CT PAID LEAVE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, August 13, 2026

Roll Call

- Board Members in Attendance: Eva Bermudez Zimmerman, Easha Canada, Adrienne Cochrane, Sheila Humme, Fran Pastore, David Salazar-Austin, Tonishia Signore, Molly Weston Williamson, Holly Williams, Justin Zartman, Melissa Ziobron
- Board Members Absent: Andrea Comer, Ellen McKitterick, Eleanor Michael, Mike Soltis
- CT Paid Leave Staff Present: Matt Bielawski, Erin Choquette, Michael Cisar, Dave Marcone, Stephanie Oliveras, Loc Pho, John Simonetti, Jessica Vargas

Meeting Minutes

Welcome and Call to Order

Board Chair Fran Pastore called the meeting to order at 9:03A.M. Clerical Assistant Stephanie Oliveras took attendance by roll call and confirmed the existence of a quorum. Ms. Pastore acknowledged the members of the public in attendance.

Review & Approve July 9, 2026, Meeting Minutes

Ms. Pastore asked the Board for a review of the July 9, 2026, meeting minutes. Justin Zartman motioned to approve the minutes. Adrienne Cochrane seconded that motion. There was no further discussion. Ms. Pastore abstained. All but Ms. Pastore was in favor. None opposed. The motion carried.

Annual Actuarial Analysis

Harindra Sebastian from Spring Group provided the Annual Actuarial Analysis via power point slides which included fiscal year 2026 results and the projections for fiscal years 2027 to 2029. Mr. Sebastian reported that two out of the three fund metrics are met, while the third metric is not met due to the continued growth in claim volume.

The Board members had a robust conversation regarding the increase in claims and the need to identify options to ensure the continued strength of the fund into the future. The Board suggested that the Authority analyze its operating expenses to determine if there are any meaningful opportunities for reduction before exploring other options. In response to a question from the Board regarding the timing of possible legislative changes. Erin Choquette explained that any potential legislative change needs to take into account that contribution rates are determined in October of each year with an effective date of January 1st of the following year.

Update on Claims Statistics

Benefits Manager John Simonetti provided an update on the claim data provided in the July 2026 Board meeting in response to a Board question about how many claimants file more than one claim. Mr. Simonetti shared data regarding approved claims from inception to May 31, 2026, explaining that approximately 70% of benefit recipients have had one approved claim and detailing the frequency, duration, and reason for claims filed by individuals who had more than one approved claim.

Quarterly Outreach and Engagement Update

Chief Experience Officer Jessica Vargas provided the quarterly outreach and engagement update which included information about the following topics:

- Leave Management Conference
- New Spanish Language Employer Creative
- New Testimonials
- Research Partnerships
- Employer Outreach
- Healthcare Provider Outreach
- Other Projects

Committee Reports

Policy & Personnel

David Salazar-Austin reported that the committee did not meet this month due to the bimonthly meeting schedule. The next scheduled meeting is September 1st.

Outreach & Engagement

Eva Bermudez Zimmerman reported that the committee met in July and received the outreach and engagement updates presented to the Board as well as an update about the Community Education Coordinator Initiative. The next scheduled meeting is on September 17th.

Finance & Audit

Holly Williams reported that the committee met in July and received the update of the annual actuarial analysis as well as the regular financial reports which were presented today. The next scheduled meeting is on August 28th.

Financial Reports

Controller Dave Marcone shared the financial highlights for the month of June.

CEO Report

CEO Ms. Choquette reminded the Board that the September Board meeting will include a vote on the contribution rate for 2027. She also reminded the Board to notify her if there are any particular data or documents, they want the staff to share either before the meeting or at the meeting.

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Adjournment

Ms. Pastore asked the Board for a motion to adjourn. Melissa Ziobron motioned and Holly Williams seconded the adjournment. All were in favor. None opposed. None abstained. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 10:11AM.

Watch meeting recording at https://youtu.be/vQbsup0I8FE

Attachments

- Item 2-July 9, 2026, Meeting Minutes
- Item 3- Annual Actuarial Analysis
- Item 4- Update on Claims Statistics
- Item 5- Quarterly Outreach and Engagement Update