## STATE OF CONNECTICUT STATE EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT COMMISSION

AUGUST 20, 2020 MEETING HELD VIA ZOOM CONVENED AT 9:00 a.m.

Commission Members Present:

Peter Adomeit, Chairman

Karen Buffkin, Trustee

Michael Carey, Trustee

Martha Carlson, Deputy Comptroller, Ex Officio Member

Carl Chisem, Trustee

Robert D. Coffey, Trustee

John Flores, General Counsel, Office of the Treasurer,

Ex Officio Member

Paul Fortier, Trustee

Sal Luciano, Trustee

Karen Nolan, Trustee

Claude Poulin, Trustee

Angel Quiros, Trustee

Timothy Ryor, Trustee

Mark Sciota, Municipal Liaison

Commission Members Absent:

Janet Andrews, Trustee

Sandra Fae Brown Brewton, Trustee

Michael Bailey, Trustee

Also Present:

Bruce Barth and Alisha Sullivan, tax Counsel to the

Commission,

Robinson & Cole

Natalie Braswell, General Counsel, Office of the State Comptroller

Cindy Cieslak and Michael Rose, general Counsel to the Commission,

Rose Kallor

John Herrington, Director, Retirement Services Division

Colin Newman, Assistant Director, Retirement Services

Director

Sueanne Curley

Ellen Lynch & Richard Lynch, counsel for Ms. Curley

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- 1 (Proceedings commenced at 9:00 a.m.)
- 2 MR. ADOMEIT: Well, good morning,
- 3 everyone. I call the meeting to order. This is the
- 4 August 20th meeting, by teleconference, of the
- 5 Connecticut State Employees Retirement Commission.
- 6 The persons present -- Ms. Cieslak is the one who
- 7 has the roll, so why don't you give us the names,
- 8 please.
- 9 MS. CIESLAK: Certainly.
- 10 Just as a reminder, When you speak,
- 11 please announce who is speaking so that we have it
- 12 for the recording.
- 13 Persons present include Chairman
- 14 Peter Adomeit, Trustee Claude Poulin. Trustee
- 15 Angel Quiros, Trustee Robert Coffey, Trustee
- 16 Carl Chisem, Trustee Paul Fortier, Trustee
- 17 Michael Carey, Actuarial Trustee Tim Ryor, Trustee
- 18 Karen Nolen, Trustee Karen Buffkin, Trustee
- 19 Sal Luciano, John Flores from the Treasurer's
- 20 office, Mark Sciota from the Town of Southington,
- 21 Attorney Natalie Braswell, Attorney Alisha Sullivan,
- 22 Attorney Bruce Barth, Colin Newman from the
- 23 Retirement Services Division, John Herrington,
- 24 Director of the Retirement Services Division,
- 25 Marti Carlson from the Office the State Comptroller,

- 1 Attorney Michael Rose. We also have Attorney
- 2 Ellen Lynch representing Suanne Curley, who is also
- 3 in attendance.
- 4 Is there anyone that I missed?
- 5 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Natalie.
- 6 MS. CIESLAK: Attorney Natalie Braswell
- 7 from the Comptroller's office is here.
- 8 All right. I think we're ready to
- 9 go, Peter.
- 10 MR. ADOMEIT: Okay. The Chairman's
- 11 report. We've had really two big challenges over
- 12 the last couple of years. We digitized the process
- and then we had to go to a remote system, and I've
- 14 just -- I've got to tell you, I am in awe of the
- 15 ability of the folks that did this. Now, I could do
- 16 it, but they do it so it works. You're just to be
- 17 congratulated again. I may sound like a broken
- 18 record, but I'm not. We are doing our work. We're
- 19 getting the business done. Just thank you to
- 20 everyone who's been involved in that.
- 21 I'm going to ask the Division
- 22 director for his report.
- 23 MR. HERRINGTON: Good morning, everyone.
- 24 I circulated the director's report with the numbers
- 25 for August. As you can see, August was an

- 1 abnormally high month. It was the second-highest
- 2 month over the last 12-month period, but as the
- 3 Chairman reported, with our kind of agility and
- 4 technological advances, we were able to easily lead
- 5 that goal and place everyone on the payroll and
- 6 continue to reduce our existing backlogs. That is a
- 7 testament to kind of the flexibility of the staff's
- 8 hard work in the technological advances.
- 9 In terms of another challenge that we
- 10 are going to embark on in the near future, as many
- 11 of you may know, DAS is going to a new model where
- 12 they are centralizing different HR functions, one of
- 13 which would be retirement. So there's going to be
- 14 the launch of a new dedicated retirement pod in DAS,
- and the go-live date for that is August 28th, and
- 16 there will be a transition of the retirement duties
- 17 from the line HR workers at the agencies to that
- 18 centralized pod, with an effective date being
- 19 November 1st, where those duties will be
- 20 transitioned to that pod.
- 21 That is going to kind of change in,
- 22 you know, significant ways, the way that we interact
- 23 with agencies in this pod, and I think there are
- 24 certainly efficiencies to be had; but, it's going to
- 25 be kind of a learning process as we kind of recreate

- 1 the wheel going forward, so to speak.
- In that regard, we were able to
- 3 replace a longstanding member of the Retirement
- 4 Division who retired July 1st. We were able to
- 5 bring in a new individual who is going to start on
- 6 August 28th, and is going to serve as the Division's
- 7 liaison with that new DAS pod. The individual that
- 8 we've brought, her name is Patricia Meskers. She
- 9 worked in the Retirement Division for approximately
- 10 six years in the Retirement Counseling Unit and then
- 11 left to the Department of Corrections and served in
- 12 many different HR functions at the Department of
- 13 Corrections. So, hopefully, with that, you know,
- 14 combination of experience, she will help us as we
- 15 work through some of the kinks in establishing this
- 16 new set of processes for processing retirement
- 17 paperwork going forward.
- 18 The last issue that I wanted to bring
- 19 to the attention of the Commission would be I do
- 20 believe that we need to amend the agenda to include
- 21 an item for the acceptance of the independent
- 22 auditor's report of the MERS GASB 68 report.
- 23 MR. LUCIANO: An amendment requires a
- 24 two-thirds super-majority vote, so I will make that
- 25 motion and have that be item 17.

- 1 MR. POULIN: what is your motion?
- 2 MR. LUCIANO: To amend the agenda to include
- 3 the first GASB acceptance for item 17. We're
- 4 modifying the public agenda, so that requires a
- 5 two-thirds vote in the positive in order to amend.
- 6 MS. CIESLAK: For the record, Mr. Luciano
- 7 has made the motion.
- 8 MR. POULIN: Second.
- 9 MS. CIESLAK: Second by Mr. Poulin.
- 10 MR. ADOMEIT: All in favor say aye.
- 11 Opposed nay. It's unanimous. The ayes have it.
- 12 Thank you.
- 13 MR. LUCIANO: Does that conclude the
- 14 director's report?
- 15 MR. ADOMEIT: I'm not sure. John, do you
- 16 have more to say?
- 17 MR. HERRINGTON: I have nothing more.
- 18 MR. ADOMEIT: Marti, do you have anything
- 19 to say?
- 20 MS. CARLSON: Just a quick update. The
- 21 administration is going to imminently announce that
- 22 they've entered an agreement with a consulting firm
- 23 to provide some assistance in heading us towards
- 24 the 2022 massive retirement surge that is expected.
- 25 I think it's a good thing because I think we need a

- 1 statewide approach to that. The Office of the
- 2 Comptroller, in particular, will be participating in
- 3 that at the table as they make decisions and
- 4 recommendations.
- 5 I don't -- you know, clearly, I don't
- 6 know that we have veto power, but there have been
- 7 instances over the years that plans or actions have
- 8 been taken that impact the Comptroller's office and
- 9 the Core-CT system that are simply unimplementable,
- 10 so I'm working closely with the COO to make sure
- 11 that the Core-CT, frankly, is represented in that
- 12 process.
- So, there are significant benchmarks:
- 14 High-level analysis by October; recommendations and
- 15 deep analysis after interviews with all of the
- 16 agencies by December; and a report in January of
- 17 specific action items that will require legislative
- 18 approval. Some of the -- some of the action items
- 19 will include recommendations for IT optimizations,
- 20 lean projects, cluster analysis, and physical plant
- 21 efficiencies. My concern -- part of our concern is
- 22 not only the functional that we participate in, but
- 23 also the IT optimizations. We have indicated to DAS
- 24 that, A, as the owner, so to speak, of Core-CT, and,
- 25 B, as the constitutional office of the State

- 1 Comptroller, we have a particular interest in those
- 2 IT optimizations as related to our Core-CT systems.
- 3 Again, I think it's a good idea that
- 4 there's going to be a set of eyes on what we're
- 5 looking at. In the executive agency alone, I
- 6 believe -- well, at least I think the administration
- 7 has analyzed -- I don't know what our latest numbers
- 8 are there -- that there are about 9,000 executive
- 9 office -- executive agency eligible -- employees
- 10 eligible to retire. That's just in the executive
- 11 agency. It doesn't include Karen's higher ed at
- 12 UConn and it doesn't include the Board of Regents,
- 13 Judicial, or Legislative management.
- So, there is a lot of planning that
- 15 has to be done. John has kept you up to speed on
- 16 what we're planning in trying to get ready for the
- 17 influx of that, but there is a huge ripple effect in
- 18 every way for that. So, I will keep you updated on
- 19 how that goes.
- 20 MR. ADOMEIT: Thank you, Marti.
- 21 MS. BUFFKIN: Can I ask Marti a question,
- 22 please?
- MR. ADOMEIT: Go ahead, please.
- 24 MS. BUFFKIN: MS. Marti, is there a
- 25 breakdown in those numbers of people who are

- 1 eligible for full retirement than early retirement?
- MS. CARLSON: I believe the number, Karen,
- 3 I gave you was eligible for full retirement. It did
- 4 not include those who could take the discount.
- 5 I also think, sort of in my gut
- 6 sense, that we may see part of that population go
- 7 sooner than the June 1, '22 date. It could -- I
- 8 feel it definitely would be related to the pandemic
- 9 at the office -- at the office buildings of the
- 10 non-direct-care workers in the State employee
- 11 workforce start coming back. If they -- you know,
- 12 they may just choose to go two years earlier. I
- mean, if they've been eligible for a few years and
- 14 it's going to mean a hundred dollars in their
- 15 pension benefit, I think that we're going to start
- 16 seeing an uptick in 2021 as we try to reopen.
- I don't know what --
- 18 MR. ADOMEIT: Thank you, Marti.
- 19 MS. CARLSON: I don't know what the UConn
- 20 number is, Karen. I'm assuming that that analysis
- 21 is going to be part of this effort on the part of
- the administration to get a handle on it.
- MS. BUFFKIN: Got it. Thank you.
- 24 MR. ADOMEIT: Okay. Any other questions
- of Marti? If not, we can move on to new matters.

- 1 Sal?
- 2 MR. LUCIANO: Motion to approve the
- 3 minutes.
- 4 MR. QUIROS: Second.
- 5 MR. ADOMEIT: It's been moved and
- 6 seconded. All in favor say aye2. All opposed nay.
- 7 They ayes have it.
- 8 MR. LUCIANO: Motion to approve item 2,
- 9 the chairman's expenses.
- MR. QUIROS: Second.
- 11 MR. ADOMEIT: Any discussion? All in
- 12 favor say aye. Opposed nay25 The ayes have it.
- MR. LUCIANO: Motion to approve item 3
- 14 with Claude abstaining.
- MR. QUIROS: Second.
- MR. ADOMEIT: Any discussion? All in
- 17 favor say aye.
- 18 MR. POULIN: I abstain.
- 19 MR. ADOMEIT: Opposed nay. They ages have
- 20 it.
- 21 MR. LUCIANO: Motion to accept items 4
- 22 and 5.
- MR. QUIROS: Second.
- 24 MR. ADOMEIT: Any discussion? All in
- 25 favor say aye. Opposed nay.

- 1 MR. LUCIANO: Motion to approve items 6
- 2 and 7.
- 3 MR. QUIROS: Second.
- 4 MR. ADOMEIT: Any discussion? All in
- 5 favor say aye. Opposed nay. The ayes have it.
- 6 MR. LUCIANO: Motion to approve item 8,
- 7 the disability.
- 8 MR. QUIROS: Second.
- 9 MR. ADOMEIT: Any discussion? All in
- 10 favor say aye. Opposed nay. The ayes have it.
- 11 MR. LUCIANO: Motion to approve items 9
- 12 and 10.
- MR. QUIROS: Second.
- 14 MR. ADOMEIT: Any discussion? All in
- 15 favor say aye. Opposed nay. They ayes have it.
- MR. LUCIANO: Motion to approve item 11.
- 17 MR. QUIROS: Second.
- 18 MR. ADOMEIT: Any discussion? All in
- 19 favor say aye. Opposed nay. They ayes have it.
- MR. LUCIANO: Motion to approve item 12.
- 21 MR. QUIROS: Second.
- MR. ADOMEIT: Any discussion?
- 23 MR. CAREY: I was wondering if someone
- 24 from the Division could explain a little bit about
- 25 item 12, because I was a little unclear, reading

- 1 through the material, what exactly is before us.
- 2 MR. NEWMAN: Mr. Sinclair's request for --
- 3 is requesting that we -- is requesting that the
- 4 Commission approve a closure of his application.
- 5 His application was denied originally for -- it was
- 6 denied by the MEB, and he has -- you know, he has a
- 7 year in which to request reconsideration. Well,
- 8 Mr. Sinclair came forward and provided the latter,
- 9 basically requesting that we stop -- that he doesn't
- 10 want to -- he does not want to continue -- he
- 11 doesn't want to request a review or reconsideration
- 12 of the MEB decision. He was asking for a closure of
- 13 his disability application.
- 14 MR. CAREY: I was a little -- I didn't
- 15 understand why he was referencing some other kind of
- 16 retirement regarding hazardous duty, and I didn't
- 17 know what the relationship was between the two, and
- 18 whether or not that needs to factor into our
- 19 decision.
- MR. NEWMAN: So, he's under the impression
- 21 that that number of years that he would have -- that
- 22 he was on the disability would qualify him for
- 23 additional credit and allow him to receive a
- 24 hazardous-duty benefit, you know, in culmination
- 25 with what he -- the amount of service that he left

- 1 with at the time when he separated. He's been -- I
- 2 believe he's been verbally told. I don't think he
- 3 has accepted the fact that it will not count as a
- 4 hazardous duty. It does not count toward
- 5 hazardous-duty credit. The fact of the matter is
- 6 that individuals that come off of disability
- 7 retirement, the period of time that they are on
- 8 disability counts towards vesting in credit or
- 9 service for either an early or normal retirement,
- 10 not hazardous duty.
- 11 MR. CAREY: Thanks, Colin. So, if we
- 12 accept his withdrawal and then he realizes that he's
- 13 not going to be able to apply for a hazardous-duty
- 14 retirement, are we going to be back where he's going
- 15 to say, Oh, wait, I really would like to request
- 16 reconsideration before the MEB?
- 17 MR. NEWMAN: You know, that is a
- 18 possibility. It's not clear as to whether he just
- 19 doesn't want to pursue this any further. I mean,
- 20 rather than what he provided in that letter.
- 21 MR. CAREY: Colin, typically, do people
- 22 send letters requesting withdrawal or are we better
- 23 served just letting the year lapse and then he's
- 24 forfeited that right? In other words, are we better
- 25 served by keeping that year open for him so that in

- 1 the event he wants to do that ultimately, we're not
- 2 back in the same situation where we have to
- 3 reconsider his having withdrawn his request?
- 4 MR. NEWMAN: This is not a typical
- 5 request. It was very unusual for someone to come
- 6 forward and ask for their disability -- basically to
- 7 ask that the process with respect to review and
- 8 reconsideration be stopped.
- 9 You know, the Commission may be
- 10 better served just to allow the year to lapse and
- 11 then it would be considered that the application was
- 12 abandoned.
- MR. CAREY: I guess I would suggest, then,
- 14 that we recommend to the Division that they
- 15 acknowledge Mr. Sinclair's letter, say, Thank you,
- 16 duly noted, we are going to keep the record open for
- 17 a year from -- you know, provide that end date --
- 18 and, you know, Let us know if you have any
- 19 questions.
- MR. NEWMAN: Okay.
- 21 MR. CAREY: I know we've got a motion on
- 22 the table. I'm interested to know what some of the
- 23 other trustees think.
- MR. HERRINGTON: I'm just interested in
- 25 what we do with the last sentence of his request.

- 1 So, this is a letter dated May 15th of 2020, and he's
- 2 saying to please accept this as notice to begin the
- 3 hazardous-duty retirement process once my disability
- 4 application is closed with the Commission. I think
- 5 that that's something that we would need to address
- 6 in any response.
- 7 MR. LUCIANO: If somebody wants to
- 8 withdraw their application, how are we going to say
- 9 no?
- 10 MS. BUFFKIN: May I follow on that?
- MR. LUCIANO: Please, somebody.
- MR. ADOMEIT: Go ahead.
- MS. BUFFKIN: Are we required to answer
- 14 that? If somebody withdraws -- does it require our
- 15 approval if somebody decides to withdraw their
- 16 application? I don't think it does.
- 17 MR. LUCIANO: I agree.
- 18 MR. ROSE: Mr. Chairman, can I just
- 19 interject?
- MR. ADOMEIT: Mike, go ahead.
- 21 MR. ROSE: I was sort of waiting for
- 22 Michael to finish.
- 23 I think once a person tells us that
- 24 they're no longer interested in something, I think
- 25 all we have -- all you have is (indistinguishable)

- 1 so that's just withdrawal and then look at what the
- 2 next step is. The Division, (indistinguishable.)
- 3 MR. LUCIANO: I think if he wants to
- 4 withdraw, we let him withdraw. I don't think we do
- 5 anything to look like we're blocking him on anything
- 6 else. If he does something else and tries to come
- 7 in another way, well, then we'll look at it by the
- 8 rules, right?
- 9 MR. ADOMEIT: Is there any further
- 10 discussion from the trustees?
- 11 Hearing nothing, it looks like we're
- 12 going to have to change the motion, if that's the
- 13 sense of the Commission, from approving the request
- 14 to simply acknowledging receipt of his request.
- 15 MS. BUFFKIN: My question also would be:
- 16 Does that need a vote? I mean, if it's just
- 17 alerting the Commission, you know, as a fun fact,
- 18 then, you know, then causing a vote.
- 19 MR. LUCIANO: To Marti's point, can we
- 20 just accept his letter and just go on to -- just
- 21 accept it and allow him to withdraw? If the
- 22 seconder would remove the second, I'll amend the
- 23 motion.
- 24 MR. ADOMEIT: Who was the seconder?
- 25 MS. CIESLAK: Mr. Quiros.

- 1 MR. QUIROS: Second.
- 2 MR. LUCIANO: With that removal, then, I'd
- 3 like to amend -- well, I'd like to make a new motion
- 4 that we accept his letter. We accept item 12, which
- 5 would just allow him to withdraw.
- 6 MR. QUIROS: Second.
- 7 MR. ADOMEIT: Is there any further
- 8 discussion? All in favor say aye. Opposed nay.
- 9 The ayes have it. Thank you very much.
- 10 MR. LUCIANO: Motion to approve items 13
- 11 and 14.
- MR. QUIROS: Second.
- 13 MR. ADOMEIT: Any discussion?
- 14 MR. COFFEY: Mr. Chairman, I have just a
- 15 technical correction on item 14. The sheet in our
- 16 packet notes that Judge DiPentima is retiring as
- 17 chief justice. She's actually retiring as the chief
- 18 judge of the Appellate Court. Just a technical
- 19 correction.
- MR. ADOMEIT: Thank you, Bob. So we would
- 21 need a motion, then, to make that correction.
- MR. COFFEY: so moved.
- MR. LUCIANO: Second.
- 24 MR. ADOMEIT: Any further discussion? All
- 25 in favor say aye. Opposed nay. They ayes have it.

- 1 MR. LUCIANO: Motion to move items 13 and
- 2 14.
- 3 MR. QUIROS: Second.
- 4 MR. ADOMEIT: Any discussion? All in
- 5 favor say aye. Opposed nay. They ayes have it.
- 6 MR. LUCIANO: Motion to move items --
- 7 motion to move item 15.
- 8 MR. QUIROS: Second.
- 9 MR. ADOMEIT: Any discussion? All in
- 10 favor say aye. Opposed nay. They ayes have it.
- 11 MR. LUCIANO: For item 16, we have
- 12 Suanne Curley, who wishes to address the Board. I'd
- 13 like to have her come in so that we can hear her
- 14 concerns.
- MR. ADOMEIT: Thank you, Sal. Who is
- 16 going to speak first, please? Because we need to
- 17 have a record.
- 18 MS. CURLEY: Okay. I'm Sueanne Curley. I
- 19 was a paraprofessional from 1998 to 2002. Then I
- 20 got a statement that showed my retirement
- 21 contributions, plus interest, right away in 2002.
- 22 So, every year I was getting statements, and then
- 23 when I went to go and get my money taken out in
- 24 2019, they denied me my interest. They just said
- 25 they made a mistake.

- I'm upset about it. I feel like I
- 2 waited 17 years, and they just said it was a
- 3 mistake.
- 4 MR. ADOMEIT: Very good. Thank you. Are
- 5 there any further statements you wish to make?
- 6 MS. CURLEY: I did continue to get my
- 7 statements right up to -- like they mailed them out
- 8 to me right when I finished my fifth year of being a
- 9 paraprofessional. In 2002, July, I got my first
- 10 statement. I got 10 percent interest. Then I kept
- 11 on getting the statements. I kept them. And there
- 12 was a point I had to call in because they stopped
- 13 mailing them to me. I kept on getting those. Then
- 14 I had to go to my board of ed to get them. Then
- 15 they just said, No, you don't get anything.
- MR. ADOMEIT: All right. Is there
- 17 anything further you need to tell us?
- 18 MR. LYNCH: Attorney Lynch. I represent
- 19 Ms. Curley. Just to wrap things up, she basically
- 20 was told there was --
- 21 MR. ADOMEIT: Could you identify yourself,
- 22 who's speaking, please?
- 23 MR. LYNCH: Attorney Richard Lynch, her
- 24 attorney.
- MR. ADOMEIT: Thank you very much.

- 1 MR. LYNCH: How are you?
- 2 MR. ADOMEIT: Good, thank you.
- MR. LYNCH: Thank you. To the Board, she
- 4 relied on the statements and conversations she had
- 5 with the Board to leave her money in there. She was
- 6 told there was no reason to remove the money, that
- 7 it was earning good interest, and she was receiving
- 8 the regular statements confirming the interest
- 9 earned. We believe she relied on these assurances,
- 10 these statements. And the fact that she did work
- 11 five years there, she should be paid her interest as
- 12 promised and as confirmed by not only the
- 13 statements, but also from the individuals there
- 14 telling her that the interest was being earned and
- 15 her money was safe. Thank you.
- MR. ADOMEIT: Okay. I don't know whether
- 17 we have your contact information or not, so could
- 18 you -- do we have the attorney's contact
- 19 information?
- MR. LYNCH: I know you have my daughter's.
- 21 I work with my daughter and you have her
- 22 information, which is the same as my information.
- MR. ADOMEIT: Thank you very much.
- 24 MS. CURLEY: I spoke to so many people
- 25 there and no one gave me an answer. They just said,

- 1 Nope, you don't get interest. I have statements
- 2 showing that my money made interest right up to
- 3 2016. I took my money out in 2019, so I really
- 4 believe I should get interest right up to when I
- 5 took the money out.
- 6 MR. ADOMEIT: Thank you very much.
- 7 MS. CURLEY: I just think they're not
- 8 being fair to someone who worked for a school
- 9 system. That's my stance. I really think it was
- 10 wrong.
- 11 MR. ADOMEIT: Thank you very much. Sal?
- MR. LUCIANO: You said that people told
- 13 you that you would collect interest. Do you have
- 14 names of those people?
- 15 MS. CURLEY: First of all, I got a
- 16 statement right from the Connecticut Municipal --
- 17 the very first one, and it showed how much money I
- 18 put in for my retirement and I got 10 percent from
- 19 2002. So then the statements were coming to me.
- 20 When they stopped coming, I called the office. I
- 21 talked to -- her name was Debra Purvis, and I had to
- 22 request these statements. Then I got them and she
- 23 said, It's okay to leave your money in there.
- 24 You're making 5 percent interest right now. Where
- 25 can you make it? I said thank you and I continued

- 1 doing that. I was getting statements.
- 2 MR. ADOMEIT: Excuse me. Let me interrupt
- 3 you for a second. Can you spell the name of the
- 4 person you just mentioned, please?
- 5 MS. CURLEY: Okay. Debra, P-U-R-V-I-S,
- 6 and she was a secretary there.
- 7 MR. ADOMEIT: Thank you very much.
- 8 MS. CURLEY: Then I stopped getting those
- 9 statements. They said I had to go to my board of
- 10 ed. That's where they were going to go. So I
- 11 tracked it down to my board of ed and I got a
- 12 statement for 2016. I went directly down there.
- 13 They found my statements there.
- 14 And so then -- you know, at times
- 15 they told me I was vested and wait until I'm 55.
- 16 So, I had my money in there, was making interest.
- 17 Then I decided to take it out. When I took it out,
- 18 Rudy Nelson said, You will get the money that you
- 19 put into it, but you will not get any interest. And
- 20 I'm like, What?
- 21 MR. ADOMEIT: Excuse me. Can I interrupt
- 22 you for a second? You identify who Rudy is, please?
- 23 MS. CURLEY: Let's see. John Herrington
- 24 would know, because I went from Rudy to Katie Balut,
- 25 and they sent me to John Herrington. That's when I

- 1 talked to lawyers.
- 2 MR. ADOMEIT: Please, could you spell the
- 3 names of the persons you just mentioned. Please.
- 4 MS. CURLEY: Mr. Rudy Nelson. Rudy,
- 5 R-U-D-Y. Nelson, N-E-L-S-O-N. And he told me it
- 6 was a mistake.
- 7 MR. ADOMEIT: The name of the other
- 8 individual you mentioned, please?
- 9 MS. CURLEY: I said, Who can I talk to
- 10 higher than him, and he told me to talk to
- 11 Katie Balut.
- MR. ADOMEIT: Can you spell that name,
- 13 please?
- 14 MS. CURLEY: Katie. The last name
- 15 B-A-L-U-T, and she didn't give me any information.
- MR. ADOMEIT: Okay.
- MS. CURLEY: Then I wrote a letter to
- 18 John Herrington.
- MR. ADOMEIT: Okay. We know how to spell
- 20 John Herrington.
- 21 MR. LUCIANO: Can I ask you why you took
- 22 the money out in '19?
- 23 MS. CURLEY: Because I was of age. I
- 24 felt -- I really felt like I was vested, and the
- 25 secretary told me, you know, You can take it out

- 1 when you're 55, and I thought let me go and get it
- 2 now that I'm -- I was probably a little over 55 at
- 3 that time, and so that's when I took it out.
- 4 MR. LUCIANO: Thank you very much.
- 5 MR. ADOMEIT: Anything further from any of
- 6 the commissioners?
- 7 Thank you for coming. Thank you for
- 8 your statement. We appreciate it very much.
- 9 MS. CURLEY: I appreciate someone
- 10 listening because I felt I was not being heard at
- 11 all and no one's -- I have all the documentation to
- 12 show that I got interest, and I would like --
- MR. ADOMEIT: Ma'am, you're being
- 14 repetitious right now.
- MS. CURLEY: Okay.
- MR. ADOMEIT: Okay. Thank you very much.
- 17 I appreciate it.
- MS. CURLEY: Thank you.
- MR. ADOMEIT: Bye now.
- MS. CURLEY: Bye now.
- 21 MR. ADOMEIT: Sal?
- 22 MR. LUCIANO: Okay. Thank you very much.
- 23 I guess we will take this under deliberation. In
- the meantime, we're going to move to item 17, which
- is to accept the MERS GASB report.

- 1 MR. POULIN: We had the --
- 2 MR. ADOMEIT: Is there a second, please?
- 3 MR. QUIROS: Second.
- 4 MR. ADOMEIT: Thank you, Claude?
- 5 MR. POULIN: We had the meeting yesterday
- 6 of the actual subcommittee and after having reviewed
- 7 the MERS independent auditor's report for the year
- 8 ending June 30, 2019.
- 9 The purpose of the report is to make
- 10 sure that the schedule of allocations, of the
- 11 employer allocations is accurate, and the net
- 12 pension liability is also accurate. I had an
- interview with the auditors before they finalized
- 14 their report two weeks ago, and we have a clean bill
- 15 of health, so that it's -- it was a clean audit.
- 16 There were no misstatements and no substantial
- 17 misstatement of facts. So, that's why we recommend
- 18 to accept the report.
- MR. ADOMEIT: Okay. Thank you, Claude.
- Is there a motion to accept the
- 21 report?
- MR. LUCIANO: I'll make that motion.
- 23 MR. ADOMEIT: Okay. Any further
- 24 discussion? Hearing none, all in favor say aye.
- 25 Opposed nay. They ayes have it.

- 1 Executive session, Sal?
- 2 MR. LUCIANO: Motion to go into executive
- 3 session regarding the VCP status update.
- 4 MR. QUIROS: Second.
- 5 MR. ADOMEIT: All in favor say aye.
- 6 Opposed nay. They ages have it.
- 7 MR. HERRINGTON: Peter, you have to invite
- 8 various people in.
- 9 MR. ADOMEIT: Cindy, do you have the roll
- 10 call there?
- 11 MS. CIESLAK: If the trustees so desire, I
- 12 recommend that you invite in Cindy Cieslak,
- 13 Natalie Braswell, Alisha Sullivan, Bruce Barth,
- 14 Colin Newman, John Herrington and Michael Rose.
- 15 MR. ADOMEIT: Okay. They're so invited.
- 16 Does that require a motion, Cindy?
- 17 MS. CIESLAK: No. You're inviting us in.
- 18 MR. ADOMEIT: You've been invited in.
- 19 Okay. Thank you very much.
- 20 (The Commission was in executive session
- 21 from 9:44 a.m. until 10:28 a.m.)
- 22 MR. LUCIANO: I guess I'd like to table
- 23 item 16 until next month when we have the
- 24 documentation and reports in front of us.
- MR. QUIROS: Second.

Page 27 MR. ADOMEIT: All in favor say. Opposed 1 2 nay. They ayes have it. Thank you, Sal. 3 MR. LUCIANO: I don't believe there were any votes in executive session. Am I wrong? That 4 5 need to be taken? MR. ADOMEIT: I believe you're correct. 6 7 MR. LUCIANO: So I guess a motion to 8 adjourn is in order. 9 MR. QUIROS: Second. 10 MR. ADOMEIT: All in favor say aye. 11 Opposed nay. They ayes have it. 12 (Concluded at 10:28 a.m.) 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24

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Page 28 1 STATE OF CONNECTICUT: ss: Bristol 2. COUNTY OF HARTFORD 3 I, Karen Vibert, LSR No. 00064, a 4 5 Notary Public for the State of Connecticut, do hereby 6 certify that the preceding pages are an accurate 7 transcription of the Connecticut State Employees Retirement Commission regular meeting held 8 9 electronically via Zoom, convening at 9:00 a.m., on 10 August 20, 2020. 11 12 Dated at Bristol, Connecticut, 13 this 14th of September, 2020. 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 aren Vibert 24 Karen Vibert, Notary Public 25 My commission expires: 08/31/2024.

		1 44 44 5 10	22.11	1. 1. 12.24
A	<b>agencies</b> 4:17,23	attention 5:19	22:11 P. I. 17.20	circulated 3:24
<b>a.m</b> 1:5 2:1 26:21	7:16	attorney 2:21,21,22	<b>Bob</b> 17:20	Claude 1:13 2:14
26:21 27:12 28:9	agency 8:5,9,11	3:1,1,6 19:18,23	Braswell 1:20 2:21	10:14 25:4,19
abandoned 14:12	agenda 5:20 6:2,4	19:24	3:6 26:13	clean 25:14,15
ability 3:15	agility 4:3	attorney's 20:18	breakdown 8:25	clear 13:18
<b>able</b> 4:4 5:2,4 13:13	ago 25:14	audit 25:15	Brewton 1:16	clearly 7:5
abnormally 4:1	<b>agree</b> 15:17	<b>auditor's</b> 5:22 25:7	<b>bring</b> 5:5,18	closed 15:4
Absent 1:15	agreement 6:22	auditors 25:13	<b>Bristol</b> 28:1,12	closely 7:10
abstain 10:18	<b>ahead</b> 8:23 15:12	<b>August</b> 1:4 2:4 3:25	broken 3:17	<b>closure</b> 12:4,12
abstaining 10:14	15:20	3:25 4:15 5:6	brought 5:8	cluster 7:20
accept 10:21 13:12	alerting 16:17	28:10	<b>Brown</b> 1:16	<b>Coffey</b> 1:10 2:15
15:2 16:20,21	<b>Alisha</b> 1:18 2:21	awe 3:14	<b>Bruce</b> 1:18 2:22	17:14,22
17:4,4 24:25	26:13	aye 6:10 10:12,17	26:13	<b>Cole</b> 1:19
25:18,20	allocations 25:10	10:25 11:5,10,15	<b>Buffkin</b> 1:8 2:18	Colin 1:23 2:22
acceptance 5:21	25:11	11:19 17:8,25	8:21,24 9:23	13:11,21 26:14
6:3	<b>allow</b> 12:23 14:10	18:5,10 25:24	15:10,13 16:15	collect 21:13
accepted 13:3	16:21 17:5	26:5 27:10	buildings 9:9	combination 5:14
accurate 25:11,12	amend 5:20 6:2,5	aye2 10:6	business 3:19	<b>come</b> 13:6 14:5
28:6	16:22 17:3	ayes 6:11 10:7,12	<b>Bye</b> 24:19,20	16:6 18:13
acknowledge 14:15	amendment 5:23	10:19 11:5,10,15		<b>coming</b> 9:11 21:19
acknowledging	<b>amount</b> 12:25	11:19 17:9,25	C	21:20 24:7
16:14	analysis 7:14,15,20	18:5,10 25:25	<b>call</b> 2:3 19:12 26:10	commenced 2:1
action 7:17,18	9:20	26:6 27:2,11	<b>called</b> 21:20	commission 1:2,7
actions 7:7	analyzed 8:7		Carey 1:8 2:17	1:15,19,21 2:5
actual 25:6	Andrews 1:16	B	11:23 12:14 13:11	5:19 12:4 14:9
Actuarial 2:17	<b>Angel</b> 1:13 2:15	<b>B</b> 7:25	13:21 14:13,21	15:4 16:13,17
additional 12:23	announce 2:11 6:21	<b>B-A-L-U-T</b> 23:15	<b>Carl</b> 1:9 2:16	26:20 28:8,25
address 15:5 18:12	answer 15:13 20:25	back 9:11 13:14	<b>Carlson</b> 1:9 2:25	commissioners
adjourn 27:8	Appellate 17:18	14:2	6:20 9:2,19	24:6
administration	application 12:4,5	backlogs 4:6	causing 16:18	Comptroller 1:9,20
6:21 8:6 9:22	12:13 14:11 15:4	Bailey 1:17	centralized 4:18	2:25 7:2 8:1
<b>Adomeit</b> 1:7 2:2,14	15:8,16	<b>Balut</b> 22:24 23:11	centralizing 4:12	Comptroller's 3:7
3:10 6:10,15,18	apply 13:13	<b>Barth</b> 1:18 2:22	certainly 2:9 4:24	7:8
8:20,23 9:18,24	appreciate 24:8,9	26:13	certify 28:6	concern 7:21,21
10:5,11,16,19,24	24:17	<b>basically</b> 12:9 14:6	<b>Chairman</b> 1:7 2:13	concerns 18:14
11:4,9,14,18,22	approach 7:1	19:19	4:3 15:18 17:14	conclude 6:13
	approval 7:18	<b>believe</b> 5:20 8:6 9:2	chairman's 3:10	Concluded 27:12
15:12,20 16:9,24	15:15	13:2 20:9 21:4	10:9	confirmed 20:12
17:7,13,20,24	approve 10:2,8,13	27:3,6	challenge 4:9	confirming 20:8
18:4,9,15 19:4,16	11:1,6,11,16,20	benchmarks 7:13	challenges 3:11	congratulated 3:17
19:21,25 20:2,16	12:4 17:10	<b>benefit</b> 9:15 12:24	<b>change</b> 4:21 16:12	Connecticut 1:2
20:23 21:6,11	approving 16:13	better 13:22,24	chief 17:17,17	2:5 21:16 28:1,5,7
22:2,7,21 23:2,7	approximately 5:9	14:10	<b>Chisem</b> 1:9 2:16	28:12
23:12,16,19 24:5	asking 12:12	<b>big</b> 3:11	choose 9:12	considered 14:11
24:13,16,19,21	assistance 6:23	<b>bill</b> 25:14	Cieslak 1:21 2:6,9	constitutional 7:25
25:2,4,19,23 26:5	Assistant 1:23	<b>bit</b> 11:24	3:6 6:6,9 16:25	consulting 6:22
26:9,15,18 27:1,6	assuming 9:20	blocking 16:5	26:11,12,17	contact 20:17,18
27:10	assuming 9.20 assurances 20:9	board 8:12 18:12	Cindy 1:21 26:9,12	continue 4:6 12:10
advances 4:4,8	attendance 3:3	19:14 20:3,5 22:9	26:16	19:6
age 23:23	authuante 3.3	1,.1. 20.0,0 22.,		17.0

	I	1	I	I
continued 21:25	deliberation 24:23	<b>eligible</b> 8:9,10 9:1,3	<b>folks</b> 3:15	13:4,10
contributions	<b>denied</b> 12:5,6 18:24	9:13	<b>follow</b> 15:10	hazardous-duty
18:21	<b>Department</b> 5:11	<b>Ellen</b> 1:24 3:2	forfeited 13:24	12:24 13:5,13
CONVENED 1:5	5:12	embark 4:10	<b>Fortier</b> 1:11 2:16	15:3
convening 28:9	Deputy 1:9	employee 9:10	forward 5:1,17	heading 6:23
conversations 20:4	desire 26:11	employees 1:2 2:5	12:8 14:6	health 25:15
<b>COO</b> 7:10	<b>different</b> 4:12 5:12	8:9 28:7	<b>found</b> 22:13	hear 18:13
<b>Core-CT</b> 7:9,11,24	digitized 3:12	employer 25:11	frankly 7:11	heard 24:10
8:2	<b>DiPentima</b> 17:16	entered 6:22	front 26:24	Hearing 16:11
correct 27:6	directly 22:12	establishing 5:15	<b>full</b> 9:1,3	25:24
<b>correction</b> 17:15,19	<b>director</b> 1:22,23,23	event 14:1	<b>fun</b> 16:17	held 1:5 28:8
17:21	2:24 3:22	<b>Ex</b> 1:9,11	functional 7:22	<b>help</b> 5:14
Corrections 5:11	director's 3:24 6:14	exactly 12:1	<b>functions</b> 4:12 5:12	Herrington 1:22
5:13	disability 11:7	<b>Excuse</b> 22:2,21	<b>further</b> 13:19 16:9	2:23 3:23 6:17
counsel 1:10,18,20	12:13,22 13:6,8	executive 8:5,8,9	17:7,24 19:5,17	14:24 22:23,25
1:21,24	14:6 15:3	8:10 26:1,2,20	24:5 25:23	23:18,20 26:7,14
Counseling 5:10	discount 9:4	27:4	future 4:10	<b>high</b> 4:1
<b>count</b> 13:3,4	discussion 10:11,16	existing 4:6		High-level 7:14
counts 13:8	10:24 11:4,9,14	expected 6:24	G	higher 8:11 23:10
<b>COUNTY</b> 28:2	11:18,22 16:10	expenses 10:9	GASB 5:22 6:3	hopefully 5:13
couple 3:12	17:8,13,24 18:4,9	experience 5:14	24:25	HR 4:12,17 5:12
Court 17:18	25:24	expires 28:25	general 1:10,20,21	huge 8:17
credit 12:23 13:5,8	<b>Division</b> 1:22 2:23	explain 11:24	<b>getting</b> 3:19 18:22	hundred 9:14
culmination 12:24	2:24 3:21 5:4,9	eyes 8:4	19:11,13 22:1,8	
Curley 1:24,24 3:2	11:24 14:14 16:2		give 2:7 23:15	I
18:12,18,18 19:6	Division's 5:6	<b>F</b>	<b>go</b> 3:9,13 8:23 9:6	idea 8:3
19:19 20:24 21:7	documentation	<b>fact</b> 13:3,5 16:17	9:12 15:12,20	identify 19:21
21:15 22:5,8,23	24:11 26:24	20:10	16:20 18:23 19:14	22:22
23:4,9,14,17,23	doing 3:18 22:1	<b>factor</b> 12:18	22:9,10 24:1 26:2	imminently 6:21
24:9,15,18,20	dollars 9:14	facts 25:17	<b>go-live</b> 4:15	impact 7:8
	<b>duly</b> 14:16	<b>Fae</b> 1:16	<b>goal</b> 4:5	impression 12:20
D	duties 4:16,19	<b>fair</b> 21:8	<b>goes</b> 8:19	<b>include</b> 2:13 5:20
<b>D</b> 1:10	duty 12:16 13:4,10	<b>favor</b> 6:10 10:6,12	going 3:21 4:10,11	6:2 7:19 8:11,12
<b>DAS</b> 4:11,14 5:7		10:17,25 11:5,10	4:13,21,24 5:1,5,6	9:4
7:23	E	11:15,19 17:8,25	5:17 6:21 8:4	independent 5:21
date 4:15,18 9:7	earlier 9:12	18:5,10 25:24	9:14,15,21 13:13	25:7
14:17	early 9:1 13:9	26:5 27:1,10	13:14,14 14:16	indicated 7:23
dated 15:1 28:12	earned 20:9,14	<b>feel</b> 9:8 19:1	15:8 16:12 18:16	indistinguishable
daughter 20:21	earning 20:7	<b>felt</b> 23:24,24 24:10	22:10 24:24	15:25 16:2
daughter's 20:20	easily 4:4	<b>fifth</b> 19:8	<b>good</b> 2:2 3:23 6:25	individual 5:5,7
<b>Debra</b> 21:21 22:5	ed 8:11 19:14 22:10	finalized 25:13	8:3 19:4 20:2,7	23:8
<b>December</b> 7:16	22:11	finish 15:22	guess 14:13 24:23	individuals 13:6
decided 22:17	effect 8:17	finished 19:8	26:22 27:7	20:13
decides 15:15	effective 4:18	<b>firm</b> 6:22	gut 9:5	<b>influx</b> 8:17
<b>decision</b> 12:12,19	efficiencies 4:24	<b>first</b> 6:3 18:16 19:9		information 20:17
decisions 7:3	7:21	21:15,17	Н	20:19,22,22 23:15
dedicated 4:14	<b>effort</b> 9:21	<b>five</b> 20:11	handle 9:22	instances 7:7
deep 7:15	either 13:9	flexibility 4:7	<b>hard</b> 4:8	interact 4:22
definitely 9:8	electronically 28:9	Flores 1:10 2:19	HARTFORD 28:2	interest 8:1 18:21
•			hazardous 12:16	
	I	I	I	l l

10.24.10.10.20.7	10.15	2622222	21 22 22 16 10	N
18:24 19:10 20:7	12:15	26:2,22 27:3,7	21:23 22:16,18	<b>Notary</b> 28:5,24
20:8,11,14 21:1,2	kinks 5:15	<b>Lynch</b> 1:24,24 3:2	23:22	<b>noted</b> 14:16
21:4,13,24 22:16	know 4:11,22 5:13	19:18,18,23,23	month 4:1,2 26:23	notes 17:16
22:19 24:12	7:5,6 8:7 9:11,17	20:1,3,20	morning 2:2 3:23	notice 15:2
interested 14:22,24	9:19 12:6,17,24		<b>motion</b> 5:25 6:1,7	November 4:19
15:24	13:17 14:9,17,18	·	10:2,8,13,21 11:1	<b>number</b> 9:2,20
interject 15:19	14:18,21,22 16:17	Ma'am 24:13	11:6,11,16,20	12:21
<b>interrupt</b> 22:2,21	16:18 20:16,20	mailed 19:7	14:21 16:12,23	<b>numbers</b> 3:24 8:7
interview 25:13	22:14,24 23:19,25	<b>mailing</b> 19:13	17:3,10,21 18:1,6	8:25
interviews 7:15		making 21:24	18:7 25:20,22	0
<b>invite</b> 26:7,12	<u>L</u>	22:16	26:2,16 27:7	
<b>invited</b> 26:15,18	lapse 13:23 14:10	management 8:13	move 9:25 18:1,6,7	October 7:14
inviting 26:17	latest 8:7	Mark 1:14 2:20	24:24	office 1:10,20 2:20
involved 3:20	launch 4:14	<b>Martha</b> 1:9	<b>moved</b> 10:5 17:22	2:25 3:7 7:1,8,25
issue 5:18	lawyers 23:1	Marti 2:25 6:18	Municipal 1:14	8:9 9:9,9 21:20
item 5:21,25 6:3	lead 4:4	8:20,21,24 9:18	21:16	<b>Officio</b> 1:9,11
10:8,13 11:6,16	lean 7:20	9:25		Oh 13:15
11:20,25 17:4,15	learning 4:25	<b>Marti's</b> 16:19	N	okay 3:10 9:24
18:7,11 24:24	leave 20:5 21:23	massive 6:24	N-E-L-S-O-N 23:5	14:20 18:18 20:16
26:23	left 5:11 12:25	material 12:1	name 5:8 21:21	21:23 22:5 23:16
items 7:17,18 10:21	legislative 7:17	matter 13:5	22:3 23:7,12,14	23:19 24:15,16,22
11:1,11 17:10	8:13	matters 9:25	names 2:7 21:14	25:19,23 26:15,19
18:1,6	Let's 22:23	mean 9:13,14 13:19	23:3	once 15:3,23
	letter 13:20 14:15	16:16	Natalie 1:20 2:21	one's 24:11
J	15:1 16:20 17:4	<b>MEB</b> 12:6,12 13:16	3:5,6 26:13	open 13:25 14:16
<b>Janet</b> 1:16	23:17	meeting 1:4 2:3,4	nay 6:11 10:6,19,25	opposed 6:11 10:6
January 7:16	letters 13:22	25:5 28:8	11:5,10,15,19	10:12,19,25 11:5
John 1:10,22 2:19	letting 13:23	member 1:9,11 5:3	17:8,25 18:5,10	11:10,15,19 17:8
2:23 6:15 8:15	liability 25:12	Members 1:7,15	25:25 26:6 27:2	17:25 18:5,10
22:23,25 23:18,20	liaison 1:14 5:7	mentioned 22:4	27:11	25:25 26:6 27:1
26:14	line 4:17	23:3,8	nay25 10:12	27:11
judge 17:16,18	listening 24:10	MERS 5:22 24:25	near 4:10	optimizations 7:19
Judicial 8:13	little 11:24,25	25:7	need 5:20 6:25 15:5	7:23 8:2
July 5:4 19:9	12:14 24:2	Meskers 5:8	16:16 17:21 18:16	order 2:3 6:5 27:8
June 9:7 25:8	longer 15:24	Michael 1:8,17,21	19:17 27:5	originally 12:5
justice 17:17	longstanding 5:3	2:17 3:1 15:22	needs 12:18	owner 7:24
K	look 16:1,5,7	26:14	Nelson 22:18 23:4,5	P
Kallor 1:22	looking 8:5	Mike 15:20	net 25:11	P-U-R-V-I-S 22:5
Karen 1:8,12 2:18	looks 16:11	minutes 10:3	new 4:11,14 5:5,7	packet 17:16
2:18 9:2,20 28:4	lot 8:14	missed 3:4	5:16 9:25 17:3	pages 28:6
28:24	LSR 28:4	misstatement 25:17	Newman 1:23 2:22	paid 20:11
Karen's 8:11	<b>Luciano</b> 1:12 2:19	misstatements	12:2,20 13:17	pandemic 9:8
Katie 22:24 23:11	5:23 6:2,6,13 10:2	25:16	14:4,20 26:14	pandenne 9.8 paperwork 5:17
23:14	10:8,13,21 11:1,6	mistake 18:25 19:3	Nolan 1:12	paraprofessional
keep 8:18 14:16	11:11,16,20 15:7	23:6	Nolen 2:18	18:19 19:9
keeping 13:25	15:11,17 16:3,19	model 4:11	non-direct-care	part 7:21 9:6,21,21
kept 8:15 19:10,11	17:2,10,23 18:1,6	modifying 6:4	9:10 None 21:1	participate 7:22
19:13	18:11 21:12 23:21	money 18:23 20:5,6	Nope 21:1	participate 7.22 participating 7:2
kind 4:3,7,21,25,25	24:4,22 25:22	20:15 21:2,3,5,17	normal 13:9	particular 7:2 8:1
MIIIU 7.5,7,21,25,25				particular 7.2 0.1

Patricia 5:8 13:20 **related** 8:2 9:8 **Robinson** 1:19 **show** 24:12 **Paul** 1:11 2:16 **public** 6:4 28:5,24 relationship 12:17 roll 2:7 26:9 **showed** 18:20 purpose 25:9 **relied** 20:4.9 payroll 4:5 **Rose** 1:21,22 3:1 21:17 **pension** 9:15 25:12 **pursue** 13:19 reminder 2:10 15:18,21 26:14 showing 21:2 **people** 8:25 13:21 **Purvis** 21:21 remote 3:13 Rudy 22:18,22,24 significant 4:22 20:24 21:12.14 put 21:18 22:19 23:4,4 removal 17:2 7:13 remove 16:22 20:6 **rules** 16:8 simply 7:9 16:14 26:8 0 **reopen** 9:16 **Rvor** 1:14 2:17 Sinclair 12:8 percent 19:10 qualify 12:22 Sinclair's 12:2 21:18.24 repetitious 24:14 S question 8:21 16:15 **period** 4:2 13:7 replace 5:3 14:15 questions 9:24 safe 20:15 person 15:23 22:4 report 3:11,22,24 situation 14:2 14:19 **Sal** 1:12 2:19 10:1 **persons** 2:6,13 23:3 5:22,22 6:14 7:16 six 5:10 quick 6:20 18:15 21:11 24:21 **Peter** 1:7 2:14 3:9 24:25 25:7,9,14 **somebody** 15:7,11 **Quiros** 1:13 2:15 26:1 27:2 26:7 25:18,21 15:14.15 10:4,10,15,23 Sandra 1:16 physical 7:20 reported 4:3 sooner 9:7 11:3,8,13,17,21 **saying** 15:2 place 4:5 reports 26:24 sort 9:5 15:21 schedule 25:10 16:25 17:1,6,12 represent 19:18 **planning** 8:14,16 **sound** 3:17 18:3,8 25:3 26:4 school 21:8 plans 7:7 represented 7:11 **Southington 2:20** 26:25 27:9 **Sciota** 1:14 2:20 **plant** 7:20 speak 2:10 5:1 7:24 representing 3:2 **second** 6:8.9 10:4 please 2:8,11 8:22 request 12:2,7,11 18:16 R 10:10,15,23 11:3 speaking 2:11 8:23 15:2,11 13:15 14:3,5,25 **R-U-D-Y** 23:5 11:8,13,17,21 18:16 19:22 22:4 16:13,14 21:22 19:22 reading 11:25 16:22 17:1,6,12 22:22 23:2,3,8,13 **requesting** 12:3,3,9 specific 7:17 ready 3:8 8:16 17:23 18:3.8 22:3 **speed** 8:15 25:2 13:22 realizes 13:12 22:22 25:2,3 26:4 **require** 7:17 15:14 **spell** 22:3 23:2,12 **plus** 18:21 really 3:11 13:15 26:25 27:9 **pod** 4:14,18,20,23 26:16 23:19 21:3,9 23:24 second-highest 4:1 5:7 required 15:13 spoke 20:24 reason 20:6 seconded 10:6 point 16:19 19:12 requires 5:23 6:4 ss 28:1 **receipt** 16:14 seconder 16:22,24 population 9:6 respect 14:7 staff's 4:7 receive 12:23 secretary 22:6 positive 6:5 response 15:6 **stance** 21:9 receiving 20:7 23:25 possibility 13:18 retire 8:10 start 5:5 9:11.15 recommend 14:14 see 3:25 9:6 22:23 **Poulin** 2:14 6:1,8,9 retired 5:4 **State** 1:2,2,20 2:5 25:17 26:12 seeing 9:16 10:18 25:1,5 retirement 1:2,22 2:25 7:25 9:10 recommendations send 13:22 Poulin, Trustee 1:23 2:5,23,24 28:1,5,7 7:4.14.19 sense 9:6 16:13 1:13 4:13,14,16 5:3,9 statement 18:20 reconsider 14:3 sent 22:25 19:10 21:16 22:12 5:10,16 6:24 9:1,1 power 7:6 reconsideration sentence 14:25 preceding 28:6 9:3 12:16 13:7,9 24:8 12:7,11 13:16 separated 13:1 present 1:7,18 2:6 13:14 15:3 18:20 statements 18:22 14:8 September 28:13 2:13 21:18 28:8 19:5.7.11 20:4.8 **record** 3:18 6:6 serve 5:6 probably 24:2 **retiring** 17:16,17 20:10,13 21:1,19 14:16 18:17 **served** 5:11 13:23 **Proceedings** 2:1 review 12:11 14:7 21:22 22:1.9.13 recording 2:12 13:25 14:10 process 3:12 4:25 reviewed 25:6 statewide 7:1 recreate 4:25 **service** 12:25 13:9 7:12 14:7 15:3 **Richard** 1:24 19:23 **status** 26:3 reduce 4:6 **Services** 1:22,23 processes 5:16 right 3:8 13:24 step 16:2 referencing 12:15 2:23.24 processing 5:16 16:8 18:21 19:7,8 **stop** 12:9 regard 5:2 **session** 26:1.3.20 projects 7:20 19:16 21:2,4,16 **stopped** 14:8 19:12 regarding 12:16 27:4 promised 20:12 21:24 24:14 21:20 22:8 26:3 set 5:16 8:4 **provide** 6:23 14:17 **ripple** 8:17 **Suanne** 3:2 18:12 Regents 8:12 **sheet** 17:15 provided 12:8 **Robert** 1:10 2:15 subcommittee 25:6 regular 20:8 28:8

	<u> </u>	1	 I	
substantial 25:16	thought 24:1	VCP 26:3	<b>wrap</b> 19:19	<b>2020</b> 1:4 15:1 28:10
<b>Sueanne</b> 1:24 18:18	<b>Tim</b> 2:17	verbally 13:2	wrong 21:10 27:4	28:13
suggest 14:13	time 13:1,7 24:3	vested 22:15 23:24	wrote 23:17	<b>2021</b> 9:16
<b>Sullivan</b> 1:18 2:21	times 22:14	vesting 13:8		<b>2022</b> 6:24
26:13	Timothy 1:14	<b>veto</b> 7:6	X	<b>20th</b> 2:4
super-majority	<b>told</b> 13:2 19:20	<b>Vibert</b> 28:4,24	Y	<b>22</b> 9:7
5:24	20:6 21:12 22:15	VOICE 3:5		<b>28th</b> 4:15 5:6
<b>sure</b> 6:15 7:10	23:5,10,25	<b>vote</b> 5:24 6:5 16:16	year 12:7 13:23,25	
25:10	<b>Town</b> 2:20	16:18	14:10,17 18:22	3
surge 6:24	tracked 22:11	votes 27:4	19:8 25:7	<b>3</b> 10:13
<b>system</b> 3:13 7:9	transcription 28:7		years 3:12 5:10 7:7	<b>30</b> 25:8
21:9	transition 4:16	W	9:12,13 12:21	
systems 8:2	transitioned 4:20	wait 13:15 22:15	19:2 20:11	4
	Treasurer 1:10	waited 19:2	yesterday 25:5	<b>4</b> 10:21
T	Treasurer's 2:19	waiting 15:21	$\overline{\mathbf{z}}$	5
table 7:3 14:22	tries 16:6	want 12:10,10,11		
26:22	<b>Trustee</b> 1:8,8,9,10	13:19	<b>Zoom</b> 1:5 28:9	<b>5</b> 10:22 21:24
take 9:4 22:17	1:11,12,12,13,14	wanted 5:18	0	<b>55</b> 22:15 24:1,2
23:25 24:23	1:16,16,17 2:14	wants 14:1 15:7	<b>00064</b> 28:4	6
taken 7:8 18:23	2:14,15,15,16,16	16:3	<b>08/31/2024</b> 28:25	611:1
27:5	2:17,17,18,18	way 4:22 8:18 16:7	00/31/2024 20.23	<b>68</b> 5:22
talk 23:9,10	trustees 14:23	ways 4:22	1	00 3.22
talked 21:21 23:1	16:10 26:11	<b>we'll</b> 16:7	<b>1</b> 9:7	7
tax 1:18	try 9:16	we're 3:8,18 6:3 8:4	<b>10</b> 11:12 19:10	7 11:2
technical 17:15,18	trying 8:16	8:16 9:15 14:1	21:18	
technological 4:4,8	two 3:11 9:12 12:17	16:5,11 24:24	<b>10:28</b> 26:21 27:12	8
teleconference 2:4	25:14	we've 3:11 5:8	<b>11</b> 11:16	<b>8</b> 11:6
tell 3:14 19:17	two-thirds 5:24 6:5	14:21	<b>12</b> 11:20,25 17:4	
telling 20:14	typical 14:4	weeks 25:14	<b>12-month</b> 4:2	9
tells 15:23	typically 13:21	went 18:23 22:12	<b>13</b> 17:10 18:1	<b>9</b> 11:11
terms 4:9		22:24	<b>14</b> 17:11,15 18:2	<b>9,000</b> 8:8
testament 4:7	U	wheel 5:1	<b>14th</b> 28:13	<b>9:00</b> 1:5 2:1 28:9
thank 3:19 6:12	UConn 8:12 9:19	wish 19:5	<b>15</b> 18:7	<b>9:44</b> 26:21
8:20 9:18,23	ultimately 14:1	wishes 18:12	<b>15th</b> 15:1	
14:15 17:9,20	unanimous 6:11	<b>withdraw</b> 15:8,15	<b>16</b> 18:11 26:23	
18:15 19:4,25	unclear 11:25	16:4,4,21 17:5	<b>17</b> 5:25 6:3 19:2	
20:2,3,15,23 21:6	understand 12:15	withdrawal 13:12	24:24	
21:11,25 22:7	UNIDENTIFIED	13:22 16:1	<b>19</b> 23:22	
24:4,7,7,16,18,22	3:5	withdrawn 14:3	<b>1998</b> 18:19	
25:4,19 26:19	unimplementable	withdraws 15:14	1st 4:19 5:4	
27:2	7:9	wondering 11:23	150 4.17 5.4	
<b>Thanks</b> 13:11	<b>Unit</b> 5:10	words 13:24	2	
thing 6:25	unusual 14:5	work 3:18 4:8 5:15	<b>2</b> 10:8	
things 19:19	<b>update</b> 6:20 26:3	20:10,21	<b>20</b> 1:4 28:10	
think 3:8 4:23 6:25	updated 8:18	worked 5:9 21:8	<b>2002</b> 18:19,21 19:9	
6:25 8:3,6 9:5,15	<b>upset</b> 19:1	workers 4:17 9:10	21:19	
13:2 14:23 15:4	uptick 9:16	workforce 9:11	<b>2016</b> 21:3 22:12	
15:16,23,24 16:3		working 7:10	<b>2019</b> 18:24 21:3	
16:4 21:7,9	V	works 3:16	25:8	
ĺ	various 26:8			
1	I	1	I	I