

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 August 21, 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
- Karen Buffkin, Trustee
- Michael Carey, Trustee
- Carl Chisem, Trustee
- John Disette, Trustee
- Tara Downes, Deputy Comptroller, Ex Officio Member
- Brian Hill, Trustee
- David Krayeski, Trustee
- Karen Nolen, Trustee
- Michael O'Brien, Trustee
- Claude Poulin, Trustee
- Timothy Ryor, Trustee
- Ted Wright, Chief Investment Officer, Office of the Treasurer, Ex Officio Member

Absent were:

- Michael Bailey, Trustee
- Sal Luciano, Trustee
- Angel Quiros, Trustee
- Rebecca Simonsen, Trustee

Also present were:

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

Call to Order



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Chairman Adomeit called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. Ms. Cieslak identified those in attendance.

Division Director's Report

At 9:05 a.m., Mr. Herrington provided the Division Director's Report.

Division Director Report 8/21/2025

I. <u>SERS Disability Retirements</u>:

- A. Pending Disability Applications for Initial Review by the Medical Examining Board (MEB): Currently the Disability Retirement Unit is scheduling into November 2025.
 - There are 9 New Applications received for August 2025 and 7 New Applications for September 2025.
 - o There are 92 initial Disability Retirement applications pending of which:
 - 7 Applications are awaiting review and scheduling by Unit.
 - 17 Tabled cases have not yet provided updated medical documentation.
 - 12 Reconsideration cases to be scheduled in 2026 and have not provided updated medical documentation.
 - 56 Applications are scheduled for upcoming MEB meetings.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar ch	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
2024	76	79	74	75	75	94*	97*	87*	85*	79*	87*	83*
2025	83*	85*	94*	92*	90*	88*	89*	92*				

^{*}Tabled and reconsideration cases are included in the total pending count.

- **B.** Twenty-Four Month Reviews: The next 24-month review meeting is September 17, 2025.
 - 36 Cases are already scheduled.



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- 1 Tabled case have not yet provided updated medical documentation.
- 2 Reconsideration case has not provided updated medical documentation.
- 97 cases are awaiting the due date for scheduling.

II. <u>Normal SERS Retirements</u>:

	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals
2025	162	129	104	115	110	129	186	156					1091
2024	111	87	98	96	83	125	121	136	132	111	103	91	1294
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 July 2025 meeting.
 - i. At 9:07 a.m., Mr. Carey moved, seconded by Ms. Buffkin to approve the SERC minutes w/ Directors Report from the July 2025 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 July 2025 meeting.
- 2. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut SERS Expenses for July 2025.
 - i. At 9:08 a.m., Mr. Carey moved, seconded by Ms. Buffkin to approve the Connecticut SERS Expenses for July 2025.
 - 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 July 2025.
- 3. Request Commission Approval of the State Employees Retirement Commission Chairman's Per Diem Expenses for July 2025.
 - i. At 9:09 a.m., Mr. Carey moved, seconded by Ms. Buffkin to approve the State Employees Retirement Commission Chairman's Per Diem Expenses for July 2025.



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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 State Employees Retirement Commission Chairman's Per Diem Expenses for July 2025.
- 4. Request Commission Approval of the State Employees Retirement Commission Union Trustee Claude Poulin's Per Diem and Travel Expenses Reimbursement for July 2025.
 - i. At 9:09 a.m., Mr. Carey moved, seconded by Ms. Buffkin to approve the State Employees Retirement Commission Union Trustee Claude Poulin's Per Diem and Travel Expenses Reimbursement for July 2025.
- 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 July 2025.
- 5. Request Commission Acceptance of Invoices from Rose Kallor for July 2025.
 - i. At 9:09 a.m., Mr. Carey moved, seconded by Ms. Buffkin to accept the invoices from Rose Kallor for July 2025.
 - 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 July 2025.
- 6. Request Commission Acceptance of the Invoices from Robinson and Cole for Federal Tax Matter Services for July 2025.
 - i. At 9:09 a.m., Mr. Carey moved, seconded by Ms. Buffkin to accept the invoices from Robinson and Cole for Federal Tax Matter Services for July 2025.
 - 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 July 2025.
- 7. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Service Retirements for July 2025.
 - i. At 9:10 a.m., Mr. Carey moved, seconded by Ms. Buffkin to approve the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Service Retirements for July 2025.
 - 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 July 2025.
- 8. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Voluntary Pending Retirements for July 2025.
 - i. At 9:10 a.m., Mr. Carey moved, seconded by Ms. Buffkin to approve the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Voluntary Pending Retirements for July 2025.
 - 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 July 2025.
- 9. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Disability Retirements for July 2025.
 - i. At 9:10 a.m., Mr. Carey moved, seconded by Ms. Buffkin to approve the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Disability Retirements for July 2025.
 - 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 July 2025.
- 10. Request Commission Approval of the Probate Judges and Employees' Retirement Fund Personnel Expenses for July 2025.
 - i. At 9:11 a.m., Mr. Carey moved, seconded by Ms. Buffkin to approve the Probate Judges and Employees' Retirement Fund Personnel Expenses for July 2025.
 - 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 July 2025.
- 11. Request Commission Approval of the RSD to Discontinue Disability Apps. 1-Year Limitations for July 2025.
 - i. At 9:12 a.m., Mr. Carey moved, seconded by Ms. Buffkin to approve the RSD to Discontinue Disability Apps. 1-Year Limitations for July 2025.
 - 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 July 2025.
- 12. Request Commission Approval of the Recommendations from the Purchase of Service and Related Matters Subcommittee meeting held on July 24, 2025.



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- i. At 9:12 a.m., Mr. Carey moved, seconded by Ms. Buffkin to approve the recommendations from the Purchase of Service and Related Matters Subcommittee meeting held on July 24, 2025.
- 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 recommendations from the Purchase of Service and Related Matters Subcommittee meeting held on July 24, 2025.

Executive Session – discussion and possible action

- 1. Michael Vogt request for reconsideration written legal opinion.
- 2. Mark Morgan appeal/tolling request written legal opinion.
- 3. Patrick Butler v. SERC pending claim/pending litigation.
- 4. Roderick Porter v. SERC pending litigation.

At 9:12 a.m., Mr. Carey moved, seconded by Ms. Buffkin to suspend the regular meeting and go into executive session for the purpose of discussing Items 1-4. Bruce Barth, Cindy Cieslak, John Herrington, 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. Carey moved, seconded by Ms. Buffkin 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 9:30 a.m., Mr. Carey moved, seconded by Ms. Buffkin to deny Mr. Vogt's request for reconsideration. All voted in favor.

At 9:30 a.m., Mr. Carey moved, seconded by Ms. Buffkin to direct the Division to schedule Mr. Morgan to appear before the Retirement Commission to address his request and appeal for tolling. All voted in favor.

Adjournment

With no further business before the Commission, Mr. Carey moved, seconded by Ms. Buffkin to adjourn the meeting at 9:31 a.m. The Commission voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted by:



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Peter Adomeit, Chairman

Prepared by John Herrington
Director Retirement Services Division