



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

OFFICE OF STATE ETHICS

CITIZEN'S ETHICS ADVISORY BOARD OFFICE OF STATE ETHICS 18-20 Trinity Street, Hartford, CT 06106

MINUTES OF THE MARCH 22, 2018 REGULAR MEETING

The Citizen's Ethics Advisory Board ("Board") of the Office of State Ethics ("OSE") held a Regular Meeting on Thursday, March 22, 2018, in the 5th Floor Conference Room, 18-20 Trinity Street, Hartford, CT 06106.

Chair Dena Castricone called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m.

The following Board members were present:

Dena Castricone, Chair
Mary Bigelow
Charles F. Chiusano
Beth Cook
Jason Farrell

Kevin Johnston, Vice Chair
Richard Lang
Cheryl Lipson
Nichelle Mullins

The following staff members of the OSE were present:

Carol Carson, Executive Director
Barbara Housen, General Counsel
Thomas K. Jones, Ethics Enforcement Officer
Peter Lewandowski, Associate General Counsel
Mark Crayton, Assistant Ethics Enforcement Officer

Mark Wasielewski, Deputy Ethics Enforcement Officer
Ann Morgan, IT Analyst 3
Alaaeldin Ali, IT Analyst, Temporary Clerk of the Board
Malissa Hurry, Paralegal Specialist

The following topics were addressed during the meeting:

1. The minutes of the February 22, 2018 Regular Meeting were presented to the Board for approval.

On the motion of Mr. Chiusano, seconded by Ms. Lipson, the Board voted eight (8) to zero (0), with Mr. Johnston abstaining, to approve the minutes of the February 22, 2018 Regular Meeting.

2. Chair Castricone requested a volunteer to serve as the UAPA Hearing Officer for hearings scheduled for April 26, 2018. Mr. Farrell volunteered.

On the motion of Mr. Chiusano, seconded by Ms. Cook, the Board voted nine (9) to zero (0) to a grant the Petition for an Advisory Opinion from Connecticut Green Bank.

3. Following discussion of Board Policy 4 and proposed amendments to the policy, the Board tabled it to the next meeting for further consideration.
4. Executive Director Carson presented an overview of the updated Lobbyist reports system, which provides greater access to aggregate information as well as detailed information, and is a component of the ongoing Strategic Plan.
5. General Counsel Housen presented the Legal Division Report. She discussed the status of Edsall et al. v. OSE et al. (HHB-CV17-6039437-S).
6. Executive Director Carson presented the Education and Communications Reports. She noted that the OSE training on the state's learning management system (LMS) was highlighted at the March 16 Connecticut Development Network (CTDN).
7. Ethics Enforcement Officer Jones presented the Enforcement Division Report. He reported that a probable cause hearing is scheduled for the last week of June and, if probable cause is found, a full Board hearing would need to be empaneled within 30 days. He noted that the OSE has received a large number of requests related to background checks and praised paralegal specialists Diane Buxo and Malissa Hurry for handling the requests expeditiously.
8. Executive Director Carson discussed the status of legislation of interest to the OSE. She introduced Paralegal Specialist Malissa Hurry to the Board and highlighted her role at the OSE.
9. During the public comment session, David Audibert of Wolcott addressed the Board regarding Docket No. 2014-32, in which he was the Respondent. With his comments, Mr. Audibert provided a written statement and asked that it be posted to the OSE website linked to Docket No. 2014-32, or that the OSE refund the \$16,000 penalty that he had previously paid to resolve his matter. Mr. Audibert left the room at the conclusion of his statement. Following Mr. Audibert's comments and departure, Board members Cook and Lang stated that they would abstain from any votes or consideration of the matter.

Chair Castricone stated that the matter involving Mr. Audibert was settled almost two years ago and there is no matter currently pending before the board, and that decisions about web site postings were left to OSE staff. She reported that Mr. Audibert had voluntarily entered a stipulation and consent order and that he had been represented by counsel. Had Mr. Audibert stayed at the meeting following his comments, Chair Castricone stated that she would have explained this to him.

On the motion of Mr. Chiusano, seconded by Mr. Farrell, the Board voted nine (9) to zero (0) to enter Executive Session to discuss settlement offers with respect to pending claims, pursuant to General Statutes §§ 1-200 (6) (B) and 1-210 (b) (4).

The following Board members were present for the Executive Session:

Dena Castricone, Chair
Mary Bigelow
Charles F. Chiusano
Beth Cook

Kevin Johnston, Vice Chair
Richard Lang
Cheryl Lipson
Nichelle Mullin

Mr. Farrell left the room for the Executive session.

The following staff members were present for the entire Executive Session:

Carol Carson, Executive Director
Barbara Housen, General Counsel
Thomas K. Jones, Ethics Enforcement Officer
Mark Wasielewski, Deputy Ethics Enforcement Officer
Marc Crayton, Assistant Ethics Enforcement Officer
Alaaeldin Ali, IT Analyst, Temporary Clerk of the
Board

Following the Executive Session, the Board reconvened in public session. Mr. Farrell returned to the meeting.

On the motion of Mr. Chiusano, seconded by Mr. Johnston, the Board voted nine (9) to zero (0) to adjourn the meeting.

The Board discussed penalties for late filings by lobbyists.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,



Carol Carson
Executive Director
Office of State Ethics

Date approved
(By the Citizen's Ethics Advisory Board)