

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 January 16, 2025. 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
- Carl Chisem, 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
- Rebecca Simonsen, Trustee
- Ted Wright, Chief Investment Officer, Office of the Treasurer, Ex Officio Member

Absent were:

- John Disette, Trustee

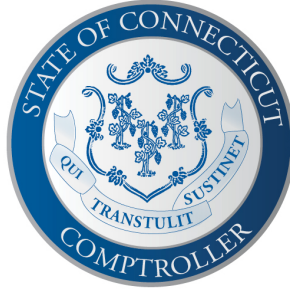
Also present were:

- 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
- Ed Koebel, Cavanaugh MacDonald
- Virginia McGarrity, Tax Counsel to the Commission, Robinson & Cole
- Yamuna Menon, Assistant Comptroller and General Counsel
- Michael Rose, General Counsel to the Commission, Rose Kallor
- Ben Sedrowski, Retirement Services Division

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**Call to Order**

Chairman Adomeit called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. Ms. Cieslak identified those in attendance.

At 9:06 a.m., Mr. Poulin moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to amend the agenda to add the following as Item 14:

- Request Commission Acceptance of the GASB Statement No. 68 Report for the Connecticut State Employee’s Retirement System Prepared as of June 30, 2024.

All voted in favor.

**Division Director’s Report**

At 9:06 a.m., Mr. Helfand provided the Division Director’s Report.

**Division Director Report (1/16/2025)**

**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 June 2025.

- There are 14 New Applications Received for January 2025.
  - There are 83 initial Disability Retirement Applications pending of which:
    - 60 Applications are Scheduled
    - 2 Applications are Awaiting Review and Scheduling by Unit
    - 7 Tabled Cases Pending Due Date
    - 14 Reconsideration Cases Pending Due Date

	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
2025	83*											
2024	76	79	74	75	75	94*	97*	87*	85*	79*	87*	83*

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**B. Twenty-Four Month Reviews:** Currently the Disability Retirement Unit is scheduling into July 2025.

- 56 Cases are Scheduled
- 4 Tabled Cases Pending Due Date
- 2 Reconsideration Cases Pending Due Date
- 97 Cases are Awaiting Due Date for 24-Month Review

**II. Normal SERS Retirements:**

	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals
2025	162												<b>162</b>
2024	111	87	98	96	83	125	121	136	132	111	103	<b>91</b>	<b>1294</b>
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 the December 2024 meeting.
  - i. At 9:07 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to approve the SERC minutes w/ Directors Report from the December 2024 meeting.
  - 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 the December 2024 meeting.
  
2. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut SERS Expenses for December 2024.
  - i. At 9:07 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to approve the Connecticut SERS Expenses for December 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 December 2024.

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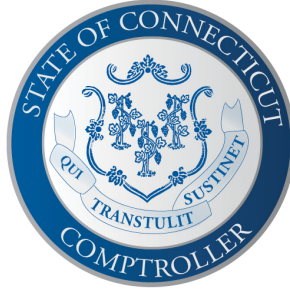
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3. Request Commission Approval of the State Employees Retirement Commission Chairman's Per Diem Expenses for December 2024.
  - i. At 9:08 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to approve the State Employees Retirement Commission Chairman's Per Diem Expenses for December 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 December 2024.
  
4. Request Commission Approval of the State Employees Retirement Commission Union Trustee Claude Poulin's Per Diem and Travel Expenses Reimbursement for December 2024.
  - i. At 9:08 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 December 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 December 2024.
  
5. Request Commission Approval of the State Employees Retirement Commission Management Trustee Timothy A. Ryor's Per Diem Expenses for December 2024.
  - i. At 9:09 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 December 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 December 2024.
  
6. Request Commission Acceptance of the Invoices from Rose Kallor for December 2024.
  - i. At 9:09 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to accept the invoices from Rose Kallor for December 2024.
  - ii. Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote.

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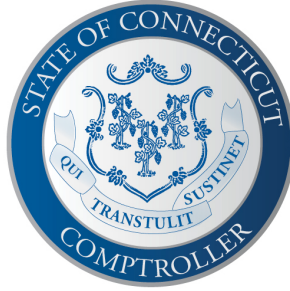
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- iii. The Commission voted unanimously in favor to accept the invoices from Rose Kallor for December 2024.
  7. Request Commission Acceptance of the Invoices from Robinson and Cole for Federal Tax Matter Services for December 2024.
    - i. At 9:09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

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11. Request Commission Acceptance of Recommendations by Medical Examining Board for Continued Entitlement Approvals December 2024.
  - i. At 9:10 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to accept the recommendations of Medical Examining Board continued entitlement approvals for December 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 of Medical Examining Board continued entitlement approvals for December 2024.
  
12. Request Commission Acceptance of Recommendations by Medical Examining Board for Continued Entitlement Tabled and Denials December 2024.
  - i. At 9:10 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to accept the recommendations of Medical Examining Board continued entitlement tabled and denials for December 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 of Medical Examining Board continued entitlement tabled and denials for December 2024.
  
13. Request Commission Approval of the Probate Judges and Employees' Retirement Fund Personnel Expenses for December 2024.
  - i. At 9:11 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to approve the Probate Judges and Employees' Retirement Fund Personnel Expenses for December 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 December 2024.
  
14. Request Commission Acceptance of the GASB Statement No. 68 Report for the Connecticut State Employee's Retirement System Prepared as of June 30, 2024.
  - i. At 9:11 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to accept the GASB Statement No. 68 Report for the Connecticut State Employee's Retirement System Prepared as of June 30, 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 GASB Statement No. 68 Report for the Connecticut State Employee's Retirement System Prepared as of June 30, 2024.



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**Executive Session – discussion and possible action**

1. Michael Vogt appeal – written legal opinion.
2. Lisa Cloud appeal – written legal opinion.
3. William Pagoni appeal – written legal opinion.
4. Patrick Butler v. SERC pending litigation.

At 9:12 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to suspend the regular meeting and go into executive session for the purpose of discussing Items 1-4. Bruce Barth, Cindy Cieslak, Robert Helfand, John Herrington, Virginia McGarrity, Yamuna Menon, Michael Rose, and Benjamin Sedrowski were invited by the Commission to stay for executive session on Items 1-4 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 1-4.

At 9:29 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 9:31 a.m., Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to deny Mr. Vogt's appeal. All voted in favor.

At 9:31 a.m., Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to deny Ms. Cloud's appeal. All voted in favor.

At 9:32 a.m., Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to deny Mr. Pagoni's appeal. All voted in favor.

**Adjournment**

With no further business before the Commission, Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to adjourn the meeting at 9:33 a.m. The Commission voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted by:

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Peter Adomeit, Chairman

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Prepared by John Herrington  
Director Retirement Services Division