

**CITIZEN’S ETHICS ADVISORY BOARD
OF THE OFFICE OF STATE ETHICS
18-20 Trinity Street, Hartford, CT 06106-1660**

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JANUARY 26, 2012

The Citizen’s Ethics Advisory Board (“Board”) of the Office of State Ethics (“OSE”) held a Regular Meeting on Thursday, January 26, 2012, on the 5th Floor, in the Office of Governmental Accountability Conference Room, 18-20 Trinity Street, Hartford, CT 06106.

Chairman David Gay called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

The following members of the Board were present:

- David Gay, Chairman
- Charles F. Chiusano, Vice-Chairman
- Thomas Dooley, Member
- Herbert A. Grant, Member
- Roger L. Kemp, Member
- Dennis J. Riley, Member (participated via teleconference)
- Mary Bigelow, Member
- Daniel Young, Member

The following staff members of the OSE were present:

- Carol Carson, Executive Director
- Barbara Housen, General Counsel
- Thomas Jones, Ethics Enforcement Officer
- Marc W. Crayton, Assistant Enforcement Officer
- Mark E. Wasielewski, Assistant Enforcement Officer
- Peter Lewandowski, Assistant General Counsel
- Brian O’Dowd, Assistant General Counsel
- Cynthia Isales, Assistant General Counsel
- Iris E. D’Oleo-Edwin, Clerk of the Board

General Counsel Housen administered the oath of office to Board Member Young.

The following topics were addressed during the meeting:

1. The minutes of the December 15, 2011 Regular Meeting were presented to the Board for approval.

On the motion of Mr. Grant, seconded by Ms. Bigelow, the Board voted seven (7) to one (1) to approve the minutes. Mr. Young abstained.

2. Board Member Riley presented the University of Connecticut Faculty Consulting and Research Committee Report. He recommended that the Board endorse the proposal presented in the report and that the recommendations be included in the OSE 2012 recommended Legislative Session Proposals.

On the motion of Mr. Riley, seconded by Mr. Kemp, the Board voted eight (8) to zero (0) to endorse the proposal presented in the report and include the proposal in the OSE 2012 legislative session proposals.

3. General Counsel Housen presented the Board with a request from Roderick L. Bremby, Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Social Services, to postpone the consideration of Draft Advisory Opinion No. 2012-3, a Petition from Dennis C. Murphy, Deputy Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Labor. Ms. Brenda Parrella, from the Department of Social Services, addressed the Board regarding the request to postpone and the issues presented in the request for advice.

On the motion of Mr. Kemp, seconded by Mr. Chiusano, the Board voted eight (8) to zero (0) to postpone the consideration of Draft Advisory Opinion No. 2012-3.

4. General Counsel Housen presented the Board with a Petition for Advisory Opinion from Stefan Pryor, Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Education.

On the motion of Mr. Dooley, seconded by Mr. Chiusano, the Board voted eight (8) to zero (0) to grant the Petition for Advisory Opinion from Stefan Pryor.

5. Deputy General Counsel Brian O'Dowd presented the Draft Advisory Opinion No. 2012-01, in connection with the request from Stefan Pryor, Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Education.

On the motion of Mr. Dooley, seconded by Mr. Grant, the Board voted eight (8) to zero (0) to adopt Advisory Opinion No. 2012-1.

6. Assistant General Counsel Cynthia Isales presented the Draft Advisory Opinion No. 2012-02 in response to the request from Assistant General Counsel Peter Lewandowski from the Office of State Ethics. Discussion ensued regarding the draft opinion.

On the motion of Mr. Dooley, seconded by Ms. Bigelow, the Board voted seven (7) to one (1) to adopt Advisory Opinion 2012-02. Mr. Riley voted against adopting the Advisory Opinion.

7. General Counsel Housen presented the Petition for Advisory Opinion from Daria J. Cirish, Director of Insurance and Risk Management at the Department of Administrative Services.

On the motion of Mr. Kemp, seconded by Mr. Dooley, the Board voted eight (8) to zero (0) to grant the Petition for Advisory Opinion from Daria J. Cirish.

8. Chairman Gay presented the Chairman's report. He thanked the Board Members for their monthly participation at the meetings and at the hearings. He praised the presentation of the media section of the Board package. Chairman Gay expressed his concerns regarding an interview given by Mr. David Guay, Executive Administrator of Office of Governmental Accountability, to the CT Mirror regarding the status of the consolidation.

9. Chairman Gay provided an opportunity for discussion of any new business. There was no new business.
10. General Counsel Housen presented the Legal Division Report. She reported that since the last report, the OSE received notification that the matter of AFSCME v. Office of State Ethics, which was transferred to the Connecticut Supreme Court, may be scheduled for argument sometime in March of this year. Discussion ensued regarding the Legal Report.
11. Ethics Enforcement Officer Jones presented the Enforcement Division Report. Mr. Jones reported that the Division is in the midst of its initiatives to enforce the filing deadlines of the 2011 Annual Compensation Report (ETH-2A) and the 3rd and 4th Quarter Report (ETH-2D), which were both due by January 10, 2012.
12. Assistant Enforcement Officer Marc W. Crayton updated the Board on the status of the grace period letters and on the notices of hearings sent to late filers with regard to these initiatives.
13. The Director of Education, Nancy Nicolescu, introduced to the Board two new UConn undergraduate interns who will be assisting her with training initiatives.
14. Assistant Enforcement Officer Wasielewski updated the Board regarding the collection of penalties in the enforcement matters of Ann Kiessling, David Brown, and Jill D'Antona.
15. Enforcement Officer Jones presented the Audit report for Promissor, Inc. There were no adverse findings.

On the motion of Mr. Kemp, seconded by Ms. Bigelow, the Board voted eight (8) to zero (0) to approve the Promissor, Inc. audit report.

16. Chairman Gay remarked on the Executive Director's Report on the 2011 Council on Governmental Ethics Laws (COGEL) conference. He thanked the attendees for their work and participation at the conference.
17. Ms. Carson presented the Executive Director's report. She reported on staffing issues, as a result of the consolidation, particularly with respect to the OSE's deadline of January 10, 2012 for lobbyists to file financial reports, and how the agency is coping and adjusting to the changes. In addition, she also updated the Board regarding the Board vacancy. Ms. Carson reported that a Governmental Accountability Commission meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 30, 2012, to discuss the status of the consolidation with Executive Administrator Guay, and to start the Executive Administrator evaluation process. In addition, Ms. Carson stated that the Governor's Office, through the Office of Policy and Management, has requested that the OSE voluntarily cut its budget by 5%. She noted that Public Act 11-48, specifically, prohibits the Governor's Office from reducing the OSE's budget and the request recognizes that prohibition.
18. In response to Mr. Riley's concerns and questions, Ms. Carson informed the Board that she had voluntarily used her personal funds to pay for her attendance at the 2011 COGEL conference. Mr. Riley recommended that the OSE should reimburse her.

19. Chairman Gay provided an opportunity for public comments. There were no public comments.
20. **On the motion by Mr. Kemp, seconded by Mr. Chiusano, the Board voted eight (8) to zero (0) to move into Closed Session to discuss matters that are confidential pursuant to General Statutes § 1-93a. Mr. Dooley recused himself and left the meeting prior to the Closed Session. Mr. Riley left the meeting at 1:53, before the Closed Session.**

The following individuals attended the Closed Session:

- David Gay, Chairman
- Charles Chiusano, Vice-Chairman
- Mary Bigelow, Member
- Herbert A. Grant, Member
- Roger L. Kemp, Member
- Daniel Young
- Carol Carson, Executive Director
- Barbara Housen, General Counsel
- Thomas Jones, Ethics Enforcement Officer
- Iris E. D'Oleo-Edwin, Clerk of the Board

21. **By unanimous vote, the Board moved into public session.**
22. **On a motion of Mr. Kemp, seconded by Mr. Chiusano, the Board voted six (6) to zero (0) to add to the agenda an item to discuss Ms. Carson's travel expenses related to her attendance to the 2011 COGEL conference.**
23. **On a motion of Mr. Kemp, seconded by Mr. Chiusano, the Board voted six (6) to zero (0) to authorize reimbursement to Ms. Carson for travel expenses associated with her attendance at the 2011 COGEL conference.**
24. **On the motion of Mr. Grant, seconded by Mr. Chiusano, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 2:03 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted by,

Iris E. D'Oleo-Edwin, Clerk
Citizen's Ethics Advisory Board

Date approved
(By the Citizen's Ethics Advisory Board of the Office of State Ethics)