



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

DRAFT MINUTES
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
5th Floor Conference Room
July 16, 2014
9:00 A.M.

I. Call to Order

Commissioner Castagno was present via teleconference and called the meeting to order at 9:02 A.M. Commissioners Salvatore Bramante, Stephen Penny and Patricia Stankevicius were present. Agency staff was also present.

II. Approval of the Minutes

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

Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of June 18, 2014

Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of June 25, 2014

Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of July 2, 2014

Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of July 10, 2014

It was moved by Commissioner Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Penny to approve the Minutes of the June 11, 2014, June 18, 2014, June 25, 2014, July 2, 2014 and July 10, 2014 regular meetings. The minutes were approved by a vote 4-0. So voted.

Commissioner Castagno added to Public Session item number 6, 2014-003

Commissioner Castagno added to Executive Session item number 11,
Recommendation of Counsel Regarding Audit Validations

Commissioner Castagno added Consideration of Application for Public Grants from the Citizens' Election Fund item number 23, "Adinolfi 2014," Alfred Adinolfi and item number 24, "Kathy for 22nd District," Katherine M. Pugliese.

Commissioner Ajello joined the meeting at 9:05 A.M.

III. Administrative Reports

Mr. Brandi reported that commission staff is working diligently to process the grant applications. Comparatively what the staff has processed, through week eight of the grant cycle, in 2010 the Commission processed and approved 56 applications and grants. In 2014 the Commission, for the same timeframe, will have approved 105 applications. This work is being processed with 40 percent less staff than in 2010.

Mr. Brandi updated that we are starting a new fiscal year for 2015. SEEC has been very careful on our purchases and tried to be as understanding as we could with keeping the budget numbers down and we expect that there will be a surplus.

Mr. Brandi advised that SEEC was able to upgrade significant systems in fiscal year 2014 including a new SANS server which will allow out IT unit to continue to build on our IT resources and making sure that we have sufficient upgrading capabilities for eCRIS.

Mr. Brandi updated that personnel wise, SEEC has one vacancy, a staff attorney position. SEEC is in the process right now of refilling that position and hope to have it filled within the next 6 to 8 weeks.

Mr. Brandi updated that all units of the agency have been full board behind the grant program and SEEC is looking at a significant increase in the early volume of grants. SEEC has issued approximately \$14 million in grants. Our projections at this point based on the primaries that are coming up as well as just general projections, we are looking at \$33-34 million in total grants to be issued by the Commission.

IV. Pending Complaints and Investigations

A. Public Session

1. In re: Referral by City of Bridgeport, Mark Anastasi, Bridgeport
File No. 2013-141
Proposed Consent Order & Agreement
Attorney: Patrick Lamb
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

Attorney Lamb summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2013-141. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement.

It was moved by Commissioner Penny and seconded by Commissioner Bramante to adopt the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2013-141. So voted by a vote 5-0. The Consent Order & Agreement are available on our website under Commission Decisions.

2. In the Matter of a Complaint by Larry Price, West Hartford
File No. 2011-130
Proposed Consent Order & Agreement
Respondent: Peter Martin
Attorney: James M. Talbert-Slagle
Lead Legal Investigator: Charlie Urso

Attorney Talbert-Slagle summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2011-130. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement.

It was moved by Commissioner Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Bramante to adopt the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2011-130. So voted by a vote 5-0. The Consent Order & Agreement are available on our website under Commission Decisions.

3. *In re* Audit Report for *Daviddenvir2010*, Hartford

File No. 2011-144b

Proposed Consent Order & Agreement

Respondent: David L. Denvir
Attorney: James M. Talbert-Slagle
Lead Legal Investigator: Charlie Urso

Attorney Talbert-Slagle summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2011-144b. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement.

It was moved by Commissioner Penny and seconded by Commissioner Bramante to adopt the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2011-144b. So voted by a vote 5-0. The Consent Order & Agreement are available on our website under Commission Decisions.

4. *In re* Audit Report for *Daviddenvir2010*, Hartford

File No. 2011-144

Proposed Consent Order & Agreement

Respondent: Nancy M. Gorski
Attorney: James M. Talbert-Slagle
Lead Legal Investigator: Charlie Urso

Attorney Talbert-Slagle summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2011-144. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement.

It was moved by Commissioner Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Ajello to adopt the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2011-144. So voted by a vote 5-0. The Consent Order & Agreement are available on our website under Commission Decisions.

5. *In re* Audit Report for *Knapp 109*, Hartford

File No. 2011-145

Proposed Consent Order & Agreement

Respondent: Robert Melillo
Attorney: James M. Talbert-Slagle
Lead Legal Investigator: Charlie Urso

Attorney Talbert-Slagle summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2011-145. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement.

It was moved by Commissioner Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Penny to adopt the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2011-145. So voted by a vote 5-0. The Consent Order & Agreement are available on our website under Commission Decisions.

6. In the Matter of a Complaint by Lori Jeffers, Willimantic
File No. 2014-003
Proposed Consent Order & Agreement
Respondent: Mike Desaulniers
Attorney: William B. Smith
Legal Investigator:

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 Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to adopt the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2014-003. So voted by a vote 5-0. 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 Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius at 9:44 A.M. to enter into executive session. So voted.

Scott Branfuhr, Gilberto Oyola, Patrick Lamb, Kevin Ahern, William B. Smith, James Talbert-Slagle, Adrian, Shannon Kief, Michael Brandi, Linda Waterman and Sheri-Lyn Lagueux.

It was moved by Commissioner and seconded by Commissioner Ajello at 9:57 A.M. to return to public session. So voted.

Returning to public session the Commission took the following action

11. Recommendation of Counsel Regarding Audit Validations

No votes were taken.

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 Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius at 10:12 A.M. to enter into executive session. So voted.

Scott Branfuhr, Gilberto Oyola, Patrick Lamb, Kevin Ahern, William B. Smith, James Talbert-Slagle, Adrian, Shannon Kief, Michael Brandi, Linda Waterman and Sheri-Lyn Lagueux.

It was moved by Commissioner Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Bramante at 11:44 A.M. to return to public session. So voted.

1. In the Matter of a Complaint by John W. Bromer, et al, Easton
File Nos. 2013-155-157, 159-161, 181
Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney: Patrick J. Lamb
Legal Investigator: Scott Branfuhr

Attorney Lamb summarized the above referenced matter and Proposed Findings & Conclusions in File Nos. 2013-155-157, 159-161, 181. He recommended adoption of the Findings & Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Stephen Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Salvatore Stankevicius to adopt the Findings & Conclusions in File Nos. 2013-155-157, 159-161, 181. So voted by a vote 5-0.

2. In re: Referral by Danbury Town Clerk, Lori A. Kaback, Danbury
File No. 2014-069MNF
Pursuant to Section 9-7b-35 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, a Request for a Finding of Reason to Believe a Violation of General Statutes § 9-608 Has Been Committed

Attorney: Patrick J. Lamb

Attorney Lamb summarized the above referenced matter and Proposed Request for a Finding of Reason to Believe in File No. 2014-069MNF. He recommended adoption of the Request for a Finding of Reason to Believe.

It was moved by Commissioner Stephen Penny and seconded by Commissioner Salvatore Bramante to adopt the Request for a Finding of Reason to Believe in File No. 2014-069MNF. So voted by a vote 4-0-1.

3. In the Matter of a Complaint by Mary Rydingsward, Bristol
File No. 2013-040B
Recommendation of Counsel
Attorney: Kevin M. Ahern
Legal Investigator: Scott Branfuhr

The matter is continued.

4. In re: Request to Initiate Investigation of Contributions by Brian Lippey
Recommendation of Counsel
Attorney: William B. Smith

Attorney Smith summarized the above referenced matter and Proposed Request to Initiate Investigation in File No. 2013-143. He recommended adoption of the Request to Initiate Investigation.

It was moved by Commissioner Stephen Penny and seconded by Commissioner Salvatore Bramante to Initiate an Investigation of Contributions by Brian Lippey in File No. 2013-143. So voted by a vote 5-0.

5. In the Matter of a Complaint by Jeff Guttman, Monroe
File No. 2013-143
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. 2013-143. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement upon receipt within ten days.

It was moved by Commissioner Stephen Penny and seconded by Commissioner Patricia Stankevicius to adopt upon receipt within ten days the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2013-143. So voted by a vote 5-0. The Consent Order & Agreement will be available on our website under Commission Decisions upon receipt.

6. In the Matter of a Complaint by Bill Kemp, Stamford
File No. 2013-180
Recommendation of Counsel
Attorney: William B. Smith
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

The matter is continued.

7. In the Matter of a Complaint by Roger Pilc, Pitney Bowes, Stamford
File No. 2014-027
Proposed Consent Order & Agreement
Attorney: William B. Smith

Attorney Smith summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2014-027. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement upon receipt within ten days.

It was moved by Commissioner Stephen Penny and seconded by Commissioner Patricia Stankevicius to adopt upon receipt within ten days the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2014-027. So voted by a vote 5-0. The Consent Order & Agreement will be available on our website under Commission Decisions upon receipt.

8. In the Matter of a Complaint by Louise G. Graver, Guilford
File No. 2013-108
Proposed Consent Order & Agreement
Attorney: William B. Smith
Legal Investigator: Scott Branfuhr

Attorney Smith summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2013-108. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement.

It was moved by Commissioner Stephen Penny and seconded by Commissioner Patricia Stankevicius to adopt the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2013-108. So voted by a vote 5-0. The Consent Order & Agreement are available on our website under Commission Decisions.

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

The matter is marked off.

10. 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 Stephen Penny and Seconded by Commissioner Patricia Stankevicius to make a determination that it is necessary to investigate violations relating to eight (8) complaints in File Nos.: 2014-070, 2014-071, 2014-072, 2014-073, 2014-074, 2014-075, 2014-077 and 2014-078. So voted by a vote 5-0.

It was moved by Commissioner Stephen Penny and Seconded by Commissioner Patricia Stankevicius to make a determination that it is not necessary to investigate violations relating to one (1) complaint in File No.: 2014-076. So voted by a vote 5-0.

VII. Consideration of Matters Discussed in Executive Session

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

1. "McKinney for Governor," John McKinney

It was moved by Commissioner Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Bramante to approve the grant application for "McKinney for Governor," John McKinney. So voted by a vote of 5-0.

2. "Teresa Davidson for the 128th," Teresa Davidson

It was moved by Commissioner Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Ajello to continue without prejudice the grant application for "Teresa Davidson for the 128th," Teresa Davidson. So voted by a vote of 5-0.

3. "Satti for Senate 2014," William Satti

It was moved by Commissioner Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Ajello to approve the grant application for "Satti for Senate 2014," William Satti. So voted by a vote of 5-0.

4. "Rojas2014," Jason Rojas

It was moved by Commissioner Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to continue without prejudice the grant application for "Rojas2014," Jason Rojas. So voted by a vote of 5-0.

5. "Re-Elect State Representative Ayala 2014," Christina Ayala

It was moved by Commissioner Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Ajello to continue the grant application for "Re-Elect State Representative Ayala 2014," Christina Ayala. So voted by a vote of 5-0.

6. "Pena 2014," Warren Pena

It was moved by Commissioner Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Ajello to continue without prejudice the grant application for "Pena 2014," Warren Pena. So voted by a vote of 5-0.

7. "I Like Mike," Michael Vickerelli

It was moved by Commissioner Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Ajello to approve the grant application for "I Like Mike," Michael Vickerelli. So voted by a vote of 5-0.

8. "Hampton 2014," John Hampton

It was moved by Commissioner Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Ajello to continue without prejudice the grant application for "Hampton 2014," John Hampton. So voted by a vote of 5-0.

9. "Elect Mae Flexer," Mae Flexer

It was moved by Commissioner Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Ajello to continue without prejudice the grant application for "Elect Mae Flexer," Mae Flexer. So voted by a vote of 5-0.

10. "Doug for CT," Doug Dubitsky

It was moved by Commissioner Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Bramante to continue the grant application for "Doug for CT," Doug Dubitsky. So voted by a vote of 5-0.

11. "Berger 2014," Jeffrey Berger

It was moved by Commissioner Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Ajello to continue without prejudice the grant application for "Berger 2014," Jeffrey Berger. So voted by a vote of 5-0.

12. "Friends of Tara 2014," Tara Cook-Littman

It was moved by Commissioner Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Bramante to continue without prejudice the grant application for "Friends of Tara 2014," Tara Cook-Littman. So voted by a vote of 5-0.

13. "Richards for Representative 2014," Kathleen Richards

It was moved by Commissioner Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Bramante to approve the grant application for "Richards for Representative 2014," Kathleen Richards. So voted by a vote of 5-0.

14. "Natelli for State Representative 2014," Albert Natelli

It was moved by Commissioner Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Ajello to continue without prejudice the grant application for "Natelli for State Representative 2014," Albert Natelli. So voted by a vote of 5-0.

15. "Mike France 2014," Mike France

It was moved by Commissioner Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Ajello to approve the grant application for "Mike France 2014," Mike France. So voted by a vote of 5-0.

16. "Kim Fawcett 2014," Kim Fawcett

It was moved by Commissioner Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Ajello to approve the grant application for "Kim Fawcett 2014," Kim Fawcett. So voted by a vote of 5-0.

17. "Gentile 2014," Linda Gentile

It was moved by Commissioner Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Ajello to approve the grant application for "Gentile 2014," Linda Gentile. So voted by a vote of 5-0.

18. "Laura Hoydick for State Representative," Laura Hoydick

It was moved by Commissioner Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Ajello to approve the grant application for "Laura Hoydick for State Representative," Laura Hoydick. So voted by a vote of 5-0.

19. "Friends of Guerrera 2014," Antonio "Tony" Guerrera

It was moved by Commissioner Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Bramante to approve the grant application for "Friends of Guerrera 2014," Antonio "Tony" Guerrera. So voted by a vote of 5-0.

20. "French for Senate 2014," John French

It was moved by Commissioner Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Ajello to approve the grant application for "French for Senate 2014," John French. So voted by a vote of 5-0.

21. "Emily4CT," Emily Bjornberg

It was moved by Commissioner Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Ajello to approve the grant application for "Emily4CT," Emily Bjornberg. So voted by a vote of 5-0.

22. "Butler 2014," Larry Butler

It was moved by Commissioner Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Bramante to approve the grant application for "Butler 2014," Larry Butler. So voted by a vote of 5-0.

23. "Adinolfi 2014," Alfred Adinolfi

It was moved by Commissioner Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Ajello to approve the grant application for "Adinolfi 2014," Alfred Adinolfi. So voted by a vote of 5-0.

24. "Kathy for 22nd District," Katherine M. Pugliese

It was moved by Commissioner Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Bramante to approve the grant application for "Kathy for 22nd District," Katherine M. Pugliese. So voted by a vote of 5-0.

IX. Continuation of all prior applications awaiting additional information to qualify for a grant

It was moved by Commissioner Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Ajello to approve the continuation of all prior grant applications awaiting additional information to qualify for a grant. So voted by a vote of 5-0.

X. Adjournment

It was moved by Commissioner Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Ajello at 12:07 PM to adjourn the meeting. So voted. Unless otherwise indicated, all votes of the Commission were unanimous.

The next regular scheduled meeting is July 23, 2014 at 4:00 P.M. in the 5th Floor Conference room.