



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT COMMISSION**

A regular meeting of the State Employees Retirement Commission (the “Commission”) was held on January 15, 2026. 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 Krayeski, Trustee
- Sal Luciano, Trustee
- Karen Nolen, Trustee
- Michael O’Brien, Trustee
- Claude Poulin, Trustee
- Angel Quiros, Trustee
- Ted Wright, Chief Investment Officer, Office of the Treasurer, Ex Officio Member

Absent were:

- John Disette, Trustee
- Rebecca Simonsen, Trustee

Also present were:

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



Call to Order

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

Division Director's Report

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

Division Director Report (1/15/2026)

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 May 2026.

- There are 13 New Applications received for January 2026.
 - There are 112 initial Disability Retirement applications pending of which:
 - 1 Applications are awaiting review and scheduling by Unit.
 - 19 Tabled cases have not yet provided updated medical documentation.
 - 21 Reconsideration cases to be scheduled in 2026 and have not provided updated medical documentation.
 - 71 Applications are scheduled for upcoming MEB meetings.

	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
2025	83*	85*	94*	92*	90*	88*	89*	92*	95*	91*	92*	104*
2026	112*											

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

B. Twenty-Four Month Reviews:

- 58 Cases are scheduled for review and 24 are scheduled for approval due to Social Security MOU.
- 0 Tabled case have not yet provided updated medical documentation.
- 2 Reconsideration case has not provided updated medical documentation.
- 91 cases are awaiting the due date for scheduling.



II. Normal SERS Retirements:

	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.		Totals
2026	223													
2025	162	129	104	115	110	129	186	156	150	110	106	92		1549

New Matters

1. Request Commission Approval of SERC minutes w/ Directors Report from the December 2025 meeting.
 - i. At 9:06 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to approve the SERC minutes w/ Directors Report from the December 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 December 2025 meeting.
2. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut SERS Expenses for December 2025.
 - i. At 9:07 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to approve the Connecticut SERS Expenses for December 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 December 2025.
3. Request Commission Approval of the State Employees Retirement Commission Chairman's Per Diem Expenses for December 2025.
 - i. At 9:07 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to approve the State Employees Retirement Commission Chairman's Per Diem Expenses for December 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 December 2025.
4. Request Commission Approval of the State Employees Retirement Commission Union Trustee Claude Poulin's Per Diem and Travel Expenses Reimbursement for December 2025.



- i. At 9:07 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 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 December 2025.

5. Request Commission Acceptance of Invoices from Rose Kallor for December 2025.
 - i. At 9:07 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to accept the invoices from Rose Kallor for December 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 December 2025.
6. Request Commission Acceptance of the Invoices from Robinson and Cole for Federal Tax Matter Services for December 2025.
 - i. At 9:07 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to accept the invoices from Robinson and Cole for Federal Tax Matter Services for December 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 December 2025.
7. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Service Retirements for December 2025.
 - i. At 9:08 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to approve the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Service Retirements for December 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 December 2025.
8. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Voluntary Pending Retirements for December 2025.
 - i. At 9:08 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to approve the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Voluntary Pending Retirements for December 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 December 2025.
9. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Disability Retirements for December 2025.
 - i. At 9:08 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to approve the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Disability Retirements for December 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 December 2025.
10. Request Commission Approval of the Probate Judges and Employees Retirement Fund Personnel Expenses for November and December 2025.
 - i. At 9:08 a.m., Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Luciano to approve Probate Judges and Employees Retirement Fund Personnel Expenses for November and December 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 Probate Judges and Employees Retirement Fund Personnel Expenses for November and December 2025.

Executive Session – discussion and possible action

1. Lori LaPrise petition for declaratory ruling – written legal opinion.
2. Kevin Lawlor request for reconsideration – written legal opinion.
3. Brenda Baerga appeal – written legal opinion.
4. Roderick Porter v. SERC – pending litigation.
5. Patrick Butler v. SERC - pending litigation/pending claim.

At 9:08 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 1-5. 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 1-5 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 1-5.

At 9:45 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.

STATE EMPLOYEES
RETIREMENT COMMISSION



MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD
for DISABILITY RETIREMENT



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
RETIREMENT SERVICES DIVISION
OFFICE *of the* STATE COMPTROLLER

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Public Session

At 9:45 a.m., Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to approve the declaratory ruling on Ms. Laprise's petition as drafted. All voted in favor.

At 9:46 a.m., Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to approve Mr. Lawlor's request for reconsideration. The Commission also determines that all future retirees will be reduced from age 65. All voted in favor.

At 9:46 a.m., Mr. Luciano moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to deny Ms. Baerga'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 9:47 a.m. The Commission voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Peter Adomeit, Chairman

Prepared by John Herrington
Director Retirement Services Division