

**Minutes of the April 5, 2018
Meeting of the West Virginia Ethics Commission**

The April 5, 2018, 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 Chairperson Robert J. Wolfe. Present in person were Chairperson Wolfe and Commissioners Lynn Davis, Robert Harman, Betty S. Ireland, and Terry Walker. Participating by telephone were Commissioners Karen Disibbio, Suzan Singleton, Larry Tweel and Monté Williams. Executive Director Rebecca L. Stepto, General Counsel Kimberly B. Weber, Staff Attorney Andrew Herrick, and Special Assistant to the Executive Director M. Ellen Briggs, all from the Commission staff, were present.

WHEREUPON, Chairperson Wolfe asked for approval of the March 1, 2018, Commission meeting minutes.

WHEREUPON, Commissioner Ireland made a motion to approve the minutes of March 1, 2018. Commissioner Davis gave a second, and the motion passed.

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

WHEREUPON, Chairperson Wolfe called upon Ms. Stepto to present the Employment Exemption requests.

WHEREUPON, Ms. Stepto presented Employment Exemption 2018-05 requested by Edwin Clarkson, Technical Analyst, Public Service Commission; Employment Exemption 2018-06 requested by Andrew R. Pauley, Deputy Commissioner and General Counsel, Office of the Insurance Commissioner, and Employment Exemption 2018-07 requested by Ghassan H. Suwaid, P.E., District Engineer, Division of Highways. Commissioner Walker made a motion that Employment Exemptions 2018-05, 2018-06, and 2018-07 be ratified. Commissioner Singleton gave a second, and the motion carried.

WHEREUPON, Chairperson Wolfe requested Ms. Weber to present Advisory Opinion 2018-07.

WHEREUPON, Ms. Weber presented proposed Advisory Opinion 2018-07 to the Commission for consideration and offered an amendment to the proposed Opinion. After discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Ireland to accept proposed Advisory Opinion 2018-07 as amended. Commissioner Davis gave a second. The motion carried.

WHEREUPON, Chairperson Wolfe requested Ms. Weber to present Contract Exemption 2018-03.

WHEREUPON, Ms. Weber presented proposed Contract Exemption 2018-03 to the Commission for consideration. Andrew Gunnoe, Deputy County Manager of the

requester Kanawha County Commission, was present at the meeting and answered questions from the Commission. After discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Harman to accept proposed Contract Exemption 2018-03 as presented. Commissioner Disibbio gave a second, and the motion carried.

WHEREUPON, the Commission reviewed purchases on the P-Card monthly report for February. Commissioner Ireland moved and Commissioner Davis seconded that the report be accepted. The motion carried.

WHEREUPON, Chairperson Wolfe called for a motion to go into executive session to discuss proposed action on Complaint VCRB 2018-003.

WHEREUPON, a motion was made by Commissioner Davis to go into executive session, pursuant to W. Va. Code § 6-9A-4(12), to consider proposed action on Complaint VCRB 2018-003. Commissioner Ireland seconded the motion. The motion carried. Mr. Herrick, Mr. Gunnoe, and the guest present left the meeting room.

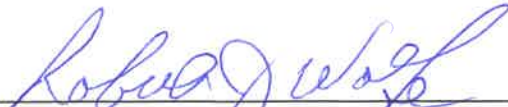
WHEREUPON, the Commission returned to public session, and the guest returned to the meeting room.

WHEREUPON, Commissioner Davis made a motion that the Commission rule that probable cause exists to believe that a criminal violation has occurred and that Complaint VCRB 2018-003 be referred to the appropriate county prosecuting attorney for a criminal investigation and possible prosecution. Commissioner Walker gave a second, and the motion carried.

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


WHEREUPON, Commissioner Ireland 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 May 3, 2018, meeting.



Robert J. Wolfe, Chairperson
West Virginia Ethics Commission

ATTEST:



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