



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

MINUTES
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION
REGULAR TELEPHONIC MEETING

Via Webex
February 21, 2024
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 Shannon Bergquist and Greg Picuch were present via Webex. Agency staff was also present and present via Webex.

II. Approval of the Minutes

1. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of February 7, 2024

It was moved by Commissioner Picuch and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to approve the Minutes of the Meeting of February 7, 2024. So voted by a vote of 3-0-0.

III. Administrative Reports

Legal Program Director Shannon Kief stated that the legislature's Government Administration and Elections Committee is meeting today at noon to raise various legislative concepts, including the agency's proposals. Staff will continue to monitor the progress of legislative bills and update the Commission accordingly.

IV. Public Session

1. Discussion of Agency Organization, Staff Roles and Internal Process

The above matter was not discussed.

V. Pending Complaints and Investigations

A. Public Session

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

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It was moved by Commissioner Piecuch and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist at 9:36 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 by a vote of 3-0-0.

Commissioners Penny, Bergquist, and Piecuch were present via Webex. Staff members present via Webex were: Shannon Clark Kief, Salman Munir, Krysta Palozie, Renata Rydzewski, William Smith, James Heffernan, Johnny Ross, III, Stephanie Fish, Ron Perry, Joshua Foley, Patricia Mwilwa, Aaron Charney, Maryam Bitar, Ashley Socquet, Melissa Moore-Ward, and Stephen Palmer.

The Commission returned to public session at 10:29 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 William B. Smith summarized the Recommendation of Counsel dated February 8, 2024 and requested that six (6) matters not be moved to investigate.

It was moved by Commissioner Piecuch and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to make a determination that it is not necessary to investigate violations relating to six (6) complaints, File No. 2023-119, File No. 2023-120, File No. 2023-121, File No. 2023-122, File No. 2023-123, and File No. 2023-124. So approved by the Commission, 3-0-0. So voted.

Attorney William B. Smith summarized the Recommendation of Counsel dated February 8, 2024 and requested that three (3) matters be moved to investigate.

It was moved by Commissioner Piecuch and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to make a determination that it is necessary to investigate violations relating to three (3) complaints, File No. 2024-015, File No. 2024-016, and File No. 2024-017. So approved by the Commission, 3-0-0. So voted.

Attorney William B. Smith summarized the Recommendation of Counsel dated February 8, 2024 and requested that two (2) matters not be moved to investigate.

It was moved by Commissioner Piecuch and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to make a determination that it is not necessary to investigate violations relating to two (2) complaints, File No. 2024-013 and File No. 2024-014. So approved by the Commission, 3-0-0. So voted.

2. Recommendation of Counsel: Progress Report on Cases Handled by the SEEC Regarding the 2023 Bridgeport Primary

No formal action needed on progress report.

3. In the Matter of a Complaint by Kevin Kickey, Wilton
File No. 2023-103
Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney: William B. Smith
Legal Investigator: Sheri-Lyn Lagueux

Attorney William B. Smith summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2023-103. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Findings & Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Piecuch and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to adopt the Findings & Conclusions as to a dismissal in File No. 2023-103. So voted by a vote of 3-0-0. The Findings & Conclusions will be available on our website under Commission Decisions.

4. In the Matter of a Complaint by Robert Natt, Easton
File No. 2023-013
Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney: James B. Heffernan
Legal Investigator: Ronald Perry

The matter is continued.

5. In the Matter of a Complaint by Silvia Ramos, Bridgeport
File No. 2023-030
Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney: Johnny Ross, III
Legal Investigator: Stephanie Fish

Attorney Johnny Ross, III summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Consent Order and Agreement in File No. 2023-030. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Consent Order and Agreement.

It was moved by Commissioner Piecuch and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to adopt the Consent Order and Agreement in File No. 2023-030, pending receipt within 10 days. So voted by a vote of 3-0-0.

6. In the Matter of a Complaint by Eneida Martinez, Bridgeport
File No. 2023-031

Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney:

Johnny Ross, III

Legal Investigator:

Stephanie Fish

Attorney Johnny Ross, III summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Consent Order and Agreement in File No. 2023-031. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Consent Order and Agreement.

It was moved by Commissioner Piecuch and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to adopt the Consent Order and Agreement in File No. 2023-031, pending receipt within 10 days. So voted by a vote of 3-0-0.

VII. Consideration of Matters Discussed in Executive Session

VIII. Adjournment

It was moved by Commissioner Piecuch and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist at 10:41 A.M. to adjourn the meeting. So voted by a vote of 3-0-0. Unless otherwise noted, all votes of the Commission are unanimous.

Respectfully submitted by,



Sheri-Lyn Lagueux

Clerk of the State Elections Enforcement Commission

March 20, 2024

Date approved

(By the State Elections Enforcement Commission)

The next regular scheduled meeting is March 6, 2024 at 9:30 A.M. via Webex.