

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 October 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
- John Disette, Trustee
- Tara Downes, Deputy Comptroller, Ex Officio Member
- Brian Hill, Trustee
- David Kraveski, Trustee
- Sal Luciano, 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:

- Karen Nolen, 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
- Robert Helfand, 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

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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.

Division Director's Report

At 9:06 a.m., Mr. Herrington provided the Division Director's Report.

Division Director Report (10/16/2025)

I. SERS Disability Retirements:

A. Pending Disability Applications for Initial Review by the Medical Examining Board (MEB): Currently the Disability Retirement Unit is scheduling into February 2025.

- There are 15 New Applications received for October 2025.
 - There are 91 initial Disability Retirement applications pending of which:
 - 0 Applications are awaiting review and scheduling by Unit.
 - 20 Tabled cases have not yet provided updated medical documentation.
 - 19 Reconsideration cases to be scheduled in 2026 and have not provided updated medical documentation.
 - 52 Applications are scheduled for upcoming MEB meetings.

	Jan.	Feb.	March	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*	95*	91*		

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

B. Twenty-Four Month Reviews:

- 25 Cases are already scheduled.
- 0 Tabled case have not yet provided updated medical documentation.
- 1 Reconsideration case has not provided updated medical documentation.
- 108 cases are awaiting the due date for scheduling.

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II. Normal SERS Retirements:

	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.		Totals
2025	162	129	104	115	110	129	186	156	150	110				1351
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 September 2025 meeting.
 - i. At 9:07 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to approve the SERC minutes w/ Directors Report from the September 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 September 2025 meeting.
2. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut SERS Expenses for September 2025.
 - i. At 9:07 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to approve the Connecticut SERS Expenses for September 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 September 2025.
3. Request Commission Approval of the State Employees Retirement Commission Chairman's Per Diem Expenses for September 2025.
 - 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 September 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 State Employees Retirement Commission Chairman's Per Diem Expenses for September 2025.

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4. Request Commission Approval of the State Employees Retirement Commission Union Trustee Claude Poulin's Per Diem and Travel Expenses Reimbursement for September 2025.
 - 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 September 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 September 2025.
5. Request Commission Approval of the State Employees Retirement Commission Management Trustee Timothy A. Ryor's Per Diem Expenses for September 2025.
 - 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 September 2025.
 - 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 Reimbursement for September 2025.
6. Request Commission Acceptance of Invoices from Rose Kallor for September 2025.
 - i. At 9:09 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to accept the invoices from Rose Kallor for September 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 September 2025.
7. Request Commission Acceptance of the Invoices from Robinson and Cole for Federal Tax Matter Services for September 2025.
 - 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 September 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 September 2025.

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8. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Service Retirements for September 2025.
 - i. At 9:09 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to approve the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Service Retirements for September 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 Service Retirements for September 2025.
9. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Voluntary Pending Retirements for September 2025.
 - 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 September 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 September 2025.
10. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Disability Retirements for September 2025.
 - i. At 9:09 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to approve the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Disability Retirements for September 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 September 2025.
11. Request Commission Acceptance of Recommendations by Medical Examining Board for Continued Entitlement Approvals September 2025.
 - i. At 9:10 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to accept the recommendation by Medical Examining Board for continued entitlement approvals for September 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 accept the recommendation by Medical Examining Board for continued entitlement approvals for September 2025.
12. Request Commission Acceptance of Recommendations by Medical Examining Board for Continued Entitlement Tabled and Denials September 2025.
 - i. At 9:10 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to accept the recommendation by Medical Examining Board for continued entitlement tabled and denials for September 2025.

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- 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 accept the recommendation by Medical Examining Board for continued entitlement tabled and denials for September 2025.
13. Request Commission Approval of the Probate Judges and Employees' Retirement Fund Personnel Expenses for September 2025.
- 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 September 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 September 2025.
14. Request Commission Review and Acceptance of the Judges, Family Support Magistrates, and Compensation Commission Retirement Fund State of Operations and Balance Sheet for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2025.
- i. At 9:10 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to accept the Judges, Family Support Magistrates, and Compensation Commission Retirement Fund State of Operations and Balance Sheet for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 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 accept the Judges, Family Support Magistrates, and Compensation Commission Retirement Fund State of Operations and Balance Sheet for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2025.
15. Request Commission Review and Acceptance of the Public Defenders Retirement Fund State of Operations and Balance Sheet for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2025.
- i. At 9:10 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to accept the Public Defenders Retirement Fund State of Operations and Balance Sheet for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 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 accept the Public Defenders Retirement Fund State of Operations and Balance Sheet for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2025.
16. Request Commission Review and Acceptance of the State Attorneys Retirement Fund State of Operations and Balance Sheet for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2025.
- i. At 9:10 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to accept the State Attorneys Retirement Fund State of Operations and Balance Sheet for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2025.

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- 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 accept the State Attorneys Retirement Fund State of Operations and Balance Sheet for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2025.
17. Request Commission Review and Acceptance of the State Employees Retirement System (SERS) Retirement Fund State of Operations and Balance Sheet for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2025.
- i. At 9:10 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to accept the State Employees Retirement System (SERS) Retirement Fund State of Operations and Balance Sheet for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 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 accept the State Employees Retirement System (SERS) Retirement Fund State of Operations and Balance Sheet for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2025.
18. Appearance by Jeffrey Scott re: Request for Reconsideration.
- i. At 9:11 a.m., Attorney Zimmerlin was invited to present Mr. Scott's request for reconsideration and the trustees were offered the opportunity to ask any questions.
19. Appearance by Patrick Butler. Remand from Connecticut Superior court.
- i. At 9:13 a.m., Attorney Zimmerlin was invited to present Mr. Butler's request on remand and the trustees were offered the opportunity to ask any questions.
 - ii. Attorney Cieslak asked questions of Attorney Zimmerlin concerning Mr. Butler's request.

Executive Session – discussion and possible action

- 1. Jeffrey Patton request for extension of time – written legal opinion.
- 2. William Pagoni petition for declaratory ruling – written legal opinion.
- 3. Jeffrey Ford request for reconsideration – written legal opinion.
- 4. Desiree Bowman request for reconsideration – written legal opinion.
- 5. Patrick Butler v. SERC - pending litigation/pending claim.
- 6. Evangelista Contreras v. SERC – pending claim/pending litigation.
- 7. Roderick Porter v. SERC – pending litigation.

At 9:17 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 1-7. 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 1-7 because they may give opinions or factual

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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 1-7.

At 10:00 a.m., Mr. Bailey 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 10:01 a.m., Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to table Jeffrey Scott's request for reconsideration to next month. All voted in favor.

At 10:02 a.m., Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to toll Mr. Patton's deadline to appeal and extend it to December 18, 2025. All voted in favor.

At 10:02 a.m., Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to issue the declaratory ruling regarding Mr. Pagoni as drafted. All voted in favor.

At 10:03 a.m., Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to deny Mr. Ford's request for reconsideration. All voted in favor.

At 10:03 a.m., Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to deny Ms. Bowman's request for reconsideration because the Retirement Commission cannot overrule the MEB's medical decision. All voted in favor.

At 10:03 a.m., Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to deny Mr. Butler's request for reconsideration. Ms. Cieslak clarified that Mr. Butler had not requested reconsideration, and instead, this matter is on remand from the Superior Court. Mr. Bailey removed his second, and Mr. Luciano withdrew his motion.

At 10:04 a.m., Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to table Mr. Butler's matter to next month. All voted in favor.

Adjournment

With no further business before the Commission, Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to adjourn the meeting at 10:05 a.m. The Commission voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Peter Adomeit, Chairman

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Prepared by John Herrington
Director Retirement Services Division