

1 STATE OF CONNECTICUT
2 STATE EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT COMMISSION
3

4 JULY 17, 2025

5 HELD VIA ZOOM

6 CONVENED AT 9:00 A.M.
7

8 **Members of the Commission present:**

9 Peter Adomeit, Chairman

10 Michael Bailey, Trustee

11 Karen Buffkin, Trustee

12 Carl Chisem, Trustee

13 John Disette, Trustee

14 Brian Hill, Trustee

15 David Krayeski, Trustee

16 Sal Luciano, Trustee

17 Karen Nolen, Trustee

18 Michael O'Brien, Trustee

19 Claude Poulin, Trustee

20 Ted Wright, Chief Investment Officer, Office of the
21 Treasurer, Ex Officio Member

22 **Absent were:**

23 Michael Carey, Trustee

24 Tara Downes, Deputy Comptroller, Ex Officio Member

25 Angel Quiros, Trustee

Timothy Ryor, Trustee

Rebecca Simonsen, Trustee

Also present were:

Bruce Barth, Tax Counsel, 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, Robinson & Cole

Yamuna Menon, Assistant Comptroller & General Counsel
Michael Rose, General Counsel to the Commission,
Rose Kallor
Benjamin Sedrowski, Retirement Services Division.

1 (Proceedings commenced at 9:03 a.m.)

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3 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: This is the monthly meeting
4 of the State Employees' Retirement Commission being
5 held remotely using Zoom technology. Cindy, do you
6 have the attendance, please?

7 ATTORNEY CIESLAK: Yes. Good morning. This is
8 Cindy Cieslak. Present today we have Chairman Peter
9 Adomeit; Trustee Michael Bailey; Tax Counsel from
10 Robinson & Cole, Nicole Bruce Barth; Trustee Karen
11 Buffkin; General Counsel from Rose Kallor, Cindy
12 Cieslak; Trustee John Disette; Assistant Director,
13 Retirement Services Division, Robert Helfand;
14 Division Director, Retirement Services Division,
15 John Herrington; Trustee Brian Hill; Trustee David
16 Krayeski; Trustee Sal Luciano; Tax Counsel from
17 Robinson & Cole, Virginia McGarrity; General Counsel
18 and Assistant Comptroller, Yam Menon; Trustee Karen
19 Nolen; Trustee Michael O'Brien; Actuarial Trustee
20 Claude Poulin; General Counsel from Rose Kallor,
21 Michael Rose; from the Retirement Services Division,
22 Ben Sedrowski; and Chief Investment Officer, Office
23 of the Treasurer, ex officio member of the
24 Retirement Commission, Ted Wright. Is there anybody

25 --

1 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: I'm sorry. Go ahead.

2 ATTORNEY CIESLAK: Just making sure I didn't
3 miss anyone. Thank you.

4 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: I jumped the gun. Mike
5 Bailey, can you make the motions? Where did you go?

6 MR. BAILEY: Yes, I'm all good.

7 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Yep. Okay. And then Sal
8 Luciano, can you second the motions, please?

9 MR. LUCIANO: I can.

10 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Okay, let's proceed. Call
11 the meeting to order. Division Director's Report.
12 John Herrington.

13 MR. HERRINGTON: Yes, good morning, everyone.
14 I've sent along the Director's Report. Again, we
15 have consistent numbers, I would say, primarily a
16 lot of the focus of the division this past month has
17 been on MERS. There are some MERS litigation
18 matters that we are working through, and the MERS
19 reforms. The change in the COLA went into effect
20 July 1st, and we also instituted the DROP.

21 So there's a lot of activity along the MERS
22 line that the division has been working through.
23 Things have been steady on the SERS side for this
24 past month.

25 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Okay. Any questions or

1 comments? Okay. New matters.

2 MR. BAILEY: Good morning, everyone. Mr.
3 Chairman, this is Michael Bailey. I move approval
4 of the State Employees Retirement Commission minutes
5 with the Director's report from June 2025.

6 MR. LUCIANO: Sal Luciano, second.

7 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Any discussion? Hearing
8 none, all in favor, say aye or raise your hand.

9 MS. NOLEN: Aye.

10 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Opposed nay or raise your
11 hand? It's unanimous. The ayes have it.

12 MR. BAILEY: Mr. Chairman, I move approval of
13 the Connecticut State Employees' Retirement System
14 expenses for June 2025.

15 MR. LUCIANO: Sal Luciano, second.

16 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Any Discussion? Hearing
17 none, all in favor, say aye or raise your hand.

18 MS. NOLEN: Aye.

19 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Any opposed nay or raise
20 your hand. It's unanimous, the ayes have it.

21 MR. BAILEY: Mr. Chairman, I move approval of
22 the State Employees' Retirement Commission
23 Chairman's per diem expenses for June 2025.

24 MR. LUCIANO: Sal Luciano, second.

25 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Any discussion? Hearing

1 none, all in favor say aye or raise your hand.

2 MS. NOLEN: Aye.

3 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Opposed nay or raise your
4 hand. It's unanimous, the ayes have it.

5 MR. BAILEY: Mr. Chairman, I move approval of
6 the State Employees' Retirement Commission Union
7 Trustee Sal Luciano's per diem and travel expense
8 reimbursements for June 2025.

9 MR. LUCIANO: Sal Luciano, second.

10 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Any discussion? Hearing
11 none, all in favor, say aye or raise your hand.

12 MS. NOLEN: Aye.

13 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Opposed nay or raise your
14 hand. It's unanimous, the ayes have it.

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

19 MR. LUCIANO: Sal Luciano, second.

20 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Any discussion? Hearing
21 none, all in favor, say aye or raise your hand.

22 MS. NOLEN: Aye.

23 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Opposed nay or raise your
24 hand? It's unanimous, the ayes have it.

25 MR. BAILEY: Mr. Chairman, I move Items 6 and 7

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

5 MR. LUCIANO: Luciano, second.

6 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Any discussion? Hearing
7 none, all in favor, say aye or raise your hand.

8 MS. NOLEN: Aye.

9 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Opposed nay or raise your
10 hand. It's unanimous, the ayes have it.

11 MR. BAILEY: Mr. Chairman, I move items 8, 9,
12 and 10 on the agenda, approval of the Connecticut
13 State Employees' Retirement System service
14 retirements, voluntary pending retirements and
15 disability retirements for June 2025.

16 MR. LUCIANO: Sal Luciano, second.

17 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Any discussion? Hearing
18 none, all in favor, say aye or raise your hand.

19 MS. NOLEN: Aye.

20 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Opposed nay or raise your
21 hand. It's unanimous, the ayes have it.

22 MR. BAILEY: Mr. Chairman, I move approval of
23 the Probate Judges and Employees' Retirement Fund
24 personnel expenses for June 2025.

25 MR. LUCIANO: Sal Luciano, second.

1 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Any discussion? Hearing
2 none, all in favor, say aye or raise your hand.

3 MS. NOLEN: Aye.

4 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Opposed nay or raise your
5 hand. It's unanimous, the ayes have it.

6 MR. BAILEY: And Mr. Chairman, seeing nothing
7 left on the main meeting agenda, I move to suspend
8 the regular meeting and go into executive session
9 for the purposes of discussing items 1 through 4.

10 I'd like to invite Bruce Barth, Cindy Cieslak -
11 let's see - Robert Helfand, Yam Menon, Michael Rose,
12 and Ben Sedrowski.

13 Cindy, there's a few more.

14 ATTORNEY CIESLAK: Yes. This is Cindy Cieslak.
15 We'd also invite John Herrington and Virginia
16 McGarrity.

17 MR. BAILEY: For the purpose of giving their
18 opinions or factual background with respect to the
19 topics at issue.

20 MR. LUCIANO: Sal Luciano, second.

21 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Any discussion? Hearing
22 none, all in favor, say aye or raise your hand.

23 MS. NOLEN: Aye.

24 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Opposed nay or raise your
25 hand. It's unanimous, the ayes have it.

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2 (Executive Session 9:09 a.m. to 9:19 a.m.)
3

4 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: We need a motion please, on
5 Lanoie.

6 MR. LUCIANO: Regarding Lanois, this is Sal
7 Luciano, I'm recommending denial because we cannot
8 substitute our judgment for that of the MEB.

9 MR. BAILEY: Bailey, second.

10 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: Any discussion? Hearing
11 none, all in favor, say aye or raise your hand.
12 Opposed nay or raise your hand. It's unanimous, the
13 ayes have it.

14 MR. LUCIANO: Regarding William Kenny, Sal
15 Luciano, I'd like to make a motion that we deny his
16 request because, again, he's been in front of the
17 MEB seven times and they've denied him. I make a
18 motion that we deny it based on the fact that we
19 can't supersede the decision of the MEB.

20 MR. BAILEY: Bailey, second.

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

25 We need a motion to adjourn.

1 MR. LUCIANO: So moved. Sal Luciano.

2 MR. BAILEY: Second, Bailey.

3 CHAIRMAN ADOMEIT: All in favor, say aye or
4 raise your hand. It's invariably unanimous.

5 MR. LUCIANO: Stay cool everyone.

6 (Adjourned at 9:21 a.m.)
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REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify that the foregoing is, to the best of my skill and ability, a true and accurate transcript of the State of Connecticut Employees' Retirement Commission Meeting held on July 17, 2025.

Wendy Malitsky

Wendy Malitsky, Transcriber.

My commission expires March 2030