

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE ETHICS COMMISSION  
STATE OF OKLAHOMA  
HELD JANUARY 10, 2014

- 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 filed at least 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, January 10, 2014 at 10:37 a.m. Chair Cathy Stocker ["Stocker"] 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: Stocker, Jo Pettigrew ["Pettigrew"], Karen Long ["Long"] and Thomas Walker ["Walker"]. A quorum of members was declared.
- Staff & Visitors Commission staff members present were Lee Slater ["Slater"], Ashley Kemp ["Kemp"], Rebecca Frazier ["Frazier"], Roberta Hale, and Suzi Bryan.
- Observing all or part of the meeting were Shawn Ashley, Reporter, eCapitol News; Marie Price, Legislative Reporter, *Journal Record*; Carolyn Thompson, Assistant Policy/Special Projects Manager, House of Representatives Speaker's Staff; Denise Davick, Attorney; Chelsea Smith, General Counsel, House of Representatives; Glenn Coffee, Attorney; Caroline Dennis, Senate Staff; Gwendolyn Caldwell, lobbyist, The State Chamber; Anne Roberts, Director, Integris; Jim Dunlap, Lobbyist; Pat Franz, Ethics Liaison, Oklahoma Corporation Commission and H.J. Reed, lobbyist, Phillips 66.
- Introductions and Announcements Chair asked for any introductions and there were none.
- Consideration, Discussion and Possible Action on Minutes for Public Hearing, Regular Meeting and Executive Session held on December 13, 2013 Pettigrew moved to approve minutes of the December 13, 2013, public hearing, regular meeting and executive session. Walker seconded. Roll was called and the vote was as follows: Pettigrew– yes, Walker – yes, Long – yes, Stocker - abstain. **Motion carried.**
- Consideration, Discussion and Possible Action on Ratification of Agency Expenditures for the month of December 2013 Slater gave commissioners a summary of the expenditures and stated if it was useful to them staff would prepare this summary in the future. Long moved ratification of the agency expenditures. Pettigrew seconded. Roll was called on the motion and the vote was as follows: Long – yes,

Pettigrew – yes, Stocker – yes, Walker - abstain. **Motion carried.**

Executive Director's  
Report.

Slater reported that the agency's budget for Fiscal Year 2015 had been submitted with a request for two additional positions for training and compliance at a cost of \$200,000, a request for a \$20,000 operating expense increase and a \$3.5 million request for campaign finance and lobbyist reporting software.

Slater said the staff and representatives of the Office of Management and Enterprise Services Information Technology Division were favorably impressed by a campaign finance reporting demonstration by a vendor the preceding day.

He recognized Kemp, who explained new methods of filing using electronic mail and conversion of existing forms into interactive forms to facilitate electronic filing for persons required to file registrations or reports with the Commission.

Slater said he had spoken to a Tulsa City Council committee concerning possible changes to its election procedures.

Slater pointed out that in January of 2013—one year earlier—the Commission had only two staff members, one of whom was using leave time in anticipation of her retirement. There was no Executive Director or General Counsel. Slater said that the Commission now has a highly qualified and high performing Executive staff including Deputy Director Kemp and General Counsel Frazier. He said that Hale came highly recommended and had fulfilled that promise and that Bryan was invaluable in providing institutional knowledge and hard work for the Commission.

Slater pointed out that the Commission's increased appropriations reflected at least in part the pledge of support from Governor Fallin, President Pro Tempore Bingman, Speaker Shannon, Senator Jolley, Representative Martin and others.

He said the Commission had provided the blueprint, a plan of operation for the Ethics Commission and said for that, the Commissioners were to be commended. He said the people of Oklahoma owed the Commissioners their appreciation and gratitude.

General Counsel's  
Report

General Counsel Frazier discussed late filing fee assessments. Frazier reported that demand letters requesting payment of late fees were sent to approximately 250 political action committees on December 2, 2013. Frazier reported that the Commission has recovered approximately \$15,000. Frazier reported that Staff continues to work diligently on this

issue.

Frazier stated that there are no recent legal developments in ethics law.

Frazier also gave an overview of the Article 29, Section 3 of the Oklahoma Constitution explaining the legal process for submitting the Commission's promulgated rules to the Legislature and the Governor.

Consideration, Discussion and Proposed Action on Closed/Executive Session

Frazier gave the statement of advice of counsel to go into Executive Session. Long moved to go into Closed/Executive session. Walker seconded. Roll was called and the vote was as follows: Long – yes, Walker – yes, Pettigrew – yes, Stocker - yes. **Motion carried to go into Executive/Closed session at 10:59 a.m.**

Possible Action to Return to Open Session

Pettigrew moved to return to open session at 11:58 a.m. Walker seconded. Roll was called and the vote was as follows: Pettigrew – yes Walker - yes, Long – yes, Stocker – yes. **Motion carried.**

Consideration, Discussion and Possible Action on Items Considered in Executive Session

There was no motion for the items listed in Executive Session.

New Business

There was no new business.

Adjournment

Walker moved to adjourn and asked that the minutes reflect that it was before noon. Long seconded. Roll was called and the vote was as follows: Walker – yes, Long – yes, Pettigrew – yes, Stocker - yes. **Motion carried.** Meeting ended at 11:59 a.m.



LEE SLATER, Executive Director

Approved on Behalf of the Commission:



CATHY STOCKER, Chair

LS/sb