MINUTES
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
5th Floor Conference Room
August 22, 2012
9:00 A.M.

I. Call to Order

Chairman Cashman was present and called the meeting to order at 9:01 A.M. Commissioners Anthony Castagno, Joan Jenkins and Patricia Stankevicius were present. Agency staff was also present.

II. Approval of the Minutes

Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of July 18, 2012
Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of July 25, 2012
Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of August 1, 2012
Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of August 8, 2012

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to approve the Minutes of the July 18, 2012 Regular Meeting, the July 25, 2012 Regular Meeting, the August 1, 2012 Regular Meeting and the August 8, 2012 Regular Meeting. So voted.

III. Administrative Report

Mr. Brandi advised that the progress for the CEP program is proceeding quite rapidly. There are currently 231 participating candidates in the CEP. Including today's meeting there will be 146 grants that have been approved. We have a total of 383 registered committees so we believe that a 250-260 estimate for participating candidates is consistent with the 2010 and 2008 election cycles.

There are total of 1,000 committees that we are monitoring for purposes of their quarterly filings. We are happy to report that the number of non-filers is very small.

Mr. Brandi updated Commission staff regarding budget. Budget planning has begun we are looking at the new budget for the next biennium. We are trying to make sure that we have sufficient funding and appropriate personnel available to handle all

matters that come before the Commission for the coming years. We will be analyzing starting today with OGA staff

SEEC is in the process of compiling required statutory reports for submission by September 1st including the Governor's Report and the Digest of Administrative Reports to the Governor 2011-2012.

Mr. Brandi reported that construction of the new offices, the time frame is for post election because of the nature of the move. The construction of the new offices on the first floor will take place somewhere after the November elections this way staff will not be disrupted

Mr. Brandi updated that the legislative agenda is being formulated and moving forward. Session is a few months away, but we are starting to focus on narrow, very point specific recommendations to be made to the legislature. A couple of the items we are looking at is the Commissioner terms, and additional funding to the CEF to make sure that we are properly funded for the 2014 Statewide's in particular. We will also be monitoring that for whatever changes are being proposed again for the program.

One big initiative we are looking to make is the municipal filings in consult with the Town Clerk's Association. We are looking to see if we can utilize eCRIS and the technology we have here and available servers that we have to basically have SEEC become the central repository for municipal filings statewide. So that we can have a searchable indexed filing for all candidates running for office. We are going to be discussing that further with the town clerks at their convention and also certainly the legislature.

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

1. "Goff for the 34th," Christopher J. Goff

   It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to approve the grant application "Goff for the 34th," Christopher J. Goff. So voted.

2. "Betsy Ritter 2012," Elizabeth B. Ritter

   It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to approve the grant application for "Betsy Ritter 2012," Elizabeth B. Ritter. So voted.

3. "Perillo 2012," Jason D. Perillo

   It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to approve the grant application for "Perillo 2012," Jason D. Perillo. So voted.

4. "Arconti 2012," David A. Arconti

   It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to approve the grant application for "Arconti 2012," David A. Arconti. So voted.

5. "Citizens For Mushinsky," Mary M. Mushinsky

   It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to approve the grant application for "Citizens For Mushinsky," Mary M. Mushinsky. So voted.

6. "Welch For State Senate 2012," Jason C. Welch

   It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to approve the grant application for "Welch For State Senate 2012," Jason C. Welch. So voted.

7. "Cubellotti For State Rep. 2012," Craig Cubellotti

   It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to continue without prejudice the grant application for "Cubellotti For State Rep. 2012," Craig Cubellotti. So voted.

8. "Harry For 41st," Harry A. Watson

   It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to approve the grant application for "Harry For 41st," Harry A. Watson. So voted.

9. "Phelps For State Representative," Christopher D. Phelps

   It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to approve the grant application for "Phelps For State Representative," Christopher D. Phelps. So voted.

10. "Siragusa 2012," Tony Siragusa

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to approve the grant application for "Siragusa 2012," Tony Siragusa. So voted.

11. "Abercrombie 2012," Catherine F. Abercrombie

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to continue without prejudice the grant application for "Abercrombie 2012," Catherine F. Abercrombie. So voted.

12. "Michael Casey 2012," Michael S. Casey

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to approve the grant application for "Michael Casey 2012," Michael S. Casey. So voted.

13. "Friends of Noreen," Noreen S. Kokoruda

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to approve the grant application for "Friends of Noreen," Noreen S. Kokoruda. So voted.

14. "Friends of Karen," Karen Jarmoc

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to continue without prejudice the grant application for "Friends of Karen," Karen Jarmoc. So voted.

15. "Friends of Romano," Joanne T. Romano

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to continue without prejudice the grant application for "Friends of Romano," Joanne T. Romano. So voted.

16. "Theresa Conroy 2012," Theresa W. Conroy

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to approve the grant application for "Theresa Conroy 2012," Theresa W. Conroy. So voted.

17. "Betts For 78th State Rep.," Whit Betts

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to approve the grant application for "Betts For 78th State Rep.," Whit Betts. So voted.

18. "Werner 2012," Robert A. Werner

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to approve the grant application for "Werner 2012," Robert A. Werner. So voted.

I. Pending Complaints and Investigations

A. Public Session

1. In the Matter of a Complaint by Shirleyann Dunbar-Rose, Groton
   File No. 2012-053
   Proposed Findings & Conclusions

Respondent:	Kristen Venditti
Attorney:	Kevin Ahern
Lead Legal Investigator:	Gilberto Oyola

   Attorney Ahern summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2012-053. 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. 2012-053. So voted. The proposed Findings & Conclusions are available on our website under Commission Decisions.

2. In re: SEEC Initiated Investigation of the Bridgeport Registrars of Voters and the Bridgeport Town Clerk
   File No. 2012-049
   Proposed Consent Order & Agreement

Respondents:	Santa Ayala, Linda Grace and Alma Maya
Attorney:	Patrick J. Lamb
Lead Legal Investigator:	Gilberto Oyola

   Attorney Lamb summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2012-049. He recommended adoption of the proposed Findings & Conclusions.

   It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to adopt the proposed Consent Order &

Agreement in File No. 2012-049. So voted. The proposed Consent Order & Agreement are available on our website under Commission Decisions.

3. In the Matter of a Complaint by James Bancroft, Windsor locks
File No. 2010-072
Proposed Findings & Conclusions

Respondent:	Peter Schiff
Attorney:	William B. Smith
Lead Legal Investigator:	Gilberto Oyola

Attorney Smith summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2010-072. 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. 2012-072. So voted. The proposed Findings & Conclusions are available on our website under Commission Decisions.

4. In the Matter of a Complaint By Robert D. Russo, Southport
File No. 2010-079
Proposed Findings & Conclusions

Respondent:	Arthur McNally
Attorney:	William B. Smith
Lead Legal Investigator:	Gilberto Oyola

Attorney Smith summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2010-079. 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. 2010-079. So voted. The proposed Findings & Conclusions are available on our website under Commission Decisions.

5. In the Matter of a Complaint by Richard W. White, Trumbull
File No. 2011-142
Proposed Consent Order & Agreement

Respondent:	Suzanne Burr Monaco
Attorney:	William B. Smith
Lead Legal Investigator:	Gilberto Oyola

The matter is continued.

6. In the Matter of a Complaint by Gregory Morehead, New Haven
File No. 2011-114
Proposed Findings & Conclusions

Respondent:	Lisa Hopkins
Attorney:	William B. Smith
Lead Legal Investigator:	Gilberto Oyola

Attorney Smith summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2011-114. 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. 2011-114. So voted. The proposed Findings & Conclusions are available on our website under Commission Decisions.

7. In the Matter of a Complaint by Tom Nicholas, Guilford
File No. 2011-091
Proposed Consent Order & Agreement

Respondent:	Tom Forcella
Attorney:	James Talbert Slagle
Lead Legal Investigator:	Gilberto Oyola

Attorney Talbert-Slagle summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2011-091. 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. 2011-091. So voted. The proposed Consent Order & Agreement are available on our website under Commission Decisions.

8. In the Matter of a Complaint by Robert Burke, Bethel
File No. 2011-127
Proposed Findings & Conclusions

Respondent:	Matthew Knickerbocker
Attorney:	James Talbert-Slagle
Lead Legal Investigator:	Gilberto Oyola

Attorney Talbert-Slagle summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2011-127. 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. 2011-127. So voted. The proposed Findings & Conclusions are available on our website under Commission Decisions.

9. In the Matter of a Complaint by Robert Burke, Bethel
File No. 2011-128
Proposed Findings & Conclusions

Respondent:	Matthew Knickerbocker
Attorney:	James Talbert-Slagle
Lead Legal Investigator:	Gilberto Oyola

Attorney Talbert-Slagle summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2011-128. 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. 2011-128. So voted. The proposed Findings & Conclusions are available on our website under Commission Decisions.

10. In the Matter of a Complaint by Robert Burke, Bethel
File No. 2011-129
Proposed Findings & Conclusions

Respondent:	Matthew Knickerbocker
Attorney:	James Talbert-Slagle
Lead Legal Investigator:	Gilberto Oyola

Attorney Talbert-Slagle summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2011-129. 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. 2011-129. So voted. The proposed Findings & Conclusions are available on our website under Commission Decisions.

II. 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 Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius at 9:32 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 Cashman, Castagno, Jenkins and Stankevicius were present. Staff members present were Shannon Kief, Michael Brandi, Nancy Staniewicz, Karen Moriera, Dinorah Collado, Gilberto Oyola, Jennifer Montgomery, Marianne Sadowski, Patrick Lamb, William Smith, James Talbert Slagle, Evelyn Gratacos and Sheri-Lyn Lagueux.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius at 11:04 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 Catherine Strother, New London
   File No. 2011-148
   Proposed Findings & Conclusions
   Attorney: Kevin Ahern
   Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

   Attorney Ahern summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2011-148. 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. 2011-148. So voted. The proposed Findings & Conclusions are available on our website under Commission Decisions.

2. In the Matter of a Complaint by Lewis Strother, Jr., New London
   File No. 2011-149
   Proposed Findings & Conclusions
   Attorney: Kevin Ahern
   Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

   Attorney Ahern summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2011-149. 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. 2011-149. So voted. The proposed Findings & Conclusions are available on our website under Commission Decisions.

3. In the Matter of a Complaint by Jeffrey Shorts, Coventry
   File No. 2012-055
   Recommendation of Counsel
   Attorney: Patrick J. Lamb
   Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

   The matter is continued

4. Recommendation of Counsel: General Authorization to Settle Failure of Treasurers to Timely File Statements Matters and Failure of Candidates to Timely File Registrations Matters, Violations of General Statutes §§9-603, 9-604 or 9-608, Governed Under §9-623.

   Motion to provide a general authorization to settle non-filer and candidate non-filer matters as detailed in the memorandum dated July 19, 2012.

   It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to grant the general settlement authority in accordance with the terms July 19, 2012 memorandum. So voted.

5. In the Matter of a Complaint by Jeffrey Shorts, Coventry
   File No. 2010-106
   Recommendation of Counsel
   Attorney: James Talbert-Slagle
   Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

   The matter is continued

6. In the Matter of a Complaint by Matthew Smith, New Haven
   File No. 2010-031
   Recommendation of Counsel
   Attorney: James Talbert-Slagle
   Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

   The matter is continued

7. 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 Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to move to make a determination that it is necessary to investigate violations relating to 9 complaints in File Nos.: 2012-086, 2012-088, 2012-089, 2012-090, 2012-091, 2012-092, 2012-093, 2012-094 and 2012-095. So voted

8. ***Declaratory Rulings and Opinions of Counsel***

   1. ***Consideration of Declaratory Ruling***
      a. Petition by Charles R. Spies, Esq., for a Declaratory Ruling

         Commissioner Cashman stated the following with respect to the request for a declaratory ruling, the Commission has received a letter from an Organization by the name of *Americans for Jobs Security* requesting this Commission to initiate a declaratory ruling procedure for campaign disclosure requirements. At this point, the recommendation is as follows, that the regulations of the Commission specifically 9-7b-64 of the Regulations indicate that the request for a Declaratory Ruling must be in a form that sets forth a statement of facts associated with the justification for the ruling at this point, the letter that we received from Americans for Jobs Security, does not comply with that regulation.

         So at this point I will entertain a motion to decline the request for initiation of the declaratory ruling procedure and give the requesting party instructions to resubmit, if they so choose, in accordance with our regulations.

         It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to move to decline the request for a declaratory ruling. So voted

   2. ***Opinions of Counsel***
      No votes were taken and no action is necessary.

III. Executive Session per General Statutes §§ 1-200(6)(A), (B) and (E), and 1-210(b)(2)
(Discussion of personnel matters)

No votes were taken

IV. Adjournment

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius at 11:09 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 19th day of September, 2012 at Hartford, Connecticut.

Stephen F. Cashman
By Order of the Commission

The next regular scheduled meeting is August 29, 2012 at 4:15 P.M. via teleconference in the 5th Floor Conference room.