

STATE BOARD OF MEDIATION AND ARBITRATION

38 WOLCOTT HILL ROAD, WETHERSFIELD, CT 06109

MINUTES OF SBMA BOARD MEETING

Monday, May 19, 2025

A meeting of the Connecticut State Board of Mediation and Arbitration was held on Monday, May 19, 2025. The meeting was held virtually, via Teams.

Present: Gerald Weiner, Esq., Chairman
Dennis Murphy, Esq., Deputy Chairman
Peter Carozza, Labor Member
Ken Baldyga, Management Member
Michael Culhane, Management Member

Guests: Douglas Cho, Esq., Director/Mediator

The meeting of the State Board of Mediation and Arbitration was opened by Gerald T. Weiner, Chairman, at 8:36 a.m.

1) Minutes of Previous Meeting:

A motion was made by Dennis Murphy and seconded by Gerald Weiner to accept the minutes of the Board meeting from March 17, 2025, and the motion passed unanimously via voice vote.

2) Old Business:

- A. Review of Outstanding Arbitration Hearings: The number of pending arbitrations, the number of cases held in abeyance, scheduled and re-scheduled were examined by the Board. There are approximately 120 cases pending which is a decrease from 127; scheduled cases decreased from 115 to 92; rescheduled cases decreased from 17 to 10; and cases held in abeyance decreased from 13 to 9. Hearings completed increased from 12 to 16. Mediation figures were also reviewed by the Board, and binding arbitration case figures were reviewed for contracts expiring in 2024 and 2025.
- B. Review of Fiscal Year Figures: The Board reviewed review fiscal year figures from July 1, 2024, to May 6, 2025, and also reviewed fiscal year figures from July 1, 2024, to May 6, 2025.
- C. Applications to Vacate: All open applications to vacate were briefly reviewed as to their status. Three new applications to vacate were filed; City of Waterbury & CACP (2nd application to vacate) (Hinkle); City of New Haven & UPSEU Local 42 (Chesson); and Town of Manchester & MPOA (Chief). The State Supreme Court denied a petition for certification for an appeal in City of New Haven & CACP (Santiago). The employer filed a petition for certification for appeal to the State Supreme Court in City of Torrington & AFSCME Local 442 (Peters). The State Appellate Court dismissed an appeal in Town of Montville & IAFF Local 3386 (Staffing Issue).
- D. Outstanding Overdue Awards: There are no overdue awards at this time.

3) New Business:

- A. A discussion was held regarding the status for hiring a new Secretary 2 employee, in which it was noted OPM has recently granted SBMA an exception to fill this position despite a statewide hiring freeze. SBMA will seek to fill this position from a candidate list created from interviews held in January 2025.
- B. A discussion was held to review the status of a pending bill, Substitute Senate Bill 1037, an act proposing increasing fees for SBLR board members and SBMA arbitrators.

C. A discussion was held to review disseminating information regarding recent appointments by the NASC of new neutral interest arbitrators.

4) Motion to Adjourn:

A motion to adjourn was made by Dennis Murphy and seconded by Ken Baldyga, and the motion passed unanimously by voice vote. The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:54 a.m.

Douglas A. Cho, Esq.
Director/Mediator

May 30, 2025