



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 JUNE 20, 2019 REGULAR MEETING

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

Chair Dena Castricone called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

The following Board members were present:

Dena Castricone, Chair
Mary Bigelow
Charles F. Chiusano (by telephone)
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
Nancy Nicolescu, Director of Education &
Communications
Brian O'Dowd, General Counsel
Mark Wasielewski, Ethics Enforcement Officer

Marc Crayton, Deputy Ethics Enforcement
Officer
Peter Lewandowski, Deputy General Counsel
Alaaeldin Ali, Temporary Clerk of the Board

The following topics were addressed during the meeting:

1. The minutes of the May 16, 2019 Regular Meeting were presented to the Board for approval.

On the motion of Ms. Cook, seconded by Ms. Lipson, the Board voted six to zero, with Mr. Farrell, Mr. Lang and Ms. Mullins abstaining, to approve the minutes of the May 16, 2019 Regular Meeting.

2. Chair Castricone appointed Mr. Farrell to serve as the Hearing Officer for the UAPA hearing scheduled for Thursday, July 25, 2019.

- Chair Castricone recommended that she, Mr. Chiusano, Ms. Cook and Mr. Farrell serve as members of the Executive Search Committee for the purpose of making recommendations to replace the retiring Executive Director.

On the motion of Ms. Cook, seconded by Mr. Johnston, the Board voted nine to zero to create an Executive Search Committee consisting of Chair Castricone, Mr. Chiusano, Ms. Cook and Mr. Farrell.

- General Counsel O'Dowd reported on Patrick M. Ahlquist's withdrawal of his Petition for Advisory Opinion.
- General Counsel O'Dowd presented the Petition for Advisory Opinion submitted by William M. Bloss. Chair Castricone, Mr. Farrell and Ms. Cook recused themselves from this matter pursuant to General Statutes § 1-80 (j) and left the room.

On the motion of Ms. Bigelow, seconded by Ms. Mullins, the Board voted three to three, with Mr. Chiusano, Mr. Lang and Ms. Lipson voting to deny the Petition. The motion failed.

- General Counsel O'Dowd presented the Petition for Advisory Opinion submitted by James Hemingway.

On the recommendation of General Counsel O'Dowd and the motion of Ms. Mullins, seconded by Mr. Johnston, the Board voted nine to zero to deny the Petition.

- General Counsel O'Dowd recommended that the Board request assistance from the Attorney General pursuant to General Statutes § 1-81 (f) concerning Docket No. 2017-15, In the Matter of a Complaint Against Charmaine Thurmand.

On the motion of Ms. Cook, seconded by Ms. Lipson, the Board voted nine to zero to request assistance from the Attorney General pursuant to § 1-81 (f).

- General Counsel O'Dowd presented the Legal Division report, noting that Governor Lamont submitted to the Office of State Ethics copies of the executed powers of attorney that were discussed in Advisory Opinion 2019-2.
- Director of Education & Communications Nicolescu presented the Media and Training Report, noting that a revised online training was released and is being incorporated into the state's Learning Management System.
- Ethics Enforcement Officer Wasielewski presented the Enforcement Division report, noting that there are 10 matters scheduled for the June 27, 2019 UAPA hearing.
- Three summer interns—two law school students working in the Enforcement Division and an undergraduate student working with Director of Education & Communications Nicolescu—were introduced to the Board:

- Kelly DeSalvatore of Newington, who will complete her last semester of law school at UConn in the fall;
- Jessica Zaccagnino of West Hartford, who is entering her final year of law school at UConn; and
- Alyssa Morrissey of Southington, who is a rising senior at Vanderbilt University.

12. Deputy Ethics Enforcement Officer Crayton presented the lobbyist audit report for Local 35 UNITE HERE, in which there were two adverse findings.

On the motion of Mr. Chiusano, seconded by Mr. Johnston, the Board voted nine to zero to approve the audit report for Local 35 UNITE HERE and to authorize corrective action.

13. Executive Director Carson updated the Board on personnel changes. Diane Buxo became a Staff Attorney 1 in the Legal Division, and the paralegal specialist position she vacated is posted. More than 70 applications were received for a Staff Attorney 2 position for the Enforcement Division.

14. Executive Director Carson discussed the outcome of the Board's legislative proposals in the legislative session that concluded on June 5, 2019. She also reported on the FY 20 budget.

On the motion of Ms. Cook, seconded by Ms. Lipson, the Board voted nine to zero to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Carol Carson
Executive Director
Office of State Ethics

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