

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING  
OF THE ETHICS COMMISSION  
STATE OF OKLAHOMA  
HELD OCTOBER 11, 2019

**Call to Order.**

Upon notice, with the agenda being properly posted at the Commission office at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the commencement of the meeting and notice being filed at least forty-eight (48) hours in advance with the Office of the Secretary of State, a regular meeting of the Ethics Commission of the State of Oklahoma ["Commission"] was called to order on Friday, October 11, 2019, at 10:09 a.m. Acting-Chair Charlie Laster ["Laster"] opened the meeting, which was held in Room 511A of the 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: Holly Johnson ["Johnson"], Cathy Stocker ["Stocker"], Gregg Engle ["Engle"], and Jarred Brejcha ["Brejcha"]. A quorum of members was declared.

### Staff & Visitors.

Commission staff members present at all or part of the meeting were Ashley Kemp ["Kemp"], Stephanie McCord ["McCord"], and Ariel Koerner ["Koerner"].

Observing all or part of the meeting: Jim Dunlap, Lobbyist; Christina Hanley, LegisOK; Denise Lawson, Attorney; Glenn Coffee, Attorney; Shawn Ashley, eCapitol; Denise Northrup, Citizen; Matt Duehning, Senate; Geoff Long, Attorney; Barbara Hoberock, Tulsa World; Arnella Karges, Senate.

**Open Meeting Act Compliance.**

In compliance with Open Meetings Act.

## Introductions and Announcements.

Recognized marriage of Director of Compliance, whose name is now Stephanie McCord.

Consideration, discussion, and possible action on minutes for the regular meeting and executive session held September 13, 2019.

Commissioner Stocker moved to approve the minutes for the regular meeting and executive session held September 13, 2019.

Commissioner Engle seconded.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows: Stocker - yes, Engle - yes, Laster - yes, Johnson - yes, Brejcha - yes.

**Motion carried.**

Consideration, discussion and possible action on Commission process for late reports and failure to file reports for FY 2020.

Explanation of process by Executive Director Kemp.

Comments by Commissioner Johnson

Public Comments:

Ron Justice, Former Senator, commented that, as a past legislator, never had problems with the Ethics Commission, but has concerns regarding the proposal. He believes a public complaint will cause embarrassment and negative connotation. He explained that the process is simple and prevents such concerns. The proposed process is one that is complicated. In addition, he believes the proposal process will take up time and resources of the legislators and Ethics Commission. He concludes by stating that this proposal could break relationships.

Frank Simpson, Senator, commented that the Ethics Commission has always been there to help. He has had a late report before and it was handled administratively, but he worries about making it a public forum. He is concerned that the proposal process could be weaponized by a political opponent.

Geoffrey Long, attorney, commented that the Ethics Commission already has a time saving, compliance order process. However, he has concerns about the continuing reports of contribution compliance process and he doesn't see the value in them.

Jim Dunlap, lobbyist, expressed his frustration with notices that are sent to their clients if they file late. He commented that they try to keep compliant, but with constant changes, it is hard to keep up.

Denise Lawson, attorney, commented that the Ethics Commission should go through a formal rule rewrite for this proposal, according to the text of Rule 6.19.

Commissioner and Staff Comments. Comments made by Brejcha, Kemp, and Laster.

Minutes of Regular Meeting and Public Hearing held October 11, 2019

Consideration, discussion, possible action on FY 2021 Budget Request.

Executive Director explained that following the September 13, 2019 Commission meeting, the Director received the documents for submission of the Commission's FY 21 budget request by October 1, 2019. Director Kemp submitted Commission's FY 21 request in draft form pending the explanation and presentation of the FY 21 budget request to the Commission during its October 11, 2019 meeting. Director Kemp explained the FY 21 request could be modified based upon feedback from the Commissioners after the presentation. Director Kemp conducted a presentation and explanation of the Commission's FY 21 request.

No questions or comments were made by commissioners.

Executive Director's Report.

Report was provided by Executive Director Kemp on agency expenditures for the month of September 2019, continuing education programs, and compliance.

Consideration, discussion, and possible action on Closed/Executive session.

Commissioner Stocker moved that pursuant to counsel's advice as set forth in the agenda, the Commission go into executive session in the Ethics Commission office, room G-27 of the State Capitol.

Commissioner Johnson seconded.

Discussion or comments by commissioners. None.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows: Stocker - yes, Johnson - yes, Laster - yes, Engle - yes, Brejcha - yes.

**Motion was carried to go into Executive/Closed session at 11:37 a.m.**

Possible action to return to Open Session.

**Commissioner Johnson moved to reconvene in Open Session at 1:23 p.m.**

Commissioner Stocker seconded.

Discussion or comments by Commissioners. None.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows: Johnson - yes, Stocker - yes, Laster - yes, Engle - yes, Brejcha - yes.

**Motion carried.**

Consideration, discussion, and possible action on items considered in executive session.

Commissioner Stocker moved to authorize the Executive Director to not seek additional applications and to proceed as discussed in executive session.

Commissioner Johnson seconded.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows: Stocker - yes, Johnson - yes, Laster - yes, Engle - yes, Brejcha - yes.

**Motion carried.**

Commissioner Stocker moved to authorize the Executive Director to proceed under rule 6.10 as discussed in executive session in Case No. 2017-10, alleging violations of Campaign Finance Rule 2.

Commissioner Engle seconded.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows: Stocker - yes, Engle - yes, Laster - yes, Johnson - yes, Brejcha - yes.

**Motion carried.**

Nomination, consideration and action on election of Commission Chair for 2019-2020.

Commissioner Stocker nominated Commissioner Laster as Commission Chair for 2019-2020.

Commissioner Johnson seconded.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows: Stocker - yes, Johnson - yes, Laster - abstain, Engle - yes, Brejcha - yes.

**Motion carried.**

Nomination, consideration and action on election of Commission Vice-Chair for 2019-2020.

Commissioner Engle nominated Commissioner Johnson as Commission Vice-Chair for 2019-2020.

Commissioner Stocker seconded.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows: Engle - yes, Stocker - yes, Laster - yes, Johnson - abstain, Brejcha - yes.

**Motion carried.**

New Business.

None.

Adjournment.

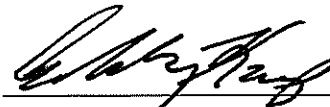
Commissioner Stocker moved to adjourn.

Commissioner Brejcha seconded.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows: Stocker - yes, Brejcha - yes, Laster - yes, Johnson - yes, Engle - yes.

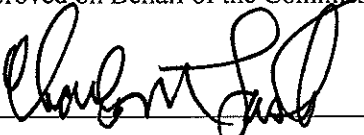
**Motion carried.**

Meeting ended at 1:28 p.m.



ASHLEY KEMP, Executive Director

Approved on Behalf of the Commission:



CHARLIE LASTER, Chair