



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

MINUTES
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING

5th Floor Conference Room

January 16, 2013

9:00 A.M.

I. Call to Order

Chairman Castagno was present via teleconference and called the meeting to order at 9:02 A.M. Commissioner Stephen Cashman was present and Commissioners Patricia Stankevicius and Joan Jenkins were present via teleconference, agency staff was also present.

It was moved by Commissioner Cashman and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to add as item 12 in executive session, a motion for consideration of the issuance of an investigatory subpoena in File No. 2012-237. So voted.

II. Approval of the Minutes

Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of December 19, 2012.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to approve the Minutes of the December 19, 2012 as amended. So voted.

III. Administrative Reports

Mr. Brandi advised that budget talks are moving forward and that session has started. SEEC staff will be meeting the new chairs and GAE Committee today. There has been quite a bit of change of membership on the committee, so SEEC is looking to schedule as many meetings as possible and work with them on our legislative package. Items for legislative session include commissioner terms, prior bad acts and campaign finance law, a pilot program for municipal campaign finance filings and the sufficiency of the CEF.

Mr. Brandi reported that the next budget is where we want to be mindful regarding sweeps or reductions to the fund. We have about 13 million in the fund and if there are no further sweeps, SEEC will have 20 million by the end of this fiscal year.

Mr. Brandi updated that personnel wise, the Associates Account Examiner position has been filled. SEEC has promoted internally, Hy Ly to this position. Personnel Search Committee has been set up for the Legal Investigator position with more than 60 applications being received.

SEEC is in the process of getting ready for RBA sessions which are scheduled to begin the first week of February. Drafts are being submitted this week for both the audit unit and the CEP as requested by the legislature. We will be prepared to make our summary to the legislature showing our efficiencies and arguing that SEEC cannot sustain further cuts.

Mr. Brandi reported that all units have been functioning at high levels. There are multiple investigations that are ongoing.

IT manager, Mann Hasen introduced and demonstrated the Microsoft Surface tablets, which Commissioners will have access to commission packets from home. These tablets will save paper and money, as well as provide for quicker delivery of agency commission agendas and packets.

IV. Pending Complaints and Investigations

A. Public Session

1. In the Matter of a Complaint by Amalia Skilton, New Haven
File No. 2011-136
Consent Order & Agreement
Respondents: Aseem Mehta
Attorney: William B. Smith
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

Attorney Smith summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2011-136. He recommended adoption of the proposed Consent Order & Agreement.

It was moved by Commissioner Cashman and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to adopt as amended the proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2011-136. So voted. The proposed Consent Order & Agreement are available on our website under [Commission Decisions](#).

2. In the Matter of a Complaint by Karen Post, Coventry
File No. 2012-074
Consent Order & Agreement
Respondent: Inge Pope
Attorney: William B. Smith
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

Attorney Smith summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2012-074. He recommended adoption of the proposed Consent Order & Agreement.

It was moved by Commissioner Cashman and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to adopt as amended the proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2012-074. So voted. The proposed Consent Order & Agreement are available on our website under [Commission Decisions](#).

3. In the Matter of a Complaint by Allen J. Friedrich, Glastonbury
File No. 2012-117
Consent Order & Agreement
Respondent: Prasad Srinivasan
Attorney: William B. Smith
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

Attorney Smith summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2012-117. He recommended adoption of the proposed Consent Order & Agreement.

It was moved by Commissioner Cashman and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to adopt as amended the proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2012-117. So voted. The proposed Consent Order & Agreement are available on our website under [Commission Decisions](#).

4. In the Matter of a Complaint by Peter R. Munn, Bristol
File No. 2012-120
Proposed Findings & Conclusions
Respondent: Mary Rydingsward and Sharon Krawiecki
Attorney: William B. Smith
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

Attorney Smith summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2012-120. He recommended adoption of the proposed Findings & Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Cashman and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to adopt as amended the proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2012-120. So voted. The proposed Findings & Conclusions 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 Cashman and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins at 9:34 A.M. to proceed into Executive Session pursuant to C.G.S. §§ 1-200(6)(B) and (E), and 1-210(b)(1),(3),(4) and (10) to discuss strategy and negotiations with respect to pending claims and exempt records. So voted.

Commissioners Castagno, Jenkins and Stankevicius were present via teleconference. Staff members present were, Kevin Ahern, Michael Brandi, Shannon Kief, Evelyn Gratacos, Lindsey Leung, Marianne Sadowski, William Smith, James Talbert-Slagle, Patrick Lamb, Gilberto Oyola, Lisa Nightingale, Matt Pribula, Jamie McGee, Mann Hasen, and Sheri-Lyn Lagueux.

It was moved by Commissioner Cashman and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius at 10:36 A.M. to return to public session. So voted.

1. In the Matter of a Complaint by George Ruhe, Wethersfield
File No. 2012-054
Proposed Recommendation of Counsel
Attorney: James Talbert-Slagle
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

This matter is continued.

2. In the Matter of a Complaint by Leo Canty, Windsor
File No. 2012-141
Consideration of Request for Investigatory Subpoena
Attorney: James Talbert-Slagle
Lead Legal Investigator: Charlie Urso

Attorney Talbert-Slagle summarized the above referenced complaint and requested the Commission approve the request for Investigatory Subpoena in File No. 2012-141.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Cashman to authorize the issuance of an investigatory subpoena with respect to File No. 2012- 141. So voted.

3. File No. 2013-003
Consideration of Request to Initiate Investigation
Attorney: James Talbert-Slagle

The matter is marked off.

4. In the Matter of a Complaint by Richard Hupprich, Jr., Waterbury
File No. 2012-145
Proposed Recommendation of Counsel
Attorney: Kevin Ahern
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

Attorney Ahern summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2012-145. He recommended adoption of the proposed Findings & Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to adopt the proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2012-145. So voted. The proposed Findings & Conclusions are available on our website under [Commission Decisions](#).

5. In the Matter of a Referral of Astrid Belanger, Columbia
File No. 2012-080

Proposed Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney: Kevin Ahern
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

Attorney Ahern summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2012-080. He recommended adoption of the proposed Findings & Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to adopt the proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2012-080. So voted. The proposed Findings & Conclusions are available on our website under [Commission Decisions](#).

6. In the Matter of a Complaint by Mary-Ellen Vollemans, Bridgeport
File No. 2012-142

Proposed Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney: Kevin M. Ahern
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

This matter is continued

7. In the Matter of a Complaint by M. Kirk Carr, Jr., Clinton
File No. 2012-083

Proposed Findings & Conclusions

Attorney: Patrick J. Lamb
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

Attorney Lamb summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2012-083. He recommended adoption of the proposed Findings & Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to adopt as amended the proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2012-083. So voted. The proposed Findings & Conclusions are available on our website under [Commission Decisions](#).

8. Non-Filer Investigations and Prosecutions

- a. Pursuant to Section 9-7b-35 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, Proposed Findings for a Reason to Believe a Violation has been Committed Concerning Delinquent Filings, Violations Under Section 9-608(a) (1). Based upon referrals by the SEEC Campaign Disclosure and Audit Unit.

It was moved by Commissioner Cashman and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins that the Commission finds reason to believe that respondents violated Connecticut General Statute 9-608(a) for File Nos. 2012-198NF, 2012-199NF, 2012-200NF, 2012-203NF, 2012-205NF, 2012-206NF, 2012-207NF, 2012-208NF, 2012-209NF, 2012-211NF, 2012-214NF, 2012-215NF, 2012-216NF, 2012-217NF, 2012-218NF, 2012-220NF, 2012-221NF, 2012-222NF, 2012-226NF, 2012-227NF, 2012-229NF, 2012-230NF, and 2012-231NF. So voted.

9. In the Matter of a Complaint by Myrna Watanabe, Harwinton
File No. 2011-140
Proposed Recommendation of Counsel
Attorney: Patrick Lamb
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

This matter is continued

10. In the Matter of a Complaint by James D. Diamond, Stamford
File No. 2011-139
Proposed Recommendation of Counsel
Attorney: William B. Smith
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

This matter is continued

11. 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 Cashman and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to move to make a determination that it is necessary to investigate violations relating to 10 complaints in File Nos.: 2012-194, 2012-195, 2012-196, 2012-197, 2012-233, 2012-234, 2012-235, 2013-001, 2013-002 and 2012-003. So voted.

12. In Re: Christina Ayala and Santa Ayala, Bridgeport
File No. 2012-237
Request for Investigatory Subpoena
Attorney: Kevin Ahern
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

Attorney Ahern summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Request for two Investigatory Subpoenas in File No. 2012-237.

It was moved by Commissioner Cashman seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to authorize the first Request for Investigatory Subpoena in File No. 2012-237. So voted.

It was moved by Commissioner Cashman and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to authorize the second Request for Investigatory Subpoena in File No. 2012-237. So voted.

VI. *Adjournment*

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius at 10:47 A.M. to adjourn the meeting. So voted. Unless otherwise indicated, all votes of the Commission were unanimous.

The next regular scheduled meeting is February 13, 2013 at 9:00 A.M. in the 5th Floor Conference room.