



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

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

I. Call to Order

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

II. Approval of the Minutes

Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of August 19, 2014
Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of August 20, 2014
Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of August 27, 2014
Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of September 4, 2014
Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of September 10, 2014

It was moved by Commissioner Penny and seconded by Commissioner Ajello to approve the Minutes of the August 19, 2014, August 20, 2014, August 27, 2014 September 4, 2014 and September 10, 2014 meetings. The minutes of the August 19, 2014, August 20, 2014 and August 27, 2014 meetings were approved by a vote 5-0. The minutes of the September 4, 2014 and September 10, 2014 meetings were approved by a 4-0-1 with Commissioner Bramante abstaining. So voted.

III. Administrative Reports

Mr. Brandi advised the Commission that Mann Hasen, Agency Information Technology Manager, has tendered his resignation and accepted a position in private sector and his last day with the agency will be September 18th. SEEC has also received a resignation from Sarah Poulin who has accepted a promotional opportunity at another agency. On behalf of the Commission, Mr. Brandi wished them both good luck and congratulated them on their new positions.

Mr. Brandi introduced Amjad Mahmood who will be handling the lead for the IT section. All operations will be seamless because of the experience that Amjad and the whole team has. The team has come together with the news that Mann will be leaving state service. They have all stepped forward to take over the roles that Mann was handling. We will look to refill the position as soon as possible. I wanted to assure the commission that operation in the IT section will continue to run seamlessly.

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Mr. Brandi reported that for budget right now, SEEC will be watching the budget carefully this year and will look to manage the operating budget very conservatively. As for the CEP fund, around \$28 million have gone out in grants so far. 202 grants have been approved by the Commission and with tomorrow's meeting lists another 24 on the agenda. SEEC continues to have a robust program with lots of applications still coming through. Between 75 and 100 grant applications are expected to be received within the next three weeks.

Mr. Brandi advised that the Audit Unit has continued to perform amazingly well with the high volume they have received in terms of grant applications. They have been doing a great job getting the applications processed and through. The same goes for the compliance unit and enforcement unit. Everyone has been pitching in knowing that the election officers and audit staffs' workloads have increased. All elements of the agency are functioning very well.

IV. Pending Complaints and Investigations

A. Public Session

1. In the Matter of a Complaint by Bill Kemp, Stamford
File No. 2013-180
Proposed Consent Order & Agreement
Respondent: Jon Carlo Gallup
Attorney: William B. Smith
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

Attorney Smith summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2013-180. 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. 2013-180. 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 Tracy A. Morrissey, West Haven
File No. 2013-151
Proposed Findings & Conclusions
Respondent: Mary Tina Peckingham
Attorney: William B. Smith
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

Attorney Smith summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2013-151. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Findings & Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Penny and seconded by Commissioner Bramante to adopt the Proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2013-151. So voted by a vote 5-0. The Findings & Conclusions are available on our website under Commission Decisions.

3. In the Matter of a Complaint by Jennifer O'Neill, Southbury
File No. 2014-048

Proposed Findings & Conclusions

Respondents: Edward Edelson & Carol Hubert

Attorney: Kevin M. Ahern

Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

Attorney Ahern summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2014-048. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Findings & Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Penny to adopt the Proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2014-048. So voted by a vote 5-0. The 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 Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Bramante at 9:33 A.M. to enter into executive session. So voted.

Scott Branfuhr, Gilberto Oyola, Patrick Lamb, Kevin Ahern, William B. Smith, James Talbert-Slagle, Joshua Foley, Shannon Kief, Michael Brandi, Evelyn Gratacos and Sheri-Lyn Lagueux.

It was moved by Commissioner Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Bramante at 11:25 A.M. to return to public session. So voted.

Following a short recess the Commission took the following action:

1. In the Matter of a Complaint by Colleen O'Connor, West Haven
File Nos. 2014-022

Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney: Patrick J. Lamb

Legal Investigator: Scott Branfuhr

The matter is continued.

2. In re: East End Political Action Committee
File No. 2013-003
Recommendation of Counsel
Attorney: James Talbert-Slagle
Lead Legal Investigator: Charlie Urso

The matter is continued.

3. In the Matter of a Complaint by Robert Kissel, Hamden
File No. 2012-234
Recommendation of Counsel
Attorney: Kevin M. Ahern
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

The matter is continued.

4. In the Matter of a Complaint by Mildred Torres-Ferguson, Meriden
File No. 2012-146
Recommendation of Counsel
Attorney: Kevin M. Ahern
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

Attorney Ahern summarized the above referenced complaint in File No. 2012-146 and requested a motion to refer this matter to the Chief States Attorney's Office.

It was moved by Commissioner Penny and seconded by Commissioner Bramante in File No. 2012-146 to refer this matter to the Chief States Attorney's Office. So voted by a vote 5-0.

5. In the Matter of a Complaint by Betsey Smith, Portland
File No. 2013-175
Recommendation of Counsel
Attorney: Kevin M. Ahern
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

The matter is continued.

6. In the Matter of a Complaint by Patrick S. Dwyer, Bridgewater
File No. 2014-049
Reconsideration of Recommendation of Counsel and Proposed Consent Order & Agreement
Attorney: William B. Smith
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

The matter is continued.

7. In re: James F. Morton, III, *Re-Elect Clemons 2012*
File No. 2013-099
Proposed Motion to Close
Attorney: William B. Smith

Attorney Smith summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Motion to Close in File No. 2013-099. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Motion to Close.

It was moved by Commissioner Penny and seconded by Commissioner Bramante to adopt the Proposed Motion to Close in File No. 2013-099. So voted by a vote 5-0.

8. In the Matter of a Complaint by Andreas Duus, III, Greenwich
File No. 2013-176
Proposed Findings & Conclusions
Attorney: William B. Smith
Legal Investigator: Scott Branfuhr

Attorney Smith summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2013-176. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Findings & Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Penny and seconded by Commissioner Bramante to adopt the Proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2013-176. So voted by a vote 5-0. The Findings & Conclusions are available on our website under Commission Decisions.

9. In the Matter of a Complaint by Morna Murray, Glastonbury
File No. 2014-078
Recommendation of Counsel
Attorney: William B. Smith

The matter is continued.

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 Penny and Seconded by Commissioner Bramante to make a determination that it is necessary to investigate violations relating to nine (9) complaints in File Nos.: 2014-092, 2014-093, 2014-095, 2014-096, 2014-097, 2014-098, 2014-099, 2014-100 and 2014-101 and that it is not necessary to investigate violations relating to one (1) complaint in File No. 2014-094. So voted by a vote 5-0.

VI. Consideration of Matters Discussed in Executive Session

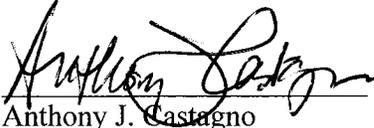
VII. Adjournment

It was moved by Commissioner Penny and seconded by Commissioner Ajello at 11:56 A.M. to adjourn the meeting. So voted. Unless otherwise indicated, all votes of the Commission were unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,


Sheri-Lyn Laguetix
Clerk of the Commission

Adopted this 14th day of October, 2014 at Hartford, Connecticut.


Anthony J. Castagno
By Order of the Commission

The next regular scheduled meeting is September 17, 2014 at 4:00 P.M. in the 5th Floor Conference room.