MINUTES
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
5th Floor Conference Room
March 21, 2012
9:00 A.M.

I. Call to Order

Commissioner Cashman called the meeting to order at 9:03 A.M. Commissioners Jenkins, Castagno, and Stankevicius were present. Agency staff was also present.

II. Approval of the Minutes

Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of February 15, 2012

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to Approve the Minutes of the February 15, 2012 Regular Meeting. So voted.

III. Administrative Reports

Mr. Brandi updated Commission staff that there has been a busy 5 weeks. The most important thing on the agenda has been to fill positions. SEEC has been successful in getting OPM to refill our vacant positions. SEEC has also traded the Staff Attorney II position for the Accounts Examiner position. We are awaiting additional approvals from the legislature for the three additional Accounts Examiners positions.

Mr. Brandi advises that he has been meeting with leadership at the legislature. Additionally staff has met with Town Clerk Officers and Common Cause.

Mr. Brandi reports that commission staff has been reviewing bills. Testimony has been presented on multiple occasions regarding budget, staffing and now CEP bills

SEEC now has 155 registered candidate committees for the 2012 election cycle. Election officers have been diligent in contacting treasurers and campaigns to advise them to advise them to file early as the agency has less staff.

Mr. Brandi reports that within the Disclosure unit there are 911 registered committees and we expect 891 plus filings for the upcoming April 10th filing date.

Mr. Brandi advises that the Audit unit reports 85% of examinations of committees are now complete.

Mr. Brandi advised that the IT unit is making great progress in updates to eCRIS and uploading forms to the website.

IV. Legislative Update

Regarding HB 5528, this is a mish mosh bill with multiple interest regarding the CEP, independent expenditures, trigger provisions. The one point we have raised, allowing campaigns to take surplus funds at the end of the campaign and taking up to $1,000 to pay campaign workers. We are prepared to challenge those elements.

Today's bill being heard today is SB 437 regarding the Commissioners Terms. Testimony has been prepared and submitted for this bill.

Also, mandatory eCRIS filing, has been attached to another bill which makes it questionable.

V. Pending Complaints and Investigations

A. Public Session

1. In the Matter of a Complaint by Jeffrey Shorts,
   File no. 2010-125
   Proposed Findings & Conclusions

Respondent:	Joan Lewis
Attorney:	James Talbert Slagle
Lead Legal Investigator:	Gilberto Oyola

   Attorney James Talbert Slagle summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2010-125. He recommended adoption of the proposed Findings & Conclusions.

   It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius adopt the proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2010-125. So voted. The proposed Findings & Conclusions are available on our website under Commission Decisions.

2. In the Matter of a Complaint by Christopher Healy, Wethersfield
   File No. 2010-120
   Proposed Findings & Conclusions

Respondent:	Denise Nappier
Attorney:	William B. Smith
Lead Legal Investigator:	Gilberto Oyola

Attorney William B. Smith summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2010-120. He recommended adoption of the proposed Consent Order & Agreement.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to adopt the proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2010-120. So voted. The proposed Findings & Conclusions are available on our website under Commission Decisions.

3. In the Matter of a Complaint by Jason Bartlett, Bethel
File No. 2011-107
Proposed Consent Agreement

Respondents:	Santa I. Ayala
Attorney:	Kevin Ahern
Lead Legal Investigator:	Gilberto Oyola

Attorney Kevin Ahern summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Consent Agreement in File No. 2011-107. He recommended adoption of the proposed Consent Agreement upon receipt within 10 days.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to adopt the proposed Consent Agreement in File No. 2011-107 upon receipt within 10 days . So voted. The proposed Findings & Conclusions are available on our website under Commission Decisions.

4. In the Matter of a Complaint by Kevin G. Trejo, Groton
File No. 2011-084
Proposed Findings & Conclusions

Respondents:	Ellen Brown, Kevin L. Fiftal, Michael D. Kane and John F. Scott, IV
Attorney:	William B. Smith
Lead Legal Investigator:	Gilberto Oyola

Attorney William B. Smith summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2011-084. He recommended adoption of the proposed Findings & Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to adopt the proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2011-084. So voted. The proposed Findings & Conclusions are available on our website under Commission Decisions.

5. In the Matter of a Complaint by John McNamara, New Britain
File No. 2009-111
Proposed Consent Order & Agreement

Respondent: Henry S. Plaut
Attorney: William B. Smith
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

Attorney William B. Smith summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No.2009-111. He recommended adoption of the proposed Consent Order & Agreement.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to adopt the proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2009-111. So voted. The proposed Consent Order & Agreement are available on our website under Commission Decisions.

6. In the Matter of a Complaint by Jon D. Norris, Southbury
File No. 2011-077
Proposed Findings & Conclusions
Respondent: William Davis
Attorney: James Talbert-Slagle
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

Attorney James Talbert-Slagle summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2011-077. He recommended adoption of the proposed Findings & Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to adopt the proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2009-008. So voted. The proposed Findings & Conclusions are available on our website under Commission Decisions.

7. In the Matter of a Complaint by Sgt. Garritt Kelly, East Hampton
File No. 2011-113
Proposed Findings & Conclusions
Respondents: Melissa Engel and Douglas Logan
Attorney: Kevin Ahern
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

Attorney Kevin Ahern summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2011-113. He recommended adoption of the proposed Findings & Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to adopt the proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2011-113. So voted. The proposed Findings & Conclusions are available on our website under Commission Decisions.

8. In the Matter of a Complaint by Sheila McCreven, Woodbridge
File No. 2012-007
Proposed Findings & Conclusions
Attorney: Patrick J. Lamb

Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

Attorney Patrick J. Lamb summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2012-007. 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. 2012-007. So voted. The proposed Findings & Conclusions are available on our website under Commission Decisions.

9. In the Matter of a Complaint by Nancy Sharp, Woodbury
File No. 2011-010
Proposed Findings & Conclusions
Respondent: Rita Connelly
Attorney: Patrick J. Lamb
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

Attorney Patrick J. Lamb summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2011-010. 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. 2011-010. So voted. The proposed Findings & Conclusions are available on our website under Commission Decisions.

10. In the Matter of a Complaint by Ronna Stuller, New London
File Nos. 2011-146 and 2011-147
Proposed Findings & Conclusions
Respondents: George Sprecace, Jay Levin and Edward Demuzzio
Attorney: Patrick J. Lamb
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

Attorney Patrick J. Lamb summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Findings & Conclusions in File Nos. 2011-146 and 2011-147. He recommended adoption of the proposed Findings & Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to adopt the proposed Findings & Conclusions in File Nos. 2011-146 and 2011-147. So voted. The proposed Findings & Conclusions are available on our website under Commission Decisions.

11. 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 9-623(b) (2). Based upon referrals by the SEEC Campaign Disclosure and Audit Unit.

It was moved by Commissioner Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to find reason to believe violations have been committed in File Nos.: 2012-018NF, 2012-021NF and 2012-022NF. So voted.

b. 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 9-623(b) (3). Based upon referrals by the town clerks.

It was moved by Commissioner Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to find reason to believe violations have been committed in File Nos.: 2011-157NF and 2012-012NF. So voted.

c. Appointment of Executive Director Michael J. Brandi as Permanent Hearing Officer for Hearings Concerning Alleged Violations of §§ 9-602(c), 9-603, 9-604 or 9-608.

It was ordered by Commissioner Cashman to appoint Executive Director Michael J. Brandi as Permanent Hearing Officer for Hearings Concerning Alleged Violations of §§ 9-602(c), 9-603, 9-604 or 9-608.

VI. 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 Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius at 9:37 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 relating thereto, listed as items 1 through 3 and audit items 1 through 41 on the agenda. So voted. Commissioners Cashman, Stankevicius, Castagno, Jenkins and Stankevicius were present. Staff members present were James Talbert Slagle, John Neumon, Gilberto Oyola, William B. Smith, Paige Adams, Kevin Ahern, Shannon Kief, Michael J. Brandi, Marianne Sadowski, Nancy Staniewicz, Linda Waterman, Jennifer Montgomery, Evelyn Gratacos and Sheri-Lyn Lagueux.

It was moved by Commissioner Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius at 10:34 A.M. to return to public session. So voted.

Returning to Public Session the Commission took the following action:

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to approve the issuance of the aforementioned committee draft Audit Reports 1-35 as Final Audit Reports. So voted.

It was moved by Commissioner Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to approve as amended the issuance of the aforementioned committee draft Audit Report 41 as a Final Audit Report. So voted.

It was moved by Commissioner Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to initiate an investigation regarding draft Audit Reports 36-40. So voted.

1. In the Matter of a Complaint by Jeffrey Shorts, Coventry
   File No. 2010-125
   Proposed Recommendation of Counsel
   Attorney: James Talbert-Slagle
   Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

   The matter is continued

2. In the Matter of a Referral by Jason Bartlett, Bridgeport
   File No. 2011-107
   Proposed Recommendation of Counsel
   Attorney: Kevin Ahern
   Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

   The matter is continued

3. 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 Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to move to make a determination that it is necessary to investigate violations relating to 5 complaints in File Nos.: 2012-015, 2012-024, 2012-029, 2012-030 and 2012-031. So voted.

Consideration of Draft Audit Reports

1. "Gaffney for State Rep," Treasurer: Brett Eisenlohr
   Examiner: Monique Coates

2. "Suzio for Senate," Treasurer: Christopher DeAngeli
   Examiner: Monique Coates

3. "Joe Markley for State Senator," Treasurer: John F. Beidler
   Examiner: Monique Coates

4. "John Barry for State Senate," Treasurer: Christopher J. Palmieri
   Examiner: Monique Coates

5. "Candelaria 2010," Treasurer: Frank Alvarado
   Examiner: Monique Coates

6. "Gardow for Wethersfield," Treasurer: Paul Courchaine
   Examiner: Monique Coates

7. "Merritt for Senate," Treasurer: Marianne Zinzarella
   Examiner: Monique Coates

8. "Nogueira 2010," Treasurer: Patrick Nogueira
   Examiner: Monique Coates

9. "Daniel Docker 20th District Senate - 2010," Treasurer: Sabina L. Vogel
   Examiner: Monique Coates

10. "Elizabeth Bye 2010 Exploratory Committee," Treasurer: Linda Levin
    Examiner: Monique Coates

11. "Beth Bye for State Senate 2010," Treasurer: Katherine Wilson
    Examiner: Monique Coates

12. "Rossi for Senate," Treasurer: Jennifer Cutrali
    Examiner: Monique Coates

13. "Molgano 2010", Treasurer: Francis Browne
    Examiner: Monique Coates

14. "Mahoney for CT", Treasurer: Thomas McKiernan
    Examiner: Monique Coates

15. "Dan German 2010," Treasurer: Paula Smith
    Examiner: Linda Waterman

16. "Friends of Karen," (Exploratory) Treasurer: William R. Vayda
    Examiner: Salman Munir

17. "Friends of Karen," Treasurer: William R. Vayda
    Examiner: Salman Munir

18. "Committee To Re-Elect Minnie Gonzalez," Treasurer: Georgette Cicero
    Examiner: Salman Munir

19. "Terrie Wood 2010," Treasurer: Jennifer Streeter
    Examiner: Salman Munir

20. "Committee to Elect James Griffin," Treasurer: Guy A. Grundwell
    Examiner: Salman Munir

21. "Tercyak 2010," Treasurer: Bryan Sabin
    Examiner: Salman Munir

22. "Friends of Jack Hennessy," Treasurer: Matthew R. Waggner
    Examiner: Salman Munir

23. "Serra for State Representative," Treasurer: Santo Carta
    Examiner: Salman Munir

24. "Shaban for State Rep.," Treasurer: Thomas Murphy
    Examiner: Salman Munir

25. "Nash 2010," Treasurer: Harlan K. Hyde
    Examiner: Salman Munir

26. "Len Greene 105," Treasurer: Annmarie A. Drugonis
    Examiner: Salman Munir

27. "Kelly for Senate 2010," Treasurer: Chris Barnaby
    Examiner: Martin Paxi

28. "Fitzgerald 10," Treasurer: Gary Klemyk
    Examiner: Martin Paxi

29. "Citizens For Common Sense in Politics," (Henry Zembko) Treasurer: Paul A. Kelley
    Examiner: Martin Paxi

30. "Cartier 2010," Treasurer: Raymond Bower
    Examiner: Martin Paxi

31. "Re-Elect Tom Drew 2010," Treasurer: Kevin Hoffkins
    Examiner: Martin Paxi

32. "Kirkley-Bey 2010," Treasurer: Lasceirs John Beverley
    Examiner: Martin Paxi

33. "Brown for Assembly District 89," Treasurer: David L. Goodrich
    Examiner: Martin Paxi

34. "Re-Elect Jack Thompson," Treasurer: Michael Farina
    Examiner: Martin Paxi

35. "Pelletier '2010'," Treasurer: Andy Kidd
    Examiner: Martin Paxi

36. "Barton for State Senate," Treasurer: Peter E. Berg
    Examiner: Martin Paxi

37. "Committee To Elect John E. French," Treasurer: William K. Navratil
    Examiner: Martin Paxi

38. "Guglielmo For State Senate," Treasurer: Kristin M. Guglielmo
    Examiner: Martin Paxi

39. "Committee To Elect Romano," Treasurer: Brian J. Smith
    Examiner: Martin Paxi

40. "Robles 2010," Treasurer: Ana G. Robles
    Examiner: Martin Paxi

41. "Richmancthouse 2010", (Amended) Treasurer: Gilbert Richman
    Examiner: Monique Coates

VII. Adjournment

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius at 10:37 A.M. 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 25th day of April, 2012 at Hartford, Connecticut.

Stephen F. Cashman
By Order of the Commission

The next regular scheduled meeting is April 25, 2012 at 9:00 A.M. in the 5th Floor Conference room.