

MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD for DISABILITY RETIREMENT



STATE OF CONNECTICUT RETIREMENT SERVICES DIVISION OFFICE of the STATE COMPTROLLER 55 Elm Street Hartford, CT 06106

PHONE: (860) 702-3480 | FAX: (860) 702-3489

DRAFT STATE OF CONNECTICUT STATE EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT COMMISSION

A regular meeting of the State Employees Retirement Commission (the "Commission") was held on March 15, 2018 in the7th Floor Conference Room at 55 Elm Street, Hartford Connecticut. The meeting convened at 9:00 a.m. and the following members of the Commission were present:

- Peter Adomeit, Chairman
- Michael Bailey, Trustee
- Michael Carey, Trustee
- Charles Casella, Trustee
- Richard M. Cosgrove, Trustee
- Paul Fortier, Trustee
- Laila Mandour, Trustee
- Ronald McLellan, Trustee
- Claude Poulin, Trustee
- Angel Quiros, Trustee
- Martha Carlson, Deputy Comptroller, Ex Officio Member
- Laurie Martin. Ex Officio Member

The following members of the Commission were absent:

- Sandra Fae Brown Brewton, Trustee
- Robert D. Coffey, Trustee
- Lisa Grasso Egan, Trustee
- Sal Luciano, Trustee

Also present were:

- Amanda Alfonso, Retirement Services Division
- Bruce Barth, Robinson & Cole
- Natalie Braswell, Office of the State Comptroller
- Margaret Hearing, Office of the State Comptroller
- John Herrington, Retirement Services Division
- Colin Newman, Retirement Services Division
- Alisha Sullivan, Robinson & Cole

Call to Order

Chairman Adomeit called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

Chairman's Report



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Chairman Adomeit explained to the Commission that he has been in talks with Daniel Livingston and it has been determined that if the Plan document from the Commission contradicts statutes or past documents then the statutes and past documents would supersede the plan document. The next step is to get the State to agree.

Division Director's Report

Disability Retirements			
Pending Disability Applications as of	1/2018	2/2018	3/2018
Pending Applications	373	362	358
Applications preliminary reviewed	140	112	112
Applications waiting for documentation	233	250	246
Applications scheduled	92	101	108
Total Pending	465	463	466
Number of Applications Received	6	19	16
Number of Applications on the Agenda	21	24	20
Number of Application Approved	15	16	11
24-Month Review Cases			
On the list for 24-Month Review (Past and Future)	238	251	229
Collecting SSD	35	50	47
Part of the Backlog	0	5	3
Not Collecting SSD	203	201	182
Part of the Backlog	112	106	103
MEB Scheduled	7	18	0
ARP to Hybrid Retirements			
Monthly		_	
Retirees	14	5	3
Prospective	0	0	0
Transfer	5	5	2
Waiver	0	0	0
Total	19	10	5
Audited and sent invoices	11	5	30
Total Outstanding to be audited	476	476	450



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Retirees	509	519	522
Prospective	5	5	5
Transfer	1480	1475	1476
Waiver	9	9	9
Total	2003	2008	2012
Retirements Processed	164	169	156
Retirements Processed Regular	164 144	169 148	156 132
	_		
Regular	144	148	132

Mr. Herrington gave an overview of the Division's continued areas of focus. The Division continues to work on implementing new Tier 4 changes especially the defined contribution portion. The unprecedented volume of telephone calls and e-mail inquiries received by the call center seems to have subsided somewhat over the past couple of weeks. The Division continues to work on automating the annual MERS reemployment survey process. The surveys are currently on track to go out at the end of March. The Division also continues to work through a host of issues related to the SAG award and ARP to Hybrid transfers.

- i. At 9:18, Mr. Poulin moved, seconded by Mr. Cosgrove to amend the agenda and add the (1) MERS GASB 67 Report for the June 30, 2017 Measurement Date, (2) MERS GASB 68 Report for the June 30, 2018 Reporting Date, (3) JFSMCCRS GASB 68 Report for the June 30, 2018 Reporting Date, and the (4) SERS GASB 68 Report for June 30, 2017 Measurement Date.
- 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 amend the agenda and add the (1) MERS GASB 67 Report for the June 30, 2017 Measurement Date, (2) MERS GASB 68 Report for the June 30, 2018 Reporting Date, (3) JFSMCCRS GASB 68 Report for the June 30, 2018 Reporting Date, and the (4) SERS GASB 68 Report for June 30, 2017 Measurement Date.

New Matters

- 1. Request Commission Approval of the February 15, 2018 minutes.
 - i. At 9:20 a.m., Mr. Casella moved, seconded by Ms. Mandour to approve the February 15, 2018 minutes.
- ii. Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There was discussion.
- iii. After discussion, the minutes were amended.
- iv. Mr. Cosgrove abstained.
- v. The Commission voted unanimously, with Mr. Cosgrove abstaining, in favor to approve the February 15, 2018 minutes as amended.



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- 2. Request Commission Approval of the State Employees Retirement Commission Chairman's Per Diem Expenses.
 - i. At 9:20 a.m., Mr. Casella moved, seconded by Mr. Cosgrove to approve the State Employees Retirement Commission Chairman's Per Diem Expenses.
 - 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.
- 3. Request Commission Approval of the State Employees Retirement Commission Union Trustee Claude Poulin Per Diem and Travel Expenses.
 - i. At 9:21 a.m., Mr. Casella moved, seconded by Mr. Fortier to approve the State Employees Retirement Commission Union Trustee's Per Diem and Travel Expenses.
 - 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's Claude Poulin Per Diem and Travel Expenses.
- 4. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Service Retirements for the Month of February 2018.
 - i. At 9:21 a.m., Mr. Casella moved, seconded by Mr. Fortier to approve the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Service Retirements for the Month of February 2018.
 - 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 the Month of February 2018.
- 5. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Voluntary Pending Retirements for the Month of February 2018.
 - i. At 9:22 a.m., Mr. Casella moved, seconded by Mr. Fortier to approve the Connecticut State Employees Retirement System Voluntary Pending Retirements for the Month of February 2018.
 - 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 the Month February 2018.
- 6. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut State Employees System Disability Retirements for the Month of February 2018.



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- i. At 9:22 a.m., Mr. Casella moved, seconded by Mr. Fortier to approve the Connecticut State Employees System Disability Retirements for the Month of February 2018.
- 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 System Disability Retirements for the Month of February 2018.
- 7. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut State Employees System Retroactive Retirements for the Month of February 2018.
 - i. At 9:23 a.m., Mr. Casella moved, seconded by Mr. Fortier to approve the Connecticut State Employees System Retroactive Retirements for the Month of February 2018.
 - 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 System Retroactive Retirements for the Month of February 2018.
- 8. Request Commission Approval of the Connecticut State Employees System Preretirement Death Benefit for the Month of February 2018.
 - i. At 9:23 a.m., Mr. Casella moved, seconded by Mr. Fortier to approve the Connecticut State Employees System Preretirement Death Benefit for the Month of February 2018.
 - 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 System Preretirement Death Benefit for the Month of February 2018.
- 9. Request Commission Approval of the Municipal Retirement System Retirements for the Month of February 2018.
 - i. At 9:24 a.m., Mr. Casella moved, seconded by Mr. Fortier to approve the Municipal Retirement System Retirements for the Month of February 2018.
 - 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 Municipal Retirement System Retirements for the month of February 2018.
- 10. Request Commission Acceptance of the Recommendations by the Medical Examining Board for the Continued Entitlement Approvals.
 - i. At 9:24 a.m., Mr. Casella moved, seconded by Mr. Fortier to accept the Recommendations by the Medical Examining Board for the Acceptance of Continued Entitlement Approvals.
 - 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 accept the Recommendations by the Medical Examining Board for the Acceptance of Continued Entitlement Approvals.
- 11. Request Commission Acceptance of the Recommendations by the Medical Examining Board for the Continued Entitlement Denials and Tabled.
 - i. At 9:24 a.m., Mr. Casella moved, seconded by Mr. Fortier to accept the Recommendations by the Medical Examining Board for the Denials and Tabled Continued Entitlement.
 - 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 Recommendations by the Medical Examining Board for the Denials and Tabled Continued Entitlement.
- 12. Request Commission Approval of the Municipal Retirement System Disability Retirements Approved by the Medical Examining Board.
 - i. At 9:25 a.m., Mr. Casella moved, seconded by Mr. Fortier to approve the Municipal Retirement System Disability Retirements Approved by the Medical Examining Board.
 - 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 Municipal Retirement System Disability Retirements Denied by the Medical Examining Board.
- 13. Request Commission Approval of the Retirement Services Division Request To Discontinue The Disability Applications Due To The One Year Deadline Associated With The Right To Ask For A Reconsideration Of The Medical Examining Board Denial.
 - i. At 9:25 a.m., Mr. Casella moved, seconded by Mr. Frontier to approve the Retirement Services Division Request to Discontinue the Disability Applications Due to the One Year Deadline Associated with the Right to ask for a Reconsideration of the Medical Examining Board Denial.
 - 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 Retirement Services Division Request to Discontinue the Disability Applications Due to the One Year Deadline Associated with the Right to ask for a Reconsideration of the Medical Examining Board Denial.
- 14. Request Commission Approval of the Probate Judges and Employees Retirement System Retirements for February 2018.
 - i. At 9:25 a.m., Mr. Casella moved, seconded by Mr. Frontier to approve the Probate Judges and Employees Retirement System Retirements for February 2018.
 - 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 to approve the Probate Judges and Employees Retirement System Retirements for February 2018.
- 15. Request Commission Approval of the Judges, Family Support Magistrates and Compensation Commissioners Retirement System Spouse Retirement System Retirements for February 2018.
 - i. At 9:26 a.m., Mr. Casella moved, seconded by Mr. Frontier to approve the Judges, Family Support Magistrates and Compensation Commissioners Retirement System Spouse Retirement System Retirements for February 2018.
 - ii. Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion he called for a vote.
 - iii. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the Judges, Family Support Magistrates and Compensation Commissioners Retirement System Spouse Retirement System Retirements for February 2018.
- 16. Request Commission Approval of the Probate Judges and Employees Retirement Fund Personnel Expenses for the Pay Period January 5, 2018 Through February 1, 2018.
- i. At 9:26 a.m., Mr. Casella moved, seconded by Mr. Fortier to approve the Probate Judges and Employees Retirement Fund Personnel Expenses for the Pay Period January 5, 2018 Through February 1, 2018.
- 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 the Pay Period January 5, 2018 Through February 1, 2018.
- 17. David Dalpe Freedom of Information Request For Discussion.
 - i. At 9:27, Attorney Barth explained to the Commission that Mr. Dalpe received the Robinson and Cole bills that he had requested through FOIA. The bills were heavily redacted to protect attorney- client privilege.
 - ii. Attorney Braswell also shared with the Commission that there was another FOIA request on January 1, 2011 regarding the 415 restrictions. The Retirement Commission responded to Mr. Dalpe based on the litigation however, he is not satisfied with the response. Attorney Braswell needs to speak to Attorney Rose to come to a resolution.
- 18. Request Commission Acceptance of the Recommendations of its Actuarial Subcommittee to accept the following reports (1) MERS GASB 67 Report for the June 30, 2017 Measurement Date, (2) MERS GASB 68 Report for the June 30, 2018 Reporting Date, (3) JFSMCCRS GASB 68 Report for the June 30, 2018 Reporting Date, and the (4) SERS GASB 68 Report for June 30, 2017 Measurement Date.
 - i. At 9:27 a.m., Mr. Casella moved, seconded by Mr. Poulin to accept the following reports (1) MERS GASB 67 Report for the June 30, 2017 Measurement Date, (2)



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MERS GASB 68 Report for the June 30, 2018 Reporting Date, (3) JFSMCCRS GASB 68 Report for the June 30, 2018 Reporting Date, and the (4) SERS GASB 68 Report for June 30, 2017 Measurement Date.

- 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 following reports (1) MERS GASB 67 Report for the June 30, 2017 Measurement Date, (2) MERS GASB 68 Report for the June 30, 2018 Reporting Date, (3) JFSMCCRS GASB 68 Report for the June 30, 2018 Reporting Date, and the (4) SERS GASB 68 Report for June 30, 2017 Measurement Date

Mr. Casella moved, seconded by Mr. Fortier to go into executive session at 9:28 a.m. Mr. Herrington, Mr. Newman, Attorney Braswell, Attorney Rose and Attorney Sullivan were invited by the Commission to stay for executive session.

Executive Session

- 1. SAG Award Update written legal opinion discussion.
- 2. Debbie Sullivan appeal of MEB decision written legal opinion and possible action.
- 3. Thompson pending litigation discussion.
- 4. Carol Walenski pending litigation discussion.
- 5. David Carter pending litigation discussion.
- 6. Bouchard pending litigation discussion.
- 7. Ronald Johnson pending litigation discussion.
- 8. Gary Soracchi pending litigation discussion.

Public Session

At 9:47 a.m., Mr. Casella moved, seconded by Mr. Fortier to approve the State of Connecticut Tier 4 document as presented.

Before adjournment, Mr. Casella inquired about the Bridgeport MERS membership decreasing. Mr. Herrington reported that, based on the initial results of the Division's research on that issue, it appears that the decreasing membership is the product of a downsizing work force and that the Division has received confirmation that new hires continue to be placed in MERS

Adjournment



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With no further business before the Commission, Mr. Casella moved, seconded by Mr. McLellan to adjourn at 9:49 a.m. The Commission voted unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted by:	
Peter Adomeit, Chairman	
Prepared by John Herrington	_
Director Retirement Service Division	