MINUTES
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
5th Floor Conference Room
June 18, 2014
9:00 A.M.

I. Call to Order

Commissioner Castagno was present and called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. Commissioners Salvatore Bramante, Michael Ajello and Stephen Penny were present.

II. Approval of the Minutes

Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of May 14, 2014
Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of May 29, 2014
Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of June 4, 2014

It was moved by Commissioner Salvatore Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Stephen Penny to approve the Minutes of the May 14, 2014, May 29, 2014 and June 4, 2014 regular meeting. The minutes were approved by a vote 4-0. So voted.

Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of June 11, 2014

The matter is continued.

III. Administrative Reports

Mr. Brandi updated that at this point in time, the agency will have a surplus to deliver back to the general fund this year. SEEC has made all necessary expenditures in or has been managing its' budget very carefully.

Mr. Brandi advised that personnel wise, all of our positions are filled.

Mr. Brandi reported that staff is working at maximum capacity due to the grant season. Overtime has been assigned as necessary in order to process grant applications. This past week alone included 5 statewide applications. The size of the campaigns have strained our resources staff wise. The staff is performing at a very high level. Currently there are over 400 active candidate committees that we are monitoring and assisting.

Mr. Brandi updated that SEEC's IT unit has been working with campaigns by signing them up and assisting with eCRIS, holding training sessions and doing everything necessary to make sure that we can get as many campaigns as possible

into eCIS and utilizing the electronic systems. The more we can automate and bring into eCRIS lessens the amount of paper that staff has to review.

Mr. Brandi reported that regarding the grant schedule, we are at a very high pace right now. We are ahead of schedule as we compare back against 2010 and 2012 cycles. Numbers show that more campaigns are coming in and applying early.

Mr. Brandi updated that with regard to the DGA lawsuit against the SEEC at this point in time Judge Hall has denied the preliminary injunction filed by the DGA. By denying that motion we are back to looking at coordination the way the commission staff has interpreted it and the way the legislature has written it. It does not appear at this point in time that they are going to appeal that decision.

IV. Pending Complaints and Investigations

A. Public Session

1. In re: SEEC initiated Investigation of Ralph Lewis, Hartford
   File No. 2013-092
   Proposed Consent Order & Agreement

Respondent:	Ralph A. Lewis
Attorney:	Patrick Lamb
Lead Legal Investigator:	Charlie Urso

   Attorney Lamb summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2013-092. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement.

   It was moved by Commissioner Stephen Penny and seconded by Commissioner Salvatore Bramante to adopt the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2013-092. So voted by a vote 4-0. The Consent Order & Agreement are available on our website under Commission Decisions.

2. In the Matter of a Complaint by Mary Rydingsward, Bristol
   File No. 2013-040A
   Proposed Findings & Conclusions

Respondent:	Sharon Krawiecki
Attorney:	Kevin Ahern
Legal Investigator:	Scott Branfuhr

   Attorney Ahern summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2013-040A. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Findings & Conclusions.

   It was moved by Commissioner Salvatore Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Stephen Penny to adopt the Proposed Findings & Conclusions

in File No. 2013-040A. So voted by a vote 4-0. The Proposed Findings & Conclusions are available on our website under Commission Decisions.

3. In re: Referral of the Secretary of the State
File No. 2014-021
Proposed Consent Order & Agreement

Respondent:	Michael DiMassa
Attorney:	Kevin Ahern
Legal Investigator:	Scott Branfuhr

Attorney Ahern summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2014-021. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement.

It was moved by Commissioner Stephen Penny and seconded by Commissioner Salvatore Bramante to adopt the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2014-021. So voted by a vote 4-0. The Consent Order & Agreement are available on our website under Commission Decisions.

V. Executive Session per General Statutes §§ 1-200(6)(B) and (E), and 1-210(b)(1),(3),(4),(10) and General Statutes §9-7a, as amended by Public Act 11-48 §300

(Preliminary draft and agency consideration of enforcement action and exempt records relative thereto)

It was moved by Commissioner Stephen Penny and seconded by Commissioner Salvatore Bramante to enter into executive session at 9:14 A.M. So voted. Scott Branfuhr, Gilberto Oyola, Patrick Lamb, Kevin Ahern, William Smith, James Talbert Slagle, Joshua Foley, Lisa Nightingale, Linda Waterman, Shannon Clark Kief, Michael Brandi, Evelyn Gratacos and Sheri-Lyn Lagueux were present.

It was moved by Commissioner Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Ajello at 11:02 A.M. to return to public session. So voted.

Returning to public session, the Commission took the following action:

1. In the Matter of a Complaint by David M. Reed, Somers
File No. 2014-028
Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney:	Patrick J. Lamb
Legal Investigator:	Scott Branfuhr

Attorney Lamb summarized the above referenced complaint and Recommendation of Counsel in File No. 2014-028. He recommended adoption of a Findings & Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Stephen Penny and seconded by Commissioner Salvatore Bramante to adopt the Proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2014-028. So voted by a vote 4-0. The Findings & Conclusions are available on our website under Commission Decisions.

2. In the Matter of a Complaint by Nicholas D. Kapoor, Monroe
   File No. 2014-005
   Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney:	Patrick J. Lamb
Legal Investigator:	Scott Branfuhr

   Attorney Lamb summarized the above referenced complaint and Recommendation of Counsel in File No. 2014-005. He recommended adoption of a Findings & Conclusions.

   It was moved by Commissioner Stephen Penny and seconded by Commissioner Salvatore Bramante to adopt the Proposed Findings & Conclusions as amended by paragraph 10 in File No. 2014-005. So voted by a vote 4-0. The Findings & Conclusions are available on our website under Commission Decisions.

3. In re: Referral by Killingworth Assistant Town Clerk, Dawn R. Mooney
   File No. 2013-131
   Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney:	Patrick J. Lamb
Legal Investigator:	Scott Branfuhr

   Attorney Lamb summarized the above referenced complaint and Recommendation of Counsel in File No. 2013-131. He recommended an issuance of Investigatory Subpoenas.

   It was moved by Commissioner Salvatore Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Stephen Penny to issue an investigatory subpoena in File No. 2013-131. So voted by a vote 4-0.

4. In re: Referral of Olga Vazquez, Hartford Registrar of Voters
   File No. 2012-067
   Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney:	Kevin Ahern
Lead Legal Investigator:	Gilberto Oyola

   Attorney Ahern summarized the above referenced complaint and Recommendation of Counsel in File No. 2012-067. He recommended adoption of a Request to Withdraw.

It was moved by Commissioner Salvatore Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Stephen Penny to adopt the Proposed Request to Withdraw in File No. 2012-067. So voted by a vote 4-0.

5. In the Matter of a Complaint by Deborah Conlon, West Haven
File No. 2013-132
Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney:	Kevin Ahern
Lead Legal Investigator:	Gilberto Oyola

Attorney Ahern summarized the above referenced complaint and Recommendation of Counsel in File No. 2013-132. He recommended adoption of a Findings & Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Michael Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Stephen Penny to adopt the Proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2013-132. So voted by a vote 4-0. The Findings & Conclusions are available on our website under Commission Decisions.

6. In the Matter of a Complaint by Benjamin Ancona, Newington
File No. 2013-140
Proposed Findings & Conclusions

Respondent:	Dannel Malloy
Attorney:	Kevin Ahern
Lead Legal Investigator:	Charlie Urso

Attorney Ahern summarized the above referenced complaint and Recommendation of Counsel in File No. 2013-140. He recommended adoption of the Findings & Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Stephen Penny and seconded by Commissioner Salvatore Bramante to adopt the Proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2013-140. So voted by a vote 4-0. The Findings & Conclusions are available on our website under Commission Decisions.

7. In re: Audit Report for Daviddenvir2010
File No. 2011-144
Request for Finding Reason to Believe that Violation of General Statutes Have Been Committed

Attorney:	James Talbert-Slagle
Lead Legal Investigator:	Charlie Urso

Attorney Talbert-Slagle summarized the above referenced complaint and Request for Finding Reason to Believe in File No. 2011-144. He recommended adoption of the Request for Finding Reason to Believe.

It was moved by Commissioner Stephen Penny and seconded by Commissioner Salvatore Bramante to adopt the Request for Finding Reason to Believe in File No. 2011-145. So voted by a vote 3-0-1.

8. In re: Audit Report for Knapp 109
File No. 2011-145
Request for Finding Reason to Believe that Violation of General Statutes Have Been Committed
Attorney: James Talbert-Slagle
Lead Legal Investigator: Charlie Urso

Attorney Talbert-Slagle summarized the above referenced complaint and Request for Finding Reason to Believe in File No. 2011-145. He recommended adoption of the Request for Finding Reason to Believe.

It was moved by Commissioner Stephen Penny and seconded by Commissioner Salvatore Bramante to adopt the Request for Finding Reason to Believe in File No. 2011-145. So voted by a vote 3-0-1.

9. In the Matter of a Complaint by Harold S. Harris, et al, Glastonbury
File No. 2012-169
Recommendation of Counsel
Attorney: James Talbert-Slagle
Lead Legal Investigator: Charlie Urso

The matter is continued.

10. In the Matter of a Complaint by Antinozzi Associates, Bridgeport
File No. 2014-009
Proposed Consent Order & Agreement
Attorney: William B. Smith

Attorney Smith summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2014-009. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement.

It was moved by Commissioner Stephen Penny and seconded by Commissioner Salvatore Bramante to adopt the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2014-009 upon receipt in 10 days. So voted by a vote

4-0. The Consent Order & Agreement will be available on our website under Commission Decisions upon receipt.

11. In the Matter of a Complaint by Lori Jeffers, Willimantic
File No. 2014-003
Proposed Consent Order & Agreement
Attorney: William B. Smith
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

Attorney Smith summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2014-003. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement.

It was moved by Commissioner Stephen Penny and seconded by Commissioner Salvatore Bramante to adopt the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2014-003 as amended in paragraph 9 upon receipt in 10 days. So voted by a vote 4-0. The Consent Order & Agreement will be available on our website under Commission Decisions upon receipt.

12. In the Matter of a Complaint by Patrick Dwyer, Bridgewater
File No. 2014-049
Proposed Recommendation of Counsel
Attorney: William B. Smith
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

The matter is continued.

13. Recommendation of Counsel: Necessary to Investigate Determination pursuant to General Statutes §9-7a, as amended by Public Act 11-48 §300

It was moved by Commissioner Bramante and Seconded by Commissioner Penny to make a determination that it is necessary to investigate violations relating to eight (8) complaints in File Nos.: 2014-052, 2014-053, 2014-054, 2014-058, 2014-059, 2014-065, 2014-066 and 2014-068. So voted by a vote 4-0.

14. Consideration of Pending Litigation and Attorney Client Privileged Matters

a. Advisory Opinion 2014-02: Disclosure of Expenditures in Campaign Finance Statements Pursuant to Public Act 13-180

The matter is continued.

b. *DGA v. Brandi, et al*

No votes taken.

c. *Update of the status of SEEC referred cases to the Chief States Attorney's Office.*

No votes taken.

VI. Consideration of Matters Discussed in Executive Session

VII. Consideration of Application for Public Grants from the Citizens' Election Fund

1. "Belsito for State Rep," Sam Belsito

It was moved by Commissioner Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Penny to approve the grant application for "Belsito for State Rep," Sam Belsito. So voted by a vote of 4-0.

2. "Tim for Connecticut," Timothy Herbst

It was moved by Commissioner Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Penny to approve the grant application for "Tim for Connecticut," Timothy Herbst. So voted by a vote of 4-0.

3. "Penny for CT," Penny Bacchiochi

It was moved by Commissioner Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Penny to approve the grant application for "Penny for CT," Penny Bacchiochi. So voted by a vote of 4-0.

4. Joint Committee for "Dan Malloy for Connecticut," Dannel Malloy / "Nancy Wyman for Connecticut," Nancy Wyman

It was moved by Commissioner Penny and seconded by Commissioner Bramante to approve the joint grant application for "Dan Malloy for Connecticut," Dannel Malloy / "Nancy Wyman for Connecticut," Nancy Wyman. So voted by a vote of 4-0.

5. "Foley for CT," Thomas Foley

It was moved by Commissioner Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Penny to continue without prejudice the grant application for "Foley for CT," Thomas Foley. So voted by a vote of 4-0.

6. "Dan Fox for State Rep 2014," Daniel Fox

It was moved by Commissioner Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Penny to approve the grant application for "Dan Fox for State Rep 2014," Daniel Fox. So voted by a vote of 4-0.

7. "Friends of James Maroney," James Maroney

It was moved by Commissioner Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Penny to approve the grant application for "Friends of James Maroney," James Maroney. So voted by a vote of 4-0.

8. "Lembo 2014," Kevin Lembo

It was moved by Commissioner Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Penny to approve the grant application for "Lembo 2014," Kevin Lembo. So voted by a vote of 4-0.

9. "Lopes for State Representative," Rick Lopes

It was moved by Commissioner Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Penny to approve the grant application for "Lopes for State Representative," Rick Lopes. So voted by a vote of 4-0.

10. "Kevin Coyner 2014," Kevin Coyner
It was moved by Commissioner Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Penny to continue without prejudice the grant application for "Kevin Coyner 2014," Kevin Coyner. So voted by a vote of 4-0.

11. "Garfunkel 2014," Andy Garfunkel

It was moved by Commissioner Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Penny to approve the grant application for "Garfunkel 2014," Andy Garfunkel. So voted by a vote of 4-0.

12. "TK 14," Themis Klarides

It was moved by Commissioner Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Penny to continue without prejudice the grant application for "TK 14," Themis Klarides. So voted by a vote of 4-0.

13. "Carpino 2014," Christie Carpino

It was moved by Commissioner Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Penny to approve the grant application for "Carpino 2014," Christie Carpino. So voted by a vote of 4-0.

14. "Cianci for Branford," Paul Cianci

It was moved by Commissioner Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Penny to continue without prejudice the grant application for "Cianci for Branford," Paul Cianci. So voted by a vote of 4-0.

15. "Marilyn Moore State Senate 2014," Marilyn Moore

It was moved by Commissioner Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Penny to approve the grant application for "Marilyn Moore State Senate 2014," Marilyn Moore. So voted by a vote of 4-0.

16. "Meadows for State Rep.," Michael Meadows

It was moved by Commissioner Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Penny to continue without prejudice the grant application for "Meadows for State Rep.," Michael Meadows. So voted by a vote of 4-0.

17. "Re-Elect Andres 2014," Andres Ayala, Jr.

It was moved by Commissioner Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Penny to continue without prejudice the grant application for "Re-Elect Andres 2014," Andres Ayala, Jr.. So voted by a vote of 4-0.

VIII. Adjournment

It was moved by Commissioner Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Penny at 11:38 AM to adjourn the meeting. So voted. Unless otherwise indicated, all votes of the Commission were unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheri-Lyn Lagueux
Clerk of the Commission

Adopted this 16th day of July, 2014 at Hartford, Connecticut.

Anthony J. Castagno
By Order of the Commission

The next regular scheduled meeting is June 25, 2014 at 4:00 P.M. in the 5th Floor Conference room.