

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 July 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:

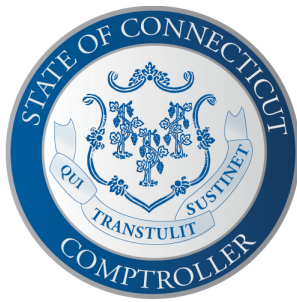
- Peter Adomeit, Chairman
- Michael Bailey, Trustee
- Karen Buffkin, Trustee
- Carl Chisem, Trustee
- John Disette, Trustee
- Tara Downes, Deputy Comptroller, Ex Officio Member
- Brian Hill, Trustee
- David Kraveski, Trustee
- Sal Luciano, Trustee
- Karen Nolen, Trustee
- Michael O’Brien, Trustee
- Claude Poulin, Trustee
- Timothy Ryor, Trustee
- Rebecca Simonsen, Trustee
- Ted Wright, Chief Investment Officer, Office of the Treasurer, Ex Officio Member

Absent were:

- Michael Carey, Trustee
- Angel Quiros, 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 9:03 a.m. Ms. Cieslak identified those in attendance.

Division Director’s Report

At 9:04 a.m., Mr. Herrington provided the Division Director’s Report.

Division Director Report (07/18/2024)

I. SERS Disability Retirements:

A. Pending Disability Applications for the Initial Review by the Medical Examining Board: Currently the Disability Retirement Unit is scheduling into December 2024. There are 21 New Applications Received for July 2024.

- There are 97 initial Disability Retirement Applications pending of which:
 - 87 Applications are Scheduled
 - 0 Applications are Awaiting Review and Scheduling by Unit
 - 3 Tabled Cases Pending Due Date
 - 7 Reconsideration Cases Pending Due Date

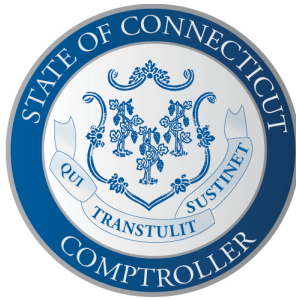
	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
2023	78	75	75	86	88	92	93	90	80	79	71	69
2024	76	79	74	75	75	94*	97*					

*Going forward, we will be including tabled and reconsideration cases in the total pending count.

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

- 40 Cases are Scheduled
- 107 Cases are Awaiting Due Date for 24-Month Review
- 0 Tabled Cases Pending Due Date
- 2 Reconsideration Cases Pending Due Date

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



II. MERS Disability Retirements:

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

- There are 8 initial Disability Retirement Applications pending of which:
 - 5 Applications are Scheduled
 - 2 Tabled Cases Pending Due Date
 - 1 Reconsideration Cases Pending Due Date

B. Twenty-Four Month Reviews:

- 0 Cases are Scheduled
- 0 Tabled Cases Pending Due Date
- 0 Reconsideration Cases Pending Due Date
- 9 Cases are Awaiting Due Date for 24-Month Review

III. Normal SERS Retirements:

	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals
2024	111	87	98	96	83	125	121						721
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 June 2024.
 - i. At 9:06 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to approve the SERC minutes w/ Directors Report from June 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 June 2024.
2. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut SERS Expenses for June 2024.
 - i. At 9:07 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to approve the Connecticut SERS Expenses for June 2024.

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

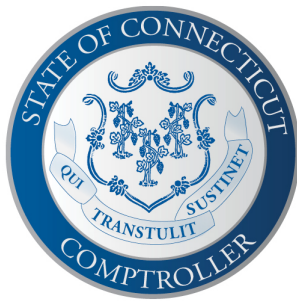
PHONE: (860) 702-3480 | EMAIL: OSC.RSD@CT.GOV

- 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 June 2024.
3. Request Commission Approval of the State Employees Retirement Commission Chairman's Per Diem Expenses for June 2024.
 - i. At 9:07 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to approve the State Employees Retirement Commission Chairman's Per Diem Expenses for June 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 June 2024.
4. Request Commission Approval of the State Employees Retirement Commission Union Trustee Claude Poulin's Per Diem and Travel Expenses Reimbursement for June 2024.
 - i. At 9:07 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 June 2024.
 - 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 June 2024.
5. Request Commission Approval of the State Employees Retirement Commission Management Trustee Timothy A. Ryor's Per Diem Expenses for June 2024.
 - i. At 9:08 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 June 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 June 2024.
6. Request Commission Acceptance of the Invoices from Robinson and Cole for Federal Tax Matters services for June 2024.

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

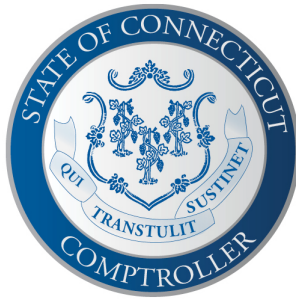
PHONE: (860) 702-3480 | EMAIL: OSC.RSD@CT.GOV

- i. At 9:08 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to accept the invoices from Robinson and Cole for Federal Tax Matters services for June 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 June 2024.
7. Request Commission Acceptance of the Invoices from Rose Kallor for June 2024.
 - i. At 9:08 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to accept the invoices from Rose Kallor for June 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 June 2024.
8. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Service Retirements for June 2024.
 - i. At 9:09 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to approve the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Service Retirements for June 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 Service Retirements for June 2024.
9. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Voluntary Pending Retirements for June 2024.
 - i. At 9:09 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to approve the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Voluntary Pending Retirements for June 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 June 2024.
10. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Disability Retirements for June 2024.
 - i. At 9:09 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to approve the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Disability Retirements for June 2024.
 - ii. Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote.

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

- iii. The Commission voted unanimously in favor to approve the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Disability Retirements for June 2024.

11. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Retroactive Retirements from June 2024.
 - i. At 9:09 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano approve the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System retroactive retirements from June 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 retroactive retirements from June 2024.

12. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Municipal Employees Retirements for June 2024.
 - i. At 9:09 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to approve the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Municipal Employees Retirements for June 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 June 2024.

13. Request Commission Approval of the RSD to Discontinue Disability Apps. 1-Year Limitations for June 2024.
 - i. At 9:10 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano approve the RSD to Discontinue Disability Apps. 1-Year Limitations for June 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 RSD to Discontinue Disability Apps. 1-Year Limitations for June 2024.

14. Request Commission Approval of the Probate Judges and Employees' Retirement Fund Personnel Expenses for June 2024.
 - i. At 9:10 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to approve the Probate Judges and Employees' Retirement Fund Personnel Expenses for June 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 June 2024.

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

At 9:11 a.m., Mr. Luciano was recognized for a point of personal privilege.

Executive Session – discussion and possible action

1. Kevin Ahlquist appeal – written legal opinion.
2. Town of Redding CMERS participation – written legal opinion.
3. SERC v. Town of Ellington – pending litigation.
4. Patrick Butler v. SERC – pending litigation.
5. Linda Cicarella v. SERC – pending litigation.

At 9:11 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 because they may give opinions or factual background with respect to the topics at issue. 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 1-5.

At 9:33 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 9:34 a.m., Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to deny Mr. Ahlquist's appeal. All voted in favor.

Adjournment

With no further business before the Commission, Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to adjourn at 9:34 a.m. The Commission voted unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Peter Adomeit, Chairman

Prepared by John Herrington
Director Retirement Services Division