



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

Draft Minutes
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
5th Floor Conference Room
July 17, 2013
9:00 A.M.

I. *Call to Order*

Chairman Anthony Castagno was present and called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. Commissioners Stephen Cashman and Patricia Stankevicius were present, agency staff was also present.

Commissioner Castagno called for a moment of silence to remember Commissioner Joan B. Jenkins. Commissioner Castagno said on behalf of the SEEC that Commissioner Jenkins will be sorely missed and he appreciated her service.

Commissioner Cashman said that she was an extraordinarily talented woman and touched the lives of many children. Through her service on the Elections Commission and Ethics Commission she did invaluable good. Joan gave great advice to him over the years as Vice-Chair of the SEEC. He regrets that Connecticut has suffered the loss of a remarkable public servant. We will miss her.

II. *Approval of the Minutes*

Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of June 19, 2013

It was moved by Commissioner Cashman and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to approve the Minutes of the June 19, 2013 meeting. So voted.

III. *Administrative Reports*

Mr. Brandi reported that the end of fiscal year 2013 had the SEEC ending with a surplus, due to the hiring freeze. Two positions have been approved to be re-filled, which are the Director of Campaign Disclosure & Audit Unit, and Fiscal Administrative Officer. This will allow us to fill our full complement of 35 employees for the agency.

About \$1.075 million has been returned to the Citizens Election Fund from candidates with terminations and surpluses still coming in.

Staff has been working diligently to get through the updates to forms and guidebooks with the passage of the new campaign finance bill.

IV. Pending Complaints and Investigations

A. Public Session

1. In the Matter of a Complaint by Ralph A. Ford, Bridgeport
File No. 2012-160
Proposed Findings and Conclusions
Respondents: Lydia Martinez
Attorney: William B. Smith
Legal Investigators: Scott Branfuhr and Gilberto Oyola

This matter is continued.

2. In the Matter of a Complaint by Paul Krell, Bristol
File No. 2013-004
Proposed Findings and Conclusions
Respondent: Jon P. Fitzgerald
Attorney: William B. Smith
Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

This matter is continued.

3. In the Matter of a Complaint by Wilm Donath and Carola Cammann,
Stamford
File No. 2013-008
Proposed Consent Agreement and Order
Respondent: Daniel M. McCabe
Attorney: William B. Smith
Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

This matter is continued.

4. In re: A Referral of the Office of the Secretary of the State, Hartford
File No. 2012-167
Proposed Consent Agreement and Order
Respondents: Susan M. Pawluk
Attorney: Patrick J. Lamb
Legal Investigator: Charlie Urso

Attorney Lamb summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Consent Agreement and Order in File No. 2012-167. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Consent Agreement and Order.

It was moved by Commissioner Cashman and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to adopt the Proposed Consent Agreement and Order in File No.

2012-167. So voted. The Proposed Consent Agreement and Order is available on our website under Commission Decisions.

5. In the Matter of a Complaint by Scott Dale, Brookfield
File No. 2012-097

Proposed Consent Agreement and Order

Respondent: Dorothy A. Dori &
Jeffrey M. Dunkerton

Attorney: Kevin M. Ahern

Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

Attorney Ahern summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Consent Agreement and Order in File No. 2012-097. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Consent Agreement and Order.

It was moved by Commissioner Cashman and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to adopt the Proposed Consent Agreement and Order in File No. 2012-097. So voted. The Proposed Consent Agreement and Order is available on our website under Commission Decisions.

6. Referrals of Joyce Mascena, Town Clerk, Glastonbury
File No. 2012-153A & 2012-153B

Proposed Consent Agreements and Order

Respondent: Annette Pasek and Linda DeGroff

Attorney: Kevin M. Ahern

Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

Attorney Ahern summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Consent Agreement and Order in File No. 2012-153A. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Consent Agreement and Order.

It was moved by Commissioner Cashman and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to adopt the Proposed Consent Agreement and Order in File No. 2012-153A. So voted. The Proposed Consent Agreement and Order are available on our website under Commission Decisions.

Attorney Ahern summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Consent Agreement and Order in File No. 2012-153B. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Consent Agreement and Order upon receipt within 10 days.

It was moved by Commissioner Cashman and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to adopt the Proposed Consent Agreement and Order in File No. 2012-153B upon receipt within 10 days. So voted. The Proposed Consent

Agreement and Order will be 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 Stankevicius at 9:12 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, Cashman and Stankevicius were present. Staff members present were, Kevin Ahern, Michael Brandi, Shannon Kief, Evelyn Gratacos, Lindsey Leung, Marianne Sadowski, Joshua Foley, James Talbert-Slagle, Patrick Lamb, Gilberto Oyola, Lisa Nightingale, Scott Branfuhr, Charlie Urso, , Hy Ly, Salman Munir, Matt Lombardi, Karen Moreira, Dinorah Collado, Sarah Steinberg, Matt Pribula, Mann Hasen, and Sheri-Lyn Lagueux.

It was moved by Commissioner Cashman and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius at 10:50 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 Stanley Heller and Lou Ann Villani, West Haven
File No. 2013-017
Proposed Recommendation of Counsel
Attorney: William B. Smith
Legal Investigators: Scott Branfuhr and Gilberto Oyola

This matter is continued.

2. In the Matter of a Complaint by Stephen S. Stambaugh-Walter, Seymour
File No. 2013-019
Proposed Recommendation of Counsel
Attorney: William B. Smith
Legal Investigators: Scott Branfuhr and Gilberto Oyola

This matter is continued.

3. Request for Initiation of Investigation
Attorney: William B. Smith

This matter is continued.

4. In the Matter of a Complaint by Edward R. Whitbread, Milford
File No. 2012-156
Proposed Recommendation of Counsel
Attorney: Patrick J. Lamb

This matter is continued.

5. Non-Filer Investigations and Prosecutions

- a. Pursuant to Section 9-7b-35 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, a Request for Findings of Reason to Believe Violations Have Been Committed Concerning Delinquent Filings, Violations of General Statutes § 9-608.

It was moved by Commissioner Cashman and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius that the Commission finds reason to believe that respondents violated Connecticut General Statute § 9-608 for file Nos. 2013-083NF and 2013-085NF. So Voted.

- b. Pursuant to Section 9-7b-35 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, a Request for Findings of Reason to Believe Violations of General Statutes 9-602 (c) Have Been Committed.

It was moved by Commissioner Cashman and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius that the Commission finds reason to believe that respondents violated Connecticut General Statute § 9-602 (c) for file Nos. 2013-079NT and 2013-096NT. So Voted.

6. Recommendation of Counsel: Necessary to Investigate Determination pursuant to General Statutes § 9-7b (a) (1)

It was moved by Commissioner Cashman and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to move to make a determination that it is necessary to investigate violations relating to seven complaints in File Nos.: 2013-093, 2013-097MNF, 2013-098, 2013-099, 2013-100, 2013-101, and 2013-102. So voted.

7. Referral of Carole Young-Kleinfeld, Registrar of Voters, Wilton
File No. 2012-170
Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney: Kevin M. Ahern

This matter is continued.

8. Request for Initiation of Investigation

Attorney: Kevin M. Ahern

This matter is continued.

9. *In re. Audit Report for Monique for State Rep.*

File No. 2012-070

Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney: James M. Talbert-Slagle

Legal Investigator: Charlie Urso

This matter is continued.

10. *In re. Audit Report for RJO Winch for State Rep.*

File No. 2012-071

Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney: James M. Talbert-Slagle

Legal Investigator: Charlie Urso

This matter is continued.

11. *In re. Audit Report for Keeley 2011*

File No. 2012-069

Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney: James M. Talbert-Slagle

Legal Investigator: Charlie Urso

This matter is continued.

12. In the Matter of a Complaint by Alicia Rivera, Hartford

File No. 2012-123

Request for Subpoena

Attorney: James M. Talbert-Slagle

Attorney Talbert-Slagle summarized the above referenced complaint and Request for one Investigatory Subpoena in File No. 2012-123.

It was moved by Commissioner Cashman and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to authorize the Request for Investigatory Subpoena in File No. 2012-123. So voted.

13. Request for Initiation of Investigation

Attorney: James M. Talbert-Slagle

It was moved by Commissioner Cashman and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to adopt Pursuant to its authority under General Statutes § 9-7b, “the State Elections Enforcement Commission (“the Commission”) hereby authorizes agency staff to investigate whether the candidate committee, candidate Christina Ayala, campaign treasurer Lisa S. Quinones, and/or agents of the committee violated provisions of the Connecticut campaign finance statutes based on the interim findings in the draft audit report. So voted.

Consideration of Draft Audit Reports

It was moved by Commissioner Cashman and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to approve the issuance of the aforementioned committee draft Audit Reports 1-5 as Final Audit Reports. So voted.

1. “Re-Elect Grogins 2012,” Audin Grogins
Examiner: Martin Paxi
2. “People for Mikutel,” Steven Mikutel
Examiner: Martin Paxi
3. “Citizens for Mushinsky,” Mary Mushinsky
Examiner: Matthew Lombardi
4. “Sanchez 2012,” Robert Sanchez
Examiner: Karen Moreira
5. “Committee to Re-Elect Pat Widlitz,” Patricia Widlitz
Examiner: Matthew Lombardi

VI. Adjournment

It was moved by Commissioner Cashman and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius at 10:55 A.M. to adjourn the meeting. So voted. Unless otherwise indicated, all votes of the Commission were unanimous.

The next regular scheduled meeting is August 21, 2013 at 9:00 A.M. in the 5th Floor Conference room.