



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

MINUTES
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING

5th Floor Conference Room
October 24, 2012
9:00 A.M.

I. Call to Order

Chairman Cashman was present and called the meeting to order at 9:06 A.M. Commissioners Anthony Castagno and Patricia Stankevicius were present, agency staff was also present.

II. Approval of the Minutes

Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of September 12, 2012
Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of September 19, 2012
Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of September 26, 2012
Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of October 3, 2012

It was moved by Commissioner Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Castagno to approve the Minutes of the September 12, 2012 Regular Meeting, the September 19, 2012 Regular Meeting, the September 26, 2012 Regular Meeting and the October 3, 2012 Regular Meeting. So voted.

Commissioner Cashman requested a Motion to Add an enforcement matter to the public session of the agenda. It was moved by Commissioner Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Castagno to add file number 2011-142 as item number 7 in the Public Session of Pending Complaints and Investigations on the agenda. So voted.

III. Administrative Reports

Mr. Brandi updated that the CEP has finished with 271 grants awarded, the final statistics are being calculated and participation rates appear as high as 80%, with over 84% of CEP participants filing via eCRIS.

Mr. Brandi reported that in response to an OFA request, overtime this season has been cut by half.

Mr. Brandi advised that regarding personnel issues from OGA, the HR liaison Kathy Howe has resigned and left for a position at DCF and IT manager Brian Clonan is departing as well for a position at DCF.

SEEC itself has three open positions. The Director of Disclosure and Audit has been posted for examination. The Lead Legal Investigator position has been changed to Legal Investigator and is currently being advertised for examination. The final HR issue, we were able to take one of the two additional Account Examiner positions and converted one of them to an associate level accounts examiner. We are awaiting on word from DAS as the exam will be expiring in a few weeks. SEEC is calling for a new exam to be run for an associate which will allow for our personnel to take the examination. It is not expected to be posted until after the first of the year.

Mr. Brandi updated that in terms of the election itself, SEEC is monitoring Independent Expenditures. He and attorney Ahern have met with the Secretary of the State, FBI and U.S. Attorneys' office, ensuring that SEEC is prepared and ready to field calls. As has been in the past, the election day hotline will be in place for everyone to respond.

IV. Pending Complaints and Investigations

A. Public Session

1. In the Matter of a Complaint by Christopher Komondy, Chester
File No. 2012-079
Proposed Findings & Conclusions
Respondent: Chester Republican Town Committee
Attorney: Kevin Ahern
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

Attorney Ahern summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2012-079. He recommended adoption of the proposed Findings & Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Castagno to adopt the proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2012-079. So voted. The proposed Findings & Conclusions are available on our website under [Commission Decisions](#).

2. In the Matter of a Complaint by Christine Halfar, Danbury
File No. 2012-086
Proposed Consent Order & Agreement
Respondents: Mary Ann Doran and Margaret Gallo
Attorney: Kevin Ahern
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

Attorney Ahern summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2012-086. He recommended adoption of the proposed Consent Order & Agreement.

It was moved by Commissioner Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Castagno to adopt the proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2012-086 upon receipt within ten days. So voted. The proposed Consent Order & Agreement will available on our website under [Commission Decisions](#) once received.

3. In the Matter of a Complaint by Catherine Malek, Brookfield
File Nos. 2011-132 & 2011-133
Proposed Consent Orders & Agreements
Respondent: Robin Appleby
Attorney: William B. Smith
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

This matter is continued.

4. In the Matter of a Complaint by Jack Testani, Trumbull
File No. 2011-143
Proposed Consent Order & Agreement
Respondent: Mary Markham
Attorney: William B. Smith
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

This matter is continued.

5. In the Matter of a Complaint by Daniel Reale, Plainfield
File No. 2010-132
Proposed Findings & Conclusions
Respondent: Secretary of the State
Attorney: James Talbert Slagle
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

Attorney Talbert-Slagle summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2010-132. He recommended adoption of the proposed Findings & Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Castagno to adopt the proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2010-132. So voted. The proposed Findings & Conclusions are available on our website under [Commission Decisions](#).

6. In re: SEEC Initiated “Brenda 2010,” Hartford
File No. 2012-010
Proposed Consent Order & Agreement
Respondent: Michael E. Hahn
Attorney: James Talbert-Slagle
Lead Legal Investigator: Charlie Urso.

The matter is continued.

7. In the Matter of a Complaint by Richard R. White, Trumbull
File No. 2011-142
Proposed Consent Order & Agreement
Respondent: Suzanne Burr Monaco
Attorney: William B. Smith
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

Attorney Smith summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2011-142. He recommended adoption of the proposed Consent Order & Agreement.

It was moved by Commissioner Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Castagno to adopt the proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2011-142 upon receipt within ten days. So voted. The proposed Consent Order & Agreement will available on our website under [Commission Decisions](#) once received.

- 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 Castagno and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius at 9:29 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 and Stankevicius were present. Staff members present were James Talbert-Smith, Gilberto Oyola, Jennifer Montgomery, Charlie Urso, Joshua Foley, Patrick Lamb, Kevin Ahern, William Smith, Lisa Nightingale, Paige Adams, Matt Pribula, Shannon Kief, Michael Brandi and Sheri-Lyn Lagueux.

It was moved by Commissioner Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Castagno at 9:41 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 Patricia A. Plourde, Middletown
File No. 2012-006
Recommendation of Counsel
Attorney: Kevin Ahern
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

The matter is continued.

2. In the Matter of a Complaint by Ralph Arena, Hartford
File No. 2012-030
Request for Investigatory Subpoena
Attorney: Kevin Ahern
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

Attorney Ahern summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Request for Investigatory Subpoena in File No. 2012-030.

It was moved by Commissioner Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Castagno to authorize the Request for Investigatory Subpoena in File No. 2012-030. So voted.

3. In re: SEEC Initiated "Committee to Elect John E. French," Hartford
File No. 2012-034
Recommendation of Counsel and Proposed Findings & Conclusions
Attorney: Patrick J. Lamb
Lead Legal Investigator: Charlie Urso

Attorney Lamb summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2012-034. He recommended adoption of the proposed Findings & Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Castagno to adopt the proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2012-034. So voted. The proposed Findings & Conclusions are available on our website under [Commission Decisions](#).

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

Attorney Lamb summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2012-055. He recommended adoption of the proposed Findings & Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Castagno to adopt the proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2012-055. So voted. The proposed Findings & Conclusions are available on our website under [Commission Decisions](#).

5. 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 Castagno to move to make a determination that it is necessary to investigate violations relating to 9 complaints in File Nos.: 2012-134, 2012-135, 2012-139, 2012-140, 2012-141, 2012-142, 2012-143, 2012-144, 2012-146 and 2012-147. So voted.

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

It was moved by Commissioner Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Castagno at 9:45 A.M. to proceed into Executive Session pursuant to C.G.S. §§ 1-200(6)(A), (B) and (E), and 1-210(b)(2) to discuss personnel matters. So voted.

Commissioners Cashman, Castagno and Stankevicius were present. Staff members present were Shannon Kief and Michael Brandi.

It was moved by Commissioner Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Castagno at 10:17 A.M. to return to public session. So voted.

No votes were taken.

VII. *Adjournment*

It was moved by Commissioner Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Castagno at 10:18 A.M. to adjourn the meeting. So voted. Unless otherwise indicated, all votes of the Commission were unanimous.

The next regular scheduled meeting is November 14, 2012 at 9:00 A.M. in the 5th Floor Conference room.