

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OF THE ETHICS COMMISSION
STATE OF OKLAHOMA
HELD JANUARY 27, 2017

Call to Order

Upon notice, with agenda being properly posted at the Commission office at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the commencement of the meeting and notice being a regular meeting of the Ethics Commission of the State of Oklahoma ["Commission"] was called to order on Friday, January 27, 2017, at 1:10 p.m. Chair Jo Pettigrew ["Pettigrew"], opened the meeting, which was held in Room 206, State Capitol Building, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Determination of Quorum

Roll was called to determine the existence of a quorum for the transaction of business. Commissioners answering present were: Chair Jo Pettigrew ["Pettigrew"], Vice Chair John Hawkins ["Hawkins"], Commissioner Cathy Stocker, Commissioner Karen Long ["Long"] and Commissioner Holly Easterling ["Easterling"]. A quorum of members was declared.

Staff & Visitors

Commission staff members present at all or part of the meeting were Ashley Kemp ["Kemp"], Geoffrey Long ["Long"], Stephanie Black ["Black"], and Tiffany Elczyn ["Elczyn"].

Observing all or part of the meeting: Denise Lawson, Attorney; Glenn Coffee, Attorney; Shawn Ashley, ECapitol News; Caroline Dennis, Senate Staff; Kathryn Taylor, Senate Leadership; Trent Baggett, Executive Director of District Attorney's Council; Rae Rice, Lobbyist; Representative Moore, House of Representatives; and Representative Cleveland, House of Representatives.

Introductions and Announcements

Introduction and Announcements by Executive Director Kemp.

Request by Rae Rice to address the Commission regarding his experiences with the Commission.

Rae Rice, Executive and Legislative Lobbyist, made brief comments on his opinions on the improvements that have been made with compliance and reporting.

Questions or comments by commissioners. Chair Pettigrew commented.

Consideration, discussion and possible final action on the Commission's official promulgated rules for Year 2017

Commissioner Long moved to approve the Commission's official promulgated rules for Year 2017.

Vice Chair Hawkins seconded.

PROPOSED DRAFT/SUBJECT TO REVISION

Explanation of Commission's official promulgated rules for Year 2017 by Executive Director Kemp.

Discussion or comments by Commissioners. None

Roll was called and the vote was as follows: Long – yes, Hawkins - yes, Pettigrew - yes, Stocker - yes, and Easterling - yes

Motion carried.

Consideration, discussion and possible action on minutes for regular meeting, public hearing and executive session held December 9, 2016.

Commissioner Stocker moved to approve the regular meeting, public hearing and executive session minutes as presented, held December 9, 2016.

Long seconded.

Discussion or comments by Commissioners. None

Roll was called and the vote was as follows: Stocker - yes, Long – yes, Pettigrew - yes, Hawkins – yes, Easterling – yes

Motion carried.

Discussion of agency expenditures for December 1 through December 31, 2016

No discussion.

Consideration, discussion and possible action on request for waiver of Ethics Rule 5, Lobbyist Registration and Reporting, based upon a preexisting relationship pursuant to Rule 5.25

Mr. Trent Baggett, Executive Director of District Attorney's Council, explains preexisting relationship with Senator Lonnie Paxton.

Questions or comments by commissioners. Long commented.

Commissioner Long moved to grant the waiver request W-16-04 for the preexisting relationship.

Stocker seconded.

Discussion or comments by Commissioners. None

Roll was called and the vote was as follows: Long - yes, Stocker – yes, Pettigrew - yes, Hawkins – yes, Easterling – yes

Motion carried.

PROPOSED DRAFT/SUBJECT TO REVISION

Executive Director's Report. Report was provided by Executive Director Kemp on the COGEL Conference, by General Counsel Geoff Long on Legislation, and by Executive Director Kemp on Continuing Education Programs and Compliance update.

General Counsel's Report Recent developments in ethics law by General Counsel Geoff Long.

Consideration, discussion and possible action on Closed/Executive session. Commissioner Long moved to go into Closed/Executive session.

Commissioner Stocker seconded.

Discussion or comments by Commissioners. None

Roll was called and the vote was as follows: Long - yes, Stocker – yes, Pettigrew - yes, Hawkins – yes, Easterling – yes

Motion was carried to go into Executive/Closed session at 1:37 p.m.

Executive session was held in the Conference Room located within the Ethics Commission office in the Capitol basement, Rm. B-5.

Vice Chair Hawkins left the meeting at 2:55 p.m.

Possible Action to return to Open Session **Commissioner Stocker moved to reconvene in Open Session at 3:02 p.m.**

Commissioner Easterling seconded.

Discussion or comments by Commissioners. None

Roll was called and the vote was as follows: Stocker - yes, Easterling - yes, Pettigrew – yes and Long - yes

Motion carried.

Consideration, discussion and possible action on items considered in Executive Session. Commissioner Long moved to dismiss Case No. 2016-05.

Stocker seconded.

Discussion or comments by Commissioners. None

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Roll was called and the vote was as follows: Long – yes, Stocker - yes, Pettigrew – yes and Easterling - yes

Motion carried.

Commissioner Long moved to approve the proposed settlement agreement to resolve Case No. 2016-06.

Stocker seconded.

Discussion or comments by Commissioners. None

Roll was called and the vote was as follows: Long – yes, Stocker - yes, Pettigrew – yes and Easterling - yes

Motion carried.

Consideration, discussion and possible action on resignation of Geoff Long as General Counsel effective February 28, 2017

Discussion or comments by Commissioners. Chair Pettigrew and Commissioner Long made comments.

Commissioner Long moved to accept the resignation of General Counsel Geoff Long.

Easterling seconded.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows: Long – yes, Easterling - yes, Pettigrew – yes and Stocker - yes

Motion carried.

New Business

Chair Pettigrew made comments regarding February meeting.

Adjournment

Commissioner Stocker moved to adjourn.


Commissioner Easterling seconded.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows: Stocker - yes, Easterling – yes, Pettigrew – yes and Long - yes

Motion carried.

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Meeting ended at 3:10 p.m.



ASHLEY KEMP, Executive Director

Approved on Behalf of the Commission:



JO PETTIGREW, Chair