirements for March 2024.
11. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Pre-Retirement Death Benefits for March 2024.
 - i. At 9:13 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to approve the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Pre-Retirement Death Benefits for March 2024.
 - 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 Pre-Retirement Death Benefits for March 2024.
12. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Municipal Employees Retirements for March 2024.
 - i. At 9:14 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to approve the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Municipal Employees Retirements for March 2024.
 - 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 March 2024.
13. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Retroactive Retirements from March 2024.
 - i. At 9:14 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano approve the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System retroactive retirements from March 2024.

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- 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 from March 2024.
14. Request Commission Approval of the Municipal Employees Retirement System Tabled/Denied Disability Retirements from the Medical Examining Board from March 2024.
- i. At 9:15 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano approve the Municipal Employees Retirement System Tabled/Denied Disability Retirements from the Medical Examining Board from March 2024.
 - 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 Tabled/Denied Disability Retirements from the Medical Examining Board from March 2024.
15. Request Commission Acceptance of the Recommendations by the Medical Examining Board for the Continued Entitlement Approvals from March 2024.
- i. At 9:15 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to accept the Recommendations by the Medical Examining Board for the Continued Entitlement Approvals from March 2024.
 - 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 from March 2024.
16. Request Commission Acceptance of the Recommendations by the Medical Examining Board for the Continued Entitlement Tabled and Denials from March 2024.
- i. At 9:15 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to accept the Recommendations by the Medical Examining Board for the Continued Entitlement Tabled and Denials from March 2024.
 - 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 from March 2024.
17. Request Commission Approval of the RSD to Discontinue Disability Apps. 1-Year Limitations for March 2024.
- i. At 9:16 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to approve the RSD to discontinue disability applications due to the 1-Year limitation period for March 2024.

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- 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 RSD to discontinue disability applications due to the 1-Year limitation period for March 2024.
18. Request Commission Approval of the Probate Judges and Employees Retirement Fund Personnel Expenses for March 2024.
- i. At 9:16 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to approve the Probate Judges and Employees Retirement Fund Personnel Expenses for March 2024.
 - 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 Probate Judges and Employees Retirement Fund Personnel Expenses for March 2024.
19. Request received from Kristofer Kelso that the Commission review and reconsider its August 17, 2023 denial of his request to make a new retirement plan election to the Teachers Retirement System.
- i. At 9:16 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to review the request received from Mr. Kelso.
 - 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 review the request received from Mr. Kelso.
 - iv. Mr. Sedrowski presented the additional information supplied.
 - v. At 9:21 a.m., Mr. Carey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to deny the request for reconsideration.
 - vi. The Commission voted unanimously in favor to deny Mr. Kelso's request for reconsideration.

Executive Session – discussion and possible action

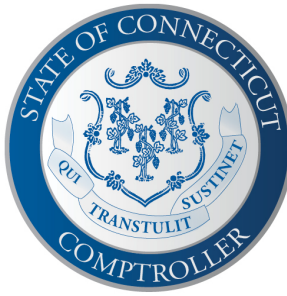
1. CMERS DROP Plan – written legal opinion.
2. Lisa Penna appeal – written legal opinion.
3. Linda Cicarella v. SERC – pending litigation.
4. SERC v. Town of Ellington – pending litigation.
5. CMERS – Town of Redding – written legal opinion.

At 9:22 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 1-5. Bruce Barth, Cindy Cieslak, Robert Helfand, John Herrington, Virginia McGarrity, Yamuna Menon, Michael Rose and Ben Sedrowski were invited by the Commission to stay for executive session on Items 1-5. The Chairman asked if there was any discussion.

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There being no discussion he called for a vote. The Commission voted unanimously in favor to enter executive session to discuss Items 1-5.

At 9:50 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 9:50 a.m., Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to accept the CMERS DROP plan and parameters, as corrected. All voted in favor.

At 9:51 a.m., Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to deny Ms. Penna's request because the Commission cannot overrule the MEB's determination. Mr. Poulin abstained from the vote. The remaining trustees voted in favor.

At 9:51 a.m., Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to remand Linda Cicarella's matter to the MEB for re-evaluation. All voted in favor.

Adjournment

With no further business before the Commission, Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to adjourn at 9:52 a.m. The Commission voted unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Peter Adomeit, Chairman

Prepared by John Herrington
Director Retirement Services Division