

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING AND INFORMAL PUBLIC HEARING  
OF THE ETHICS COMMISSION  
STATE OF OKLAHOMA  
HELD OCTOBER 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 filed at least forty-eight (48) hours in advance with the Office of the Secretary of State, a Special Meeting and Informal Public Hearing of the Ethics Commission of the State of Oklahoma ["Commission"] was called to order on Friday, October 27, 2017, at 2:02 p.m. Acting Chair John Hawkins ["Hawkins"], opened the meeting, which was held at OSU-OKC, 900 N. Portland, Oklahoma City, OK 73107.

Determination of Quorum.

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

Staff & Visitors.

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

Observing all or part of the meeting: Jim Huff, Citizen; Jim Dunlap, Lobbyist; Jim Sullins, Lobbyist; Lewis Moore, State Representative; Denise Lawson, Attorney; Tyler Laughlin, State Employee; Buddy Combs, State Employee; Geoff Long, Attorney; Gordon Amina, Attorney; Matt Blubaugh, Lobbyist; Glenn Coffee, Attorney; Stephanie Bice, Senator.

Informal public hearing regarding Amendment 2018-02. This amendment modifies Rule 4, Conflicts of Interest, and Rule 5, Lobbyist Rules, of the Constitutional Ethics Rules and establishes a timeframe for restrictions on certain activities of former state officers and employees regarding lobbying, consulting, and interacting with the State and the agency formerly served.

Explanation of Amendment 2018-02 by Executive Director Kemp.

Public comment: Comments made by Lewis Moore, State Representative; Tyler Laughlin, State Employee; Jim Dunlap, Lobbyist; Geoff Long, Attorney; Jim Sullins, Lobbyist; Glenn Coffee, Attorney; Matt Blubaugh, Lobbyist.; Stephanie Bice, State Senator.

Public comment. Commissioner Long requested that comments made by Jim Huff, a private citizen, be included in the minutes. Comments by Jim Huff, a private citizen, are as follows: "I'm speaking of my concerns about the perception of unfair impact on legislation. Lobbying has a valuable roll to play in producing good laws for the benefit of the most citizens. Lobbying is supposed to be the providing of information about a bill. Clarifying how it may affect somebody. I am very supportive of this legislation. I would support more than two year limits, four or ten or something longer would also be acceptable to me. What I would like to hear from the members of the commission, **have there been specific incidences that has caused you to see a need for this change? Has something happened that the current language did not meet therefore you need this additional language to clarify something?** I was also listening carefully about the information on the waiver. **I do not know why there should be a need for a waiver so I would like to hear some explanation on that.** I do think that there is a bad feeling among lots of people. I network with a lot of different groups and organizations. There is a feeling that there is an unfair impact on legislation from professional lobbyists, those that use it as a career or get paid for it. The general public, the people I talk to, feel like when they speak with legislators that their voice is in the wind and is blown away. It's only those that have dollars that can impact legislation. I am concerned about that and that is why I see the benefit in a government official delayed before they can come back and take on an official role having just left the government position. My first comment is I support what your doing. I would like to know the rational for it and I'd like a clearer understanding of why waivers".

Comments, questions, and discussion by Commissioners and staff. Commissioner Long addressed Jim Huff to let him know that the commissioners will comment and answer questions in the next Regular Meeting on Friday, November 17, 2017.

Adjournment.

Commissioner Long moved to adjourn.

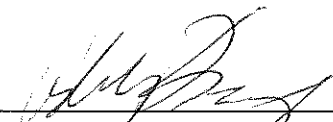
Commissioner Stocker seconded.

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

**Motion carried.**

Minutes of Special Meeting and Public Hearing held October 27, 2017

Meeting ended at 3:00 p.m.



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ASHLEY KEMP, Executive Director

Approved on Behalf of the Commission:



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JOHN HAWKINS, Acting Chair