



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT COMMISSION  
LEGAL AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

A special meeting of the Municipal Employees Retirement Commission's Legal and Personnel Committee (the "Committee") was held on June 4, 2026. The meeting was held electronically via Teams. The meeting convened at 9:07 a.m., and the following members of the Committee were present:

- Karen McDonough, Committee Chair
- Kurt Miller, Committee Vice Chair
- Troy Raccuia, Trustee

Also present for the Commission:

- Brian Vahey, Commission Chair

Also present were:

- Robert Helfand, General Counsel to the MERC and Assistant Director, Retirement Services Division
- John Herrington, Director, Retirement Services Division
- Yamuna Menon, General Counsel to the Comptroller, Office of the State Comptroller
- Ben Sedrowski, Retirement Services Division
- Megan Piwonski, Retirement Services Division

**Call to Order**

Committee Chair Karen McDonough called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m.; Benjamin Sedrowski identified those in attendance.

**Executive Session**

At 9:09 a.m.; Kurt Miller moved, seconded by Brian Vahey, to suspend the regular meeting and go into executive session for the purpose of discussing agenda items 2(a) and 2(b) including an invitation to join executive session to John Herrington, Robert Helfand, Benjamin Sedrowski, and Yamuna Menon for session for items 2(a) and 2(b) because they may give opinions or factual background with respect to the topics at issue. All voted in favor.

At 09:14 a.m.; Trustee Troy Raccuia joined the meeting and was invited into executive session for the purpose of discussing agenda items 2(a) and 2(b).

At 09:22 a.m.; Megan Piwonski joined the meeting and was invited into executive session for items 2(a) and 2(b) as she may give opinions or factual background with respect to the topics at issue.

At 09:59 a.m.; John Herrington exited executive session and the meeting.

At 10:04 a.m.; Brian Vahey moved, seconded by Kurt Miller, to exit executive session. All voted in favor.

### **Public Session**

At 10:05 a.m.; Kurt Miller moved, seconded by Troy Raccuia, that the Committee recommend to the Commission that it authorize the Retirement Services Division to retain an expert witness in the *Dobbs v. Vahey* litigation. All voted in favor.

At 10:07 a.m.; Kurt Miller moved, seconded by Troy Raccuia, that the Committee recommend to the full Commission that it *deny* Mr. Soules' request to conduct deliberations over his case in public session in lieu of executive session in order to preserve the confidentiality of the written legal opinion prepared by Counsel. All voted in favor.

At 10:08 a.m.; Kurt Miller moved, seconded by Troy Raccuia, that the Committee recommend to the full Commission that it adopt as a matter of policy that the Commission and its Committees meet in executive session as necessary to preserve the confidentiality of written legal opinions, and to preserve the confidentiality of legal advice pertaining to any of the topics identified in § 1-200(6) of the Connecticut General Statutes. All voted in favor.

MEETING ADJOURNED: As there was no further business to be addressed, at 10:08 a.m.; Kurt Miller moved, seconded by Troy Raccuia, to adjourn. All voted in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Prepared and Submitted by:

Benjamin Sedrowski, Retirement Services Division