



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

OFFICE OF STATE ETHICS

CITIZEN'S ETHICS ADVISORY BOARD OFFICE OF STATE ETHICS 18-20 Trinity Street, Hartford, CT 06106

MINUTES OF THE MAY 19, 2016 MEETING

The Citizen's Ethics Advisory Board ("Board") of the Office of State Ethics ("OSE") held a Regular Meeting on Thursday, May 19, 2016, in the 5th Floor Conference Room.

Chairman Charles F. Chiusano called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

The following Board members were present:

Charles F. Chiusano, Chair
Mary Bigelow, Vice-Chair
Dena Castricone
Kevin Johnston
Cheryl Lipson
Daniel Young (Participated via teleconference)
Rev. Tommie Lee Jackson (joined the meeting at 1:05 p.m. via teleconference)

The following staff members of the OSE were present:

Carol Carson, Executive Director
Alaaeldin Ali, IT Analyst I
Marc W. Crayton, Assistant Ethics Enforcement Officer
Barbara Housen, General Counsel
Malissa Hurry, Paralegal Specialist
Thomas K. Jones, Ethics Enforcement Officer
Peter Lewandowski, Assistant General Counsel
Nancy Nicolescu, Director of Education & Communications
Brian O'Dowd, Deputy General Counsel
Mark Wasielewski, Deputy Ethics Enforcement Officer

The following topics were addressed during the meeting:

1. The minutes of the April 21, 2016 Regular Meeting were presented to the Board for approval.

On the motion of Ms. Castricone, seconded by Ms. Lipson, the Board voted six (6) to zero (0) to approve the minutes of the April 21, 2016 Regular Meeting.

2. Chairman Chiusano presented the Chairman's Report. He reported on the Board's continued vacancies.

3. Deputy General Counsel Brian O'Dowd presented draft Advisory Opinion No. 2016-2 in response to Eleanor Tandler's Petition.

On the motion of Ms. Castricone, seconded by Mr. Johnston, the Board voted seven (7) to zero (0) to adopt draft Advisory Opinion No. 2016-2.

4. General Counsel Barbara Housen presented the Legal Division Report.
5. Ethics Enforcement Officer TJ Jones presented the Enforcement Division Report. He reported that a Probable Cause Hearing is scheduled for June 21, 2016 which, if Probable Cause is found, could trigger a Board hearing within 30 days. He provided a status report on the number of unresolved matters on the docket for the UAPA May 26, 2016 hearings (Ms. Bigelow as Hearing Officer) and potential matters for the UAPA June 23, 2016 hearings. Chairman Chiusano volunteered as Hearing Officer for the June 23, 2016 hearings.
6. Ethics Enforcement Officer Jones presented the audit report for Nexamp, Inc. There were no adverse findings.

On the motion of Mr. Johnston, seconded by Ms. Bigelow, the Board voted six (6) to zero (0) to approve the audit report for Nexamp, Inc. Ms. Castricone abstained.

7. Executive Director Carol Carson presented the Executive Director's Report. She reported on the following: a) the removal of the OSE from the Office of Governmental Accountability making the OSE once again an independent agency; b) OSE's FY16-17 budget and the consequent layoff of two OSE employees; and c) the passage of SB 338, related to statements of financial interests.

She introduced OSE's summer law interns: Shannon Kennedy from Western New England University School of Law and Michael Paciorek from University of Connecticut School of Law. The Board welcomed them.

Mr. Young expressed concerns about the continued vacancy of two Board positions since October 1, 2015 and the failure of the appointing authorities to make a timely appointment. In particular, he said the prospect of two additional Board members' terms expiring as of September 30, 2016 could result in the inability of the Board to take any action. Chairman Chiusano will contact the appointing authorities to encourage them to make appointments forthwith.

Ms. Lipson asked about the status of SB 361 and why it did not pass. Ms. Carson stated there could be a number of reasons which were not shared; one was that legislators felt it was a grab for more power by the OSE. Mr. Lewandowski summarized the sections of the bill.

8. Ms. Nicolescu reported on training, noting that a partnership with the Judicial Branch to provide training to almost 800 judicial marshals has begun. It will involve DVD, web and face-to-face trainings.
9. There were no public comments. Chairman Chiusano thanked Board members for filing their SFIs on time. For the first time, the entire Board filed electronically.

10. **On the motion of Ms. Castricone, seconded by Ms. Lipson, the Board voted six (7) to zero (0) to adjourn the meeting.**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,



Carol Carson
Executive Director
Citizen's Ethics Advisory Board

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