

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OF THE ETHICS COMMISSION
STATE OF OKLAHOMA
HELD MARCH 14, 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, March 14, 2014, at 10:00 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, Karen Long, ["Long"], Thomas Walker ["Walker"], and M. Robert McKinney ["McKinney"]. A quorum of members was declared.
- Staff & Visitors Commission staff members present were Lee Slater ["Slater"], Ashley Kemp ["Kemp"], Rebecca Frazier ["Frazier"], and Roberta Hale ["Hale"].
- Observing all or part of the meeting: Caroline Dennis, Senate Staff; Chelsea Smith, General Counsel, House of Representatives, Glenn Coffee, Attorney; Denise Davick, Attorney; Karen C. Smith, UCO Graduate Student, Britny Stein, OSU Graduate Student, Taylor Howard, OSU Graduate Student, Tiffany Carter, OSU Graduate Student, and Melissa Sparks, UCO Graduate Student.
- Introductions and Chair asked for any introductions. Mr. Slater mentioned that UCO Announcements graduate students were in attendance to observe the meeting.
- Consideration, Walker moved to approve minutes of the February 14, 2014, regular Discussion and Possible meeting and executive session. McKinney seconded. Roll was called Action on Minutes for and the vote was as follows: Walker – yes, McKinney, seconded, Long – Regular Meeting and abstained, Stocker – yes. **Motion carried.** Executive Session held on February 14, 2014.
- Consideration, Walker moved for ratification of the agency expenditures. Long Discussion and Possible seconded. Roll was called on the motion and the vote was as follows: Action on Ratification of Walker– yes, Long – yes, McKinney – yes, Stocker – yes. **Motion Agency Expenditures for carried.** the month of February, 2014.

Executive Director's Report.

Slater said that he and Deputy Director Kemp had a positive meeting with newly-elected Speaker of the House of Representatives Jeff Hickman.

Slater updated information related to legislation by which the Commission may be affected. He said Senate Bill 1745 had been approved without dissent in the Senate, but that the title had been stricken from the bill. He said that House Bill 1368, which had been held over from the 2013 session, was approved by the House with a July 1, 2013, effective date. House Bill 2199, which repeals criminal penalties for anonymous campaign literature, was approved by the House and has been assigned to the Senate Rule Committee.

Slater said he and Deputy Director Kemp met with a group of visitors from Volgograd (formerly Stalingrad), Russia through Open World Leadership, a program of the United States Congress hosted locally by Friendship Force Oklahoma.

He said that he had made appearances before the Oklahoma Judges Association, the State Senate Democrat caucus, the Senate pages, the Oklahoma Municipal League legislative committee and executives and with Oklahoma State School Boards Association executive director Shawn Hime. The meetings with the Municipal League officials and Mr. Hime were to discuss SB 1745.

General Counsel's Report

General Counsel Frazier explained staff's desire to hire legal interns to assist the Commission with daily projects. Frazier explained that Commission staff has contacted Oklahoma City University College of Law and is in the process of creating a legal externship which will start in June 2014. Deputy Director Kemp and Frazier have already interviewed potential interns and selected two individuals to begin the externship this summer.

Frazier stated that there are no recent legal developments in ethics law and explained the potential impact of the *McCutcheon* case should a Supreme Court ruling occur in June 2014.

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, McKinney – yes, Stocker - yes. **Motion carried to go into Executive/Closed session at 10:27 a.m.**

Possible Action to Return to Open Session

McKinney moved to reconvene in open session at 11:42 a.m. Walker seconded. Roll was called and the vote was as follows: McKinney – yes, Walker – yes, Long– yes, Stocker – yes. **Motion carried.**

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

Commissioner Walker made the following motion: Madam Chair I move that the Commission determine that the information it has received in support of complaint 14-003 provides an adequate basis to believe that a violation of Commission rules may have occurred, and therefore the Commission initiate an investigation and that the issuance of subpoenas be authorized. Long seconded. Roll was called and the vote was as follows: Walker – yes, Long – yes, McKinney – yes, Stocker – yes. **Motion carried.**

Commissioner Walker made the following motion: Madam Chair, I move the Commission to determine that the information received in support of complaint 14-004 does not provide an adequate basis to believe that a violation of the Commission rules may have occurred and therefore an investigation not be initiated. Long seconded. Roll was called and the vote was as follows: Walker – yes, Long – yes, McKinney– yes, Stocker – yes. **Motion carried.**

Commissioner Walker made the following motion: Madam Chair I move the Commission to determine that the information received in support of complaint 14-005 provides an adequate basis to believe that a violation of Commission Rules may have occurred, and therefore, the Commission initiate an investigation and that the issuance of subpoenas be authorized. Long seconded. Roll was called and the vote was as follows: Walker – yes, Long – yes, McKinney – yes, Stocker – yes. **Motion carried.**

Minutes of Regular Meeting held March 14, 2014.

New Business There was no new business to discuss.

Adjournment Long moved to adjourn. McKinney seconded. Roll was called and the vote was as follows: Long – yes, McKinney– yes, Walker – yes, Stocker - yes. **Motion carried.** Meeting ended at 11:46 a.m.



LEE SLATER, Executive Director

Approved on Behalf of the Commission:



CATHY STOCKER, Chair
LS/rah