

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

STATE EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT COMMISSION

DATE: April 17, 2025

HELD VIA Zoom

CONVENED AT 9:00 A.M.

Members of the Commission Present:

Peter Adomeit, Chairman  
Michael Bailey, Trustee  
Carl Chisem, 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  
Angel Quiros, Trustee  
Timothy Ryor, Trustee  
Rebecca Simonsen, Trustee  
Karen Buffkin, Trustee  
John Disette, Trustee  
David Kraveski, Trustee

Absent was:

Michael Carey, Trustee

Also present were:

Bruce Barth, Tax Counsel, Robinson & Cole  
Michael J. Rose, General Counsel to the Commission, Rose Kallor  
Robert Helfand, Assistant Director, Retirement Services Division  
John Herrington, Director, Retirement Services Division  
Virginia McGarrity, Tax Counsel, Robinson & Cole  
Yamuna Menon, Assistant Comptroller and General Counsel  
Benjamin Sedrowski, Retirement Services Division

1 (Proceedings commenced at 9:05 a.m.)

2 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Okay. This is the monthly meeting  
3 of the State Employees' Retirement Commission being held  
4 remotely using Zoom technology. And we have the attendance,  
5 correct?

6 ATTORNEY ROSE: We do, Mr. Chairman. I have present  
7 Peter Adomeit, Chairman; Michael Bailey, Trustee; Carl Chisem,  
8 Trustee; Tara Downs, Deputy Comptroller, ex officio; Brian Hill,  
9 Trustee; David Kraveski, Trustee; Sal Luciano, Trustee; Karen  
10 Nolen, Trustee; Michael O'Brien, Trustee; Claude Poulin,  
11 Actuarial Trustee; Angel Quiros, Trustee; Timothy Ryor,  
12 Actuarial Trustee; Rebecca Simonsen, Trustee; Karen Buffkin,  
13 Trustee; John Disette, Trustee.

14 In addition to the members of the Commission, I have  
15 Attorney Bruce Barth, tax counsel from Robinson and Cole; Robert  
16 Helfand, Assistant Director Retirement Services Division; John  
17 Herrington, Director of the Retirement Services Division;  
18 Virginia McGarrity, tax counsel, Robinson and Cole; Yam Menon,  
19 Assistant Comptroller and General Counsel; Ben Sedrowski,  
20 Retirement Services Division, and Michael Rose, General Counsel  
21 for the Commission.

22 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Okay. The Division Director's  
23 Report. John Herrington?

24 MR. HERRINGTON: Yes, good morning, everyone. Again,  
25 we have had historically low levels of retirement for a number

1 of months here -- years. Historically April is one of the  
2 heaviest months for retirement, but we have about, you know,  
3 half of what we would expect in a typical month for April. That  
4 being said, the numbers have ticked up a little bit from where  
5 they've been in previous years.

6 One of the things that we're dealing with, we have  
7 notification of retirement of staff members in the Retirement  
8 Division, and where we stand right now with some of the  
9 budgetary pressures that were experiencing at the state level,  
10 there may be a period of time where we would be unable to fill  
11 positions. We attempted to justify those, but it's possible  
12 that our staffing could decrease a bit as we continue to work  
13 through some of our larger issues. So that's, you know, not a  
14 major concern, but it's something that we definitely are mindful  
15 of right now.

16 In terms of some of the focus of the Division, right  
17 now we're assisting with negotiations for the CBAC negotiations,  
18 and there are some opportunities perhaps to simplify some of the  
19 rules for the different provisions.

20 And one issue that continues to develop, and I think  
21 that there have been some matters that have come before the  
22 Commission, there are a number of matters that we are working on  
23 with various entities that would be some of the complications  
24 regarding the plan options and rules for individuals in higher  
25 education that have access to multiple plans. And I think the

1 most difficult situation would be coordinating rules for  
2 individuals who have membership in the teacher's retirement  
3 system, particularly if that membership is based on non state  
4 employment and coordinating benefits with us, that we continue  
5 to have meetings, but that continues to be a struggle. That,  
6 hopefully through these discussions and perhaps through the CBAC  
7 back negotiations, that we may be able to simplify those  
8 situations and hopefully there won't be as many people that find  
9 themselves kind of in difficult situations based on the  
10 application of these rules.

11 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Okay. Thank you, John. Any  
12 questions? Moving on. New Matters.

13 MR. BAILEY: Good morning, everyone. Mr. Chairman,  
14 this is Michael Bailey. I move approval of the State Employees'  
15 Retirement Commission minutes with the Directors Report from the  
16 March 2025 meeting.

17 MR. LUCIANO: Sal Luciano, second.

18 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Any discussion? Hearing none, all  
19 the favor say aye or raise your hand, opposed nay or raise your  
20 hand. It's unanimous is have it.

21 MR. BAILEY: Mr. Chairman, I move approval of the  
22 Connecticut State Employees Retirement System expenses for March  
23 2025.

24 MR. LUCIANO: Sal Luciano, second.

25 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Any discussion? Hearing none, all

1 the favor say aye or raise your hand, opposed nay or raise your  
2 hand. It's unanimous is have it.

3 MR. BAILEY: Mr. Chairman, Michael Bailey, I move  
4 approval of the State Employees' Retirement Commission Chairman  
5 per diem Expenses for March 2025.

6 MR. LUCIANO: Sal Luciano, second.

7 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Any discussion? Hearing none, all  
8 the favor say aye or raise your hand, opposed nay or raise your  
9 hand. It's unanimous is have it.

10 MR. BAILEY: Mr. Chairman, I move approval of the  
11 State Employees' Retirement Commission, Union Trustee, Claude  
12 Poulin's per diem and travel expenses reimbursements for March  
13 2025.

14 MR. LUCIANO: Sal Luciano, second.

15 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Any discussion? Hearing none, all  
16 the favor say aye or raise your hand, opposed nay or raise your  
17 hand. It's unanimous is have it.

18 MR. BAILEY: Mr. Chairman, I move approval of the  
19 State Employees' Retirement Commission Management Trustee Tim  
20 Ryor's per diem expenses for March 2025.

21 MR. LUCIANO: Sal Luciano, second.

22 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Any discussion? Hearing none, all  
23 the favor say aye or raise your hand, opposed nay or raise your  
24 hand. It's unanimous is have it.

25 MR. BAILEY: Mr. Chairman, I move items six and seven

1 on the agenda, acceptance of invoices from Rose Kallor,  
2 Executive Session and invoices from Robinson and Cole for  
3 federal tax matters services, Executive Session for March 2025.

4 MR. LUCIANO: Sal Luciano, second.

5 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Any discussion? Hearing none, all  
6 the favor say aye or raise your hand, opposed nay or raise your  
7 hand. It's unanimous is have it.

8 MR. KRAYESKI: Mr. Chairman, this is David Kraveski.  
9 We have a member of the Retirement Commission who's in the  
10 waiting room. Can we check to see if we can get -- there, I  
11 think Angel just came in. There he is. All right. Thank you.

12 MR. BAILEY: Mr. Chairman, this is Michael Bailey. I  
13 move approval of items 8, 9, 10, and 11 on the agenda Approval  
14 of the Connecticut State Employees' Retirement System, Service  
15 Retirements, Voluntary Pending Retirements, System Disability  
16 Retirements and Retroactive Retirements for March 2025.

17 MR. LUCIANO: Sal Luciano, second.

18 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Any discussion? Hearing none, all  
19 the favor say aye or raise your hand, opposed nay or raise your  
20 hand. It's unanimous is have it.

21 MR. BAILEY: Mr. Chairman, Michael Bailey. I move  
22 approval of the Connecticut Employees' Retirement System  
23 Preretirement Death Benefits for March 2025.

24 MR. LUCIANO: Sal Luciano, second.

25 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Any discussion? Hearing none, all

1 the favor say aye or raise your hand, opposed nay or raise your  
2 hand. It's unanimous is have it.

3 MR. BAILEY: Mr. Chairman, I move approval of the  
4 Retirement Services Division to discontinue disability  
5 applications one year limitations for March 2025.

6 MR. LUCIANO: Sal Luciano, second.

7 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Any discussion? Hearing none, all  
8 the favor say aye or raise your hand, opposed nay or raise your  
9 hand. It's unanimous is have it.

10 MR. BAILEY: Mr. Chairman, I move approval of the  
11 Probate Judges and Employees Retirement Fund personnel expenses  
12 for March 2025.

13 MR. LUCIANO: Sal Luciano, second.

14 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Any discussion? Hearing none, all  
15 the favor say aye or raise your hand, opposed nay or raise your  
16 hand. It's unanimous is have it.

17 MR. BAILEY: And, Mr. Chairman, I move to suspend the  
18 regular meeting and go into Executive Session for the purposes  
19 of discussing items one and two on the agenda.

20 I would like to invite members Bruce Barth, Robert  
21 Helfand, John Herrington, Virginia McGarrity, Yamuna Menon,  
22 Michael Rose and Ben Sedrowski to stay with the Executive  
23 Session for items one and two because they may give opinions or  
24 factual background with respect to the topics at issue.

25 MR. LUCIANO: Sal Luciano, second.

1           CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Any discussion? Hearing none, all  
2 the favor say aye or raise your hand, opposed nay or raise your  
3 hand. It's unanimous is have it.

4           (Executive Session from 9:14 a.m. to 9:49 a.m.)

5           ATTORNEY ROSE: Mr. Chairman. I don't believe any  
6 motions are necessary as a result of the Executive Session  
7 discussion.

8           CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: That's correct.

9           ATTORNEY ROSE: Mr. Luciano?

10          MR. LUCIANO: Yes. I'd like to do a public service  
11 announcement. The Office of State Ethics is requesting that we  
12 submit our forms prior to the deadline of May 1. I've done  
13 mine, and I suggest if anybody has not done theirs, that they do  
14 it. It's not difficult. It's online.

15          CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Mine are in. Okay.

16          MR. LUCIANO: I guess the next order of business is a  
17 motion to adjourn, and so moved.

18          MR. BAILEY: Bailey, second.

19          CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: All in favor say aye or raise your  
20 hand, opposed nay or raise your hand. It's unanimous, the ayes  
21 have it. Thank you very much.

22          (Meeting adjourned at 9:51 a.m.)  
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24  
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CERTIFICATE

I certify that this document is a true and accurate description of the proceedings obtained from the recorded meeting of the State of Connecticut State Employees' Retirement Commission Meeting on April 17, 2025 to the best of my ability.

*Wendy Malitsky*  
Wendy Malitsky

My Commission Expires

March 31, 2030