



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 AUGUST 15, 2019 REGULAR MEETING

The Citizen's Ethics Advisory Board ("Board") of the Office of State Ethics ("OSE") held a Regular Meeting on Thursday, August 15, 2019, in the 5th Floor Conference Room, 18-20 Trinity Street, Hartford, CT 06106.

Chair Dena Castricone called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m.

The following Board members were present:

Dena Castricone, Chair

Mary Bigelow

Charles F. Chiusano (by telephone)

Beth Cook

Kevin Johnston, Vice-Chair

Jason Farrell

Cheryl Lipson

Nichelle Mullins

The following staff members of the OSE were present:

Peter Lewandowski, Executive Director

Nancy Nicolescu, Director of Education &
Communications

Brian O'Dowd, General Counsel

Mark Wasielewski, Ethics Enforcement Officer

Marc Crayton, Deputy Ethics Enforcement
Officer

Diane Buxo, Assistant General Counsel

Malissa Hurry, Paralegal

Alaaeldin Ali, Temporary Clerk of the Board

The following topics were addressed during the meeting:

1. The minutes of the July 18, 2019 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) to approve the minutes of the July 18, 2019 Regular Meeting.

2. The minutes of the June 20, 2019 Special Meeting of the Subcommittee on Municipal Ethics were presented to the Board for approval.

On the motion of Ms. Bigelow, seconded by Ms. Lipson, the Board voted eight (8) to zero (0) to approve the minutes of the June 20, 2019 Special Meeting of the Subcommittee on Municipal Ethics.

3. Chair Castricone welcomed Peter Lewandowski as the new Executive Director of the Office of State Ethics, and then noted that she will serve as the Hearing Officer for the UAPA hearings in September.
4. Vice-Chair Johnston informed the Board that the Nominating Sub-Committee, which was appointed by the Board at the July 18, 2019 regular meeting and comprised of Vice-Chair Johnston and Ms. Lipson, met on Thursday, August 15, 2019, to consider a slate of candidates for chair and vice-chair of the Board for the one-year term commencing October 1, 2019. Ms. Lipson presented the names of Dena Castricone as chair and Jason Farrell as vice-chair, who were chosen unanimously by the Nominating Sub-Committee.

On the motion of Ms. Lipson, seconded by Mr. Johnston, the Board voted by acclamation to elect Ms. Castricone and Mr. Farrell for one-year terms beginning on October 1, 2019 for chair and vice-chair, respectively.

5. General Counsel O'Dowd presented the Legal Division report and focused on staffing matters within the division. Ms. Lipson recognized Attorney Buxo for her work, particularly in light of the currently vacant staff attorney and paralegal positions.
6. Director of Education & Communications Nicolescu presented the Media and Training Report, noting the publication of the Legislative Analysis, prepared by Intern Allyssa Morrissey. Director Nicolescu also presented COGEL Conference registration materials to the Board. Chair Castricone noted the benefits and importance of COGEL membership and involvement in the annual conference. Mr. Chiusano informed the Board about the proposed nomination of former Executive Director, Carol Carson, for the COGEL Award.
7. Ethics Enforcement Officer Wasielewski presented the Enforcement Division report, noting that there are nine matters scheduled for the September 12, 2019 UAPA hearing. He also noted that the probable cause hearing that was previously scheduled for the month of September has been moved to November 13, 2019.
8. Deputy Ethics Enforcement Officer Crayton presented the lobbyist audit report for Public Consulting Group c/o Multistate Associates, in which there were four adverse findings and a recommendation of corrective action.

On the motion of Ms. Cook, seconded by Mr. Johnston, the Board voted eight (8) to zero (0) to approve the audit report for Public Consulting Group c/o Multistate Associates and to authorize corrective action.

9. Executive Director Lewandowski updated the Board on personnel changes. He noted that the House Majority Leader reappointed Ms. Mullins to a four-year term, commencing October 1, 2019. The Office of State Ethics is awaiting additional appointments from the Speaker's and House Minority

Leader's offices. He also informed the Board of the agency's need to obtain funding for two additional positions and the plans to address these needs in the proposed adjustments to the mid-term budget. Finally, Executive Director Lewandowski acknowledged Kelly DeSalvatore, a summer legal intern in Enforcement Division, and thanked her for her work.

On the motion of Mr. Johnston, seconded by Mr. Farrell, the Board voted eight (8) to zero (0) to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Peter Lewandowski
Executive Director
Office of State Ethics

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