



**Meeting of the Legal & Personnel Subcommittee of the State  
Employees Retirement Commission**

DATE: January 7, 2026

**PRESENT:**

Chairman Peter Adomeit  
Trustee Michael Carey  
Trustee Brian Hill  
Trustee Michael O'Brien  
Commission Counsel Michael Rose (Rose Kallor, LLP)  
Commission Counsel Cindy Cieslak (Rose Kallor, LLP)  
John Herrington, Retirement Services Division Director  
Robert Helfand, Retirement Services Division  
Benjamin Sedrowski, Retirement Services Division  
Yamuna Menon, Assistant Comptroller and General Counsel

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m. Ms. Cieslak identified the individuals in attendance.

**Executive Session – discussion and possible recommendation**

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 claim/pending litigation.

At 8:34 a.m., Mr. Carey moved, seconded by Mr. O'Brien to suspend the regular meeting and go into executive session for the purpose of discussing Items 1-4. All voted in favor. The Subcommittee invited Cindy Cieslak, Robert Helfand, Yamuna Menon, Michael Rose, and Benjamin Sedrowski to enter executive session for Items 1-4 because they may give opinions or factual background with respect to the topics at issue.

At 8:35 a.m., John Herrington entered the meeting and was invited into executive session.

At 8:50 a.m., Mr. Carey moved, seconded by Mr. O'Brien to exit executive session. All voted in favor.

**Public Session**

At 8:50 a.m., Mr. Carey moved, seconded by Mr. O'Brien that the Subcommittee recommend that the Commission accept the declaratory ruling as drafted and instruct the Division to issue the ruling. All voted in favor.

At 8:51 a.m., Mr. Carey moved, seconded by Mr. O'Brien that the Subcommittee recommend that the Commission deny Mr. Lawlor's request for reconsideration. All voted in favor.

At 8:52 a.m., Mr. Carey moved, seconded by Mr. O'Brien that the Subcommittee recommend that the Commission deny Ms. Baerga's appeal. All voted in favor.

MEETING ADJOURNED: With no further business before the Subcommittee, at 8:53 a.m., Mr. Carey moved, seconded by Mr. O'Brien to adjourn the meeting. All voted in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Carey