

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OF THE ETHICS COMMISSION
STATE OF OKLAHOMA
HELD APRIL 13, 2018

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, April 13, 2018, at 10:07 a.m. Chair John Hawkins opened the meeting, which was held in Room 432A, 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 John Hawkins ["Hawkins"], Commissioner Cathy Stocker ["Stocker"], Vice-Chair Karen Long ["Long"], Commissioner Holly Easterling ["Easterling"] and Commissioner Charles Laster ["Laster"]. A quorum of members was declared.

Staff & Visitors.

Commission staff members present at all or part of the meeting were Ashley Kemp ["Kemp"], Jan Preslar ["Preslar"], and Ariel Hawkins ["Hawkins"].

Observing all or part of the meeting: Denise Lawson, Attorney; Caroline Dennis, Senate; Matt Duehning, Senate.

Comments regarding former Commissioner John Raley.

With great sadness, the Ethics Commission announces the passing of former member and Chair of the Commission, John Raley. A true public servant, Raley served over thirty years in the United States Navy. As a lawyer, he served first as an Assistant U.S. Attorney, and later as U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Oklahoma appointed by President George H.W. Bush, and reappointed by President Bill Clinton. Upon retirement from the Department of Justice, Raley returned to Ponca City and joined the law firm Northcutt, Raley, Clark and Gardner. Along the way, Raley served as a municipal judge, Mayor of Ponca City, and on the Board of Governors for the Oklahoma Bar Association. Raley, appointed to the Ethics Commission by former Attorney General Drew Edmondson served two terms with distinction until he was term limited in 2012. As a Commissioner, he was known for "his dedication and faithfulness to the agency's mission, for being the epitome of diplomacy, for his statesmanship and grace under fire, and for his tireless efforts to shape and enforce the Constitutional Ethics Rules". Ethics Commission Resolution issued in July of 2012.

Minutes of Regular Meeting held April 13, 2018

Consideration, discussion, and possible action on minutes for the regular meeting and executive session held March 9, 2018.

Commissioner Stocker moved to approve the regular meeting and executive session minutes for the Commissioner meeting held March 9, 2018.

Commissioner Easterling seconded.

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

Motion Carried.

Hearing on Advisory Opinion Request AOR-2017-03.

Explanation of draft opinion AO-2018-01 by General Counsel.

Comments and Questions by Commissioners.

Comments by Hawkins, Laster and Long.

Public comment, including any written comment.

Comments by Caroline Dennis.

Comments and questions by Commissioner and staff.

Comments by Long, General Counsel Preslar, Hawkins, Executive Director Kemp, Stocker and Laster

Possible action on advisory opinion AO-2018-01.

Commissioner Stocker moved to adopt draft opinion AO-2018-01 as the official advisory opinion of the Ethics Commission in response to request AOR-17-03 and to direct the Executive Eirector to finalize and publish the advisory opinion.

Commissioner Laster seconded.

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

Motion Carried.

Consideration, discussion and possible action on request for waiver of Ethics Rule 4, Conflicts of Interest, based upon a preexisting relationship pursuant to Rule 4.22.

Commissioner Long moved to grant waiver request W-18-01 for the preexisting relationship between Annette Jacobi, Steve Buck and Ed Lake based on a finding that the purpose of the Ethics Rules will not be impeded or hindered by the waiver.

Commissioner Laster seconded.

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

Motion Carried.

Discussion of agency expenditures for the month of March 2018.

Explanation of expenditures by Executive Director Kemp.

Executive Director's Report.

Report was provided by Executive Director Kemp on Agency News, Proposed Rule Amendments 2019-01 and 2019-02, 2018 Candidate Filing, FY 19 Budget Request, and Continuing Education Programs and Compliance.

2018 Legislation Report.

Explanation of Legislation report by General Counsel Preslar.

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

Vice-Chair Long moved that pursuant to counsel's advice as set forth in the agenda, the Commission go into executive session in the Commission offices in Room B-5.

Commissioner Laster seconded.

Discussion or comments by commissioners. None.

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

Motion was carried to go into Executive/Closed session at 11:16 a.m.

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

Commissioner Long left the meeting prior to the beginning of the Executive Session.

Possible Action to return to Open Session.

Commissioner Stocker moved to reconvene in Open Session at 12:37 p.m.

Commissioner Laster seconded.

Discussion or comments by Commissioners. None.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows: Stocker - yes, Laster - yes, Hawkins - yes, Easterling - yes.

Motion carried.

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

Commissioner Laster moved to authorize a formal investigation on Complaint C-18-04 based on a determination that there is reasonable cause to believe that the person or persons named in the complaint have violated Lobbyist Ethics Rule 5.

Commissioner Easterling seconded.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows: Laster - yes, Easterling - yes, Hawkins - yes, Stocker - yes.

Motion Carried.

Commissioner Laster moved the Commission approve the proposed settlement agreement to resolve Case No. 2018-01.

Commissioner Easterling seconded.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows: Laster - yes, Easterling - yes, Hawkins - yes, Stocker - yes.

Motion Carried.

New Business

None.

Adjournment

Commissioner Easterling moved to adjourn.

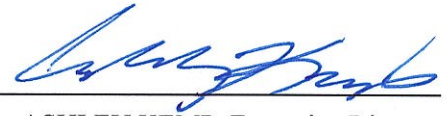
Commissioner Laster seconded.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows: Easterling - yes, Laster - yes, Hawkins - yes, Stocker - yes.

Motion carried.

Meeting ended at 12:39 pm.

Minutes of Regular Meeting held April 13, 2018



ASHLEY KEMP, Executive Director

Approved on Behalf of the Commission:



JOHN HAWKINS, Chair