



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

MINUTES
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION
REGULAR TELEPHONIC MEETING

Via Webex
October 20, 2021
9:30 A.M.

I. Call to Order

Commissioner Penny was present via Webex and called the meeting to order at 9:33 A.M. Commissioners Michael Ajello, Greg Piecuch and Andrew Cascudo were present via Webex. Agency staff was also present and present via Webex.

II. Approval of the Minutes

Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of October 6, 2021

It was moved by Commissioner Cascudo and seconded by Commissioner Ajello to approve the Minutes of the Meeting of October 6, 2021. So voted by a vote of 3-0-1 with Commissioner Piecuch abstaining.

III. Administrative Reports

Director Michael Brandi updated that the SEEC is on target with the agency budget. The SEEC is looking to capital improvements related to our IT section. The SEEC is still looking to fill two positions in the agency for the Fiscal Administrative Officer and the Office Assistant position which will be the final 2 positions to fill out the roster. Those positions are in process right now through DAS.

Director Brandi advised that the agency is operating well. Staff has been experiencing higher call volume related to the October quarterly filing deadline. Staff is also preparing for the municipal elections coming up and we will have the Hotline running on Election Day. The SEEC will then be transitioning very quickly into the 2022 Statewide Elections and we are already again doing trainings and preparing for the start of the 2022 season which we think will be an active and busy year for us.

IV. Pending Complaints and Investigations

A. Public Session

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

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(Preliminary draft and agency consideration of enforcement action and exempt records relative thereto)

It was moved by Commissioner Piecuch and seconded by Commissioner Ajello at 9:37 A.M. to proceed into Executive Session pursuant to General Statutes §§ 1-200(6)(B) and (E), and 1-210(b)(1),(3),(4),(10) to discuss strategy and negotiations with respect to pending claims and exempt records. So voted.

Commissioners Stephen Penny, Michael Ajello, Andrew Cascudo and Greg Piecuch were present via Webex. Staff members present via Webex were, James Talbert-Slagle, Ryan M. Burns, Kevin Ahern, William B. Smith, Joshua Foley, Lindsey Leung, Stephanie Fish, Ronald Perry, Scott Branfuhr, Salman Munir, Geetha Natarajan, Paul Brady, Stephen Palmer, Linda Waterman, Shannon Kief, Michael J. Brandi and Sheri-Lyn Lagueux.

The Commission returned to public session at 10:43 A.M.

Returning to public session the Commission took the following action:

1. Recommendation of Counsel: Necessary to Investigate Determination pursuant to General Statutes §9-7a, as amended by Public Act 11-48 §300

Attorney Kevin M. Ahern summarized the Recommendation of Counsel dated October 20, 2021 and requested that six (6) matters be moved to investigate.

It was moved by Commissioner Piecuch and seconded by Commissioner Ajello to make a determination that it is necessary to investigate violations relating to six (6) complaints File Nos.: 2021-169, 2021-170, 2021-171, 2021-172, 2021-173 and 2021-174. So approved by the Commission, 4-0-0. So voted.

2. In the Matter of a Complaint by Essie Labrot, West Hartford
File No. 2020-072

Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney:

William B. Smith

Legal Investigator:

Scott Branfuhr

The matter is continued.

3. In the Matter of a Complaint by Hope Kasper, Middletown
File No. 2021-167

Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney:

William B. Smith

Legal Investigator:

Ronald Perry

The matter is continued.

4. In the Matter of a Complaint by Scott Valey, Berlin
File No. 2019-097
Recommendation of Counsel
Attorney: Ryan M. Burns
Legal Investigator: Scott Branfuhr

The matter is marked off.

5. In the Matter of a Complaint by William Jenkins, Chaplin
File No. 2020-071
Recommendation of Counsel
Attorney: James M. Talbert-Slagle
Legal Investigator: Stephanie Fish

The matter is continued.

6. Recommendation of Counsel: Discussion of Audit Process

The matter is continued.

7. Draft Audit Reports

The matter is continued.

1. "Merrill 2018," Denise Merrill
Accounts Examiner: Dinorah Collado
2. "Lembo for CT," Kevin P. Lembo (Exploratory)
Accounts Examiner: Ergys Guni
3. "Lembo for CT," Kevin P. Lembo
Accounts Examiner: Ergys Guni
4. "Dita for CT," Dita Bhargava (Exploratory)
Accounts Examiner: Nicole Petit
5. "Dita for CT Treasurer," Dita Bhargava
Accounts Examiner: Nicole Petit
6. "Kurt for CT," William K. Miller
Accounts Examiner: Dinorah Collado

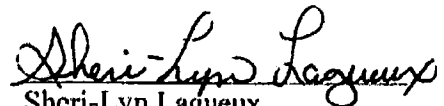
7. "Alex for CT," Jon A. Tiktinsky (Exploratory)
Accounts Examiner: Dinorah Collado
8. "Alex for CT," Jon A. Tiktinsky
Accounts Examiner: Dinorah Collado
9. "Leone for Senate 2018," Carlo Leone
Accounts Examiner: Nicole Petit
10. "Julie 2018," Julie Kushner
Accounts Examiner: Ergys Guni

VI. Consideration of Matters Discussed in Executive Session

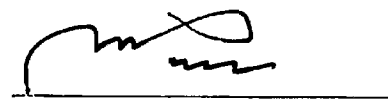
VII. Adjournment

It was moved by Commissioner Picuch and Seconded by Commissioner Ajello at 10:45 AM to adjourn the meeting. Unless otherwise noted, all votes of the Commission are unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,


Sheri-Lyn Lagueux
Clerk of the Commission

Adopted this 3rd day of November, 2021 at Hartford, Connecticut.


Stephen T. Penny
By Order of the Commission

The next regular scheduled meeting is November 3, 2021 at 9:30 A.M. via Webex.