

**Minutes of the June 1, 2017
Meeting of the West Virginia Ethics Commission**

The June 1, 2017, meeting of the West Virginia Ethics Commission was called to order in the Commission's office at 210 Brooks Street, Charleston, West Virginia, at 10:00 a.m. by Acting Chairperson Betty S. Ireland, who was appointed by Chairperson Robert J. Wolfe to serve in his physical absence at today's meeting. Also present in person at the meeting was Commissioner Larry Tweel. Commissioners Karen Disibbio, Suzan Singleton, Terry Walker, Monté Williams, and Robert J. Wolfe participated by telephone. Executive Director Rebecca L. Stepto, General Counsel Kimberly B. Weber, Staff Attorney Andrew R. Herrick, Staff Attorney Theresa M. Kirk, and Special Assistant to the Executive Director M. Ellen Briggs, all from the Commission staff, were present.

WHEREUPON, Acting Chairperson Ireland asked for approval of the May 4, 2017, Commission meeting minutes.

WHEREUPON, Commissioner Tweel made a motion to approve the minutes of May 4, 2017. Commissioner Singleton gave a second. The motion passed.

WHEREUPON, Ms. Stepto gave a recap of the previous month.

WHEREUPON, Acting Chairperson Ireland called upon Ms. Stepto to present Employment Exemption requests.

WHEREUPON, Ms. Stepto presented Employment Exemption 2017-15 requested by J. Leah Cooper, Director of Financial Conditions/Chief Financial Examiner, Office of the Insurance Commissioner; Employment Exemption 2017-16 requested by Elbert Lin, Solicitor General, Office of the Attorney General; Employment Exemption 2017-17 requested by David L. Vande Linde, Permit Supervisor, Region 2, Division of Mining and Reclamation, Department of Environmental Protection; Employment Exemption 2017-18 requested by Douglas Boone, Environmental Inspector Specialist, Department of Environmental Protection; Employment Exemption 2017-19 requested by Truman Sayre, Jr., Chief Administrative Law Judge for the Unemployment Compensation Board of Review, Workforce West Virginia, and Employment Exemption 2017-20 requested by Jeremiah E. Carter, Environmental Inspector, Department of Environmental Protection. After discussion, Commissioner Tweel made a motion that Employment Exemptions 2017-15, 2017-16, 2017-17, 2017-18, 2017-19 and 2017-20 be ratified. Commissioner Singleton gave a second, and the motion carried.

WHEREUPON, Acting Chairperson Ireland changed the order of the agenda to move agenda item number 6 before item number 5 and called upon Ms. Weber to present proposed Advisory Opinion 2017-16 for consideration.

WHEREUPON, Ms. Weber presented proposed Advisory Opinion 2017-16 to the Commission for consideration. After discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Tweel to accept the proposed Advisory Opinion with amendments. Commissioner Wolfe gave a second, and the motion carried.

WHEREUPON, a motion was made by Commissioner Tweel to go into executive session pursuant to W. Va. Code § 6B-2-4(s) to consider a Final Decision in VCRB 2015-116 Eric L. Hodges, Respondent. Commissioner Disibbio seconded the motion. The motion carried. All guests and staff, except Ms. Stepto and Ms. Briggs, left the meeting room.

WHEREUPON, the Commission returned to public session and all guests and staff returned to the meeting room.

WHEREUPON, a motion was made by Commissioner Tweel that the Final Decision and Order in VCRB 2015-116 Eric L. Hodges, Respondent, be approved. Commissioner Singleton gave a second, and the motion carried.

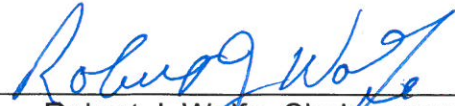
WHEREUPON, the Commission reviewed the P-Card monthly report for April. Commissioner Tweel moved and Commissioner Williams seconded that the report be accepted. The motion carried.

WHEREUPON, Ms. Stepto reported on the proposed "Disclosure of Interested Parties to Contracts" form. She stated that House Bill 2001 goes into effect on July 7 and includes provisions requiring the disclosure of "interested parties" to certain contracts of \$100,000 or more. She further reported that the Ethics Commission is required to draft the disclosure form, to accept the completed forms from state agencies, and to then make the completed forms available to the public. After discussion, Commissioner Tweel moved that the form be approved with amendments. A second was given by Commissioner Singleton, and the motion carried.

WHEREUPON, Acting Chairperson Ireland stated there were no more items for discussion.

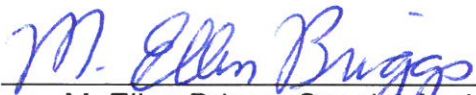
WHEREUPON, Commissioner Tweel made a motion to adjourn, and Commissioner Singleton seconded. The motion passed, and the meeting was adjourned.

The foregoing minutes of the West Virginia Ethics Commission were approved at the Commission's August 3, 2017, meeting.



Robert J. Wolfe, Chairperson
West Virginia Ethics Commission

ATTEST:



M. Ellen Briggs, Special Assistant
to the Executive Director
West Virginia Ethics Commission