



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 21, 2019 REGULAR MEETING

The Citizen's Ethics Advisory Board ("Board") of the Office of State Ethics ("OSE") held a Regular Meeting on Thursday, March 21, 2019, in the 5th Floor Conference Room, 18-20 Trinity Street, Hartford, CT 06106.

Chair Dena Castricone called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

The following Board members were present:

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

Jason Farrell
Richard Lang
Cheryl Lipson
Nichelle Mullins

The following staff members of the OSE were present:

Carol Carson, Executive Director
Brian O'Dowd, Acting General Counsel
T.J. Jones, Ethics Enforcement Officer
Mark Wasielewski, Deputy Ethics Enforcement Officer

Marc Crayton, Asst. Ethics Enforcement Officer
Peter Lewandowski, Associate General Counsel
Nancy Nicolescu, Director of Education & Communications
Alaaeldin Ali, Temporary Clerk of the Board

The following topics were addressed during the meeting:

1. The minutes of the February 28, 2019 and March 7, 2019 Special Meetings were presented to the Board for approval.

On the motion of Ms. Lipson, seconded by Mr. Chiusano, the Board voted eight to zero to approve the minutes of the February 28, 2019 Special Meeting.

On the motion of Mr. Chiusano, seconded by Ms. Lipson, the Board voted seven to zero, with Ms. Cook abstaining, to approve the amended minutes of the March 7, 2019 Special Meeting.

2. Chair Castricone thanked the Board for their participation in the hearing in Docket No. 2017-15, In the Matter of a Complaint Against Charmane Thurmand. She requested that Mr. Johnston serve as the hearing officer for UAPA hearings scheduled for Thursday, April 25, 2019. Ms. Lipson volunteered to replace Mr. Johnston if he is unavailable to serve.
3. Acting General Counsel O'Dowd presented the Petition for Advisory Opinion submitted by Robert Clark on behalf of Governor Ned Lamont.

On the motion of Mr. Chiusano, seconded by Ms. Bigelow, the Board voted eight to zero to consider the Petition for Advisory Opinion submitted by Robert Clark on behalf of Governor Ned Lamont.

4. Acting General Counsel O'Dowd presented an overview of Advisory Opinion No. 2006-8 regarding the Board's settlement authority, after which the Board discussed the Opinion.
5. Mr. Chiusano discussed the Report on the University of Connecticut's Compliance with General Statutes § 1-84 (r), regarding Faculty Consulting, noting UConn's duty to report to the Office of State Ethics instances where faculty members did not follow the requirements of this provision.
6. Acting General Counsel O'Dowd presented the Legal Division report. He noted that the appeals period involving Docket No. 2017-15, In the Matter of a Complaint Against Charmane Thurmand, concludes on April 22, 2019.
7. Ms. Nicolescu presented the Media and Training Reports. She asked Board members to follow the recently activated OSE twitter account @ethicsCT.
8. Deputy Enforcement Officer Wasielewski presented the Enforcement Division report. He stated that three probable cause hearings were currently scheduled: two on April 16, 2019 and one on June 6, 2019.
9. Deputy Enforcement Officer Wasielewski presented the lobbyist audit report for Catrala of CT. There was one adverse finding.

On the motion of Mr. Chiusano, seconded by Ms. Lipson, the Board voted eight to zero to approve the audit report for Catrala of CT.

On the motion of Ms. Cook, seconded by Mr. Chiusano, the Board voted eight to zero to enter into a Closed Session to discuss the status of matters that are confidential pursuant to General Statutes §§ 1-82a and 1-93a.

The following Board members were present for the Closed Session:

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

Jason Farrell
 Richard Lang
 Cheryl Lipson
 Nichelle Mullins

The following staff members were present for the Closed Session:

Carol Carson, Executive Director
Brian O’Dowd, Acting General Counsel
T.J. Jones, Ethics Enforcement Officer
Mark Wasielewski, Dep. Ethics Enforcement Officer
Marc Crayton, Asst. Ethics Enforcement Officer

Peter Lewandowski, Associate General Counsel
Nancy Nicolescu, Director of Education & Communications
Malissa Hurry, Paralegal Specialist
Alaaeldin Ali, Temporary Clerk of the Board

On the motion of Mr. Chiusano, seconded by Ms. Lipson, the Board voted eight to zero to approve the settlement in Docket No. 2018-14.

On the motion of Mr. Farrell, seconded by Ms. Bigelow, the Board voted eight to zero to enter into an Executive Session to discuss strategy and negotiations with respect to pending claims or pending litigation pursuant to General Statutes §§ 1-200 (6) (B) and 1-210 (b) (4) with respect to the appeals of the Superior Court decisions in Edsall et al. v. Citizen's Ethics Advisory Board et al. (Docket No. CV176039437) and University of Connecticut v. Citizen's Ethics Advisory Board et al. (Docket No. CV176039438).

The following Board members were present for the Executive Session:

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

Jason Farrell
Richard Lang
Cheryl Lipson
Nichelle Mullins

The following staff members were present for the Executive Session:

Carol Carson, Executive Director
Brian O’Dowd, Acting General Counsel
T.J. Jones, Ethics Enforcement Officer
Mark Wasielewski, Dep. Ethics Enforcement Officer
Marc Crayton, Asst. Ethics Enforcement Officer

Peter Lewandowski, Associate General Counsel
Nancy Nicolescu, Director of Education & Communications
Malissa Hurry, Paralegal Specialist
Alaaeldin Ali, Temporary Clerk of the Board

On the motion of Mr. Chiusano, seconded by Ms. Cook, the Board voted eight to zero to withdraw the appeals of the Superior Court decisions in Edsall et al. v. Citizen's Ethics Advisory Board et al. (Docket No. CV176039437) and University of Connecticut v. Citizen's Ethics Advisory Board et al. (Docket No. CV176039438).

On the motion of Ms. Cook, seconded by Mr. Chiusano, the Board voted eight to zero to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Carol Carson
Executive Director
Office of State Ethics

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