

**MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 4, 2016
MEETING OF THE WEST VIRGINIA ETHICS COMMISSION**

The August 4, 2016, meeting of the West Virginia Ethics Commission was called to order in the Commission's Office located at 210 Brooks Street, Charleston, West Virginia, at 10:00 a.m., by Chairperson Robert J. Wolfe. Present in person at the meeting were Chairperson Wolfe and Commissioners Betty S. Ireland, Lawrence Tweel, and Terry Walker. Commissioners Karen Disibbio and Suzan Singleton participated by telephone. Commissioner Monté Williams was absent. Executive Director Rebecca L. Stepto, General Counsel Kimberly B. Weber, Deputy General Counsel Meridith O. Johnstone, Staff Attorney Theresa M. Kirk, Staff Attorney Derek Knopp, 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 June 2, 2016, Commission meeting minutes.

WHEREUPON, Commissioner Ireland made a motion to approve the minutes of June 2, 2016. Commissioner Tweel gave a second. The motion passed.

WHEREUPON, Chairperson Wolfe noted for the record that no Commission meeting was held in July due to lack of agenda items. He reported on the remaining 2016 dates for Commission meetings as:

September 1	October 6
November 3	December 1

WHEREUPON, Chairperson Wolfe called upon Ms. Stepto to recap the previous month.

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

WHEREUPON, Ms. Stepto presented Employment Exemption 2016-16 requested by Jamie Taylor, Chief Financial Analyst, West Virginia Offices of the Insurance Commissioner; Employment Exemption 2016-17 requested by Sherrie L. Stone, Director of Advance and Scheduling, West Virginia Office of the Governor; Employment Exemption 2016-18 requested by Joseph D. Garcia, Director of Legislative Affairs, West Virginia Office of the Governor; Employment Exemption 2016-19 requested by Randy C. Huffman, Cabinet Secretary, West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection; Employment Exemption 2016-20 requested by Chris Stadelman, Chief of Staff, West Virginia Office of the Governor, and Employment Exemption 2016-21 requested by Beth Nogay Carenbauer, Acting Deputy Executive Director, WorkForce West Virginia. After discussion, Commissioner Ireland made a motion that Employment Exemptions 2016-16, 2016-17, 2016-18, 2016-19, 2016-20, and 2016-21 be ratified. Commissioner Tweel gave a second, and the motion carried.

WHEREUPON, Chairperson Wolfe called upon Ms. Kirk to present proposed Advisory Opinion 2016-10 for consideration.

WHEREUPON, Ms. Kirk presented proposed Advisory Opinion 2016-10 to the Commission for consideration. A motion was made by Commissioner Tweel to accept the proposed Advisory Opinion. Commissioner Ireland gave a second. After discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Tweel to amend the proposed Advisory Opinion. Commissioner Ireland gave a second, and the motion carried. Subsequently, a motion was made by Commissioner Ireland to accept proposed Advisory Opinion 2016-10 as amended. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Tweel, and the motion passed unanimously.

WHEREUPON, Chairperson Wolfe called upon Mr. Knopp to present proposed Advisory Opinion 2016-11 for consideration.

WHEREUPON, Mr. Knopp presented proposed Advisory Opinion 2016-11 to the Commission for consideration. A motion was made by Commissioner Walker to accept the proposed Advisory Opinion. Commissioner Tweel gave a second. After discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Ireland to amend the proposed Advisory Opinion. Commissioner Tweel gave a second, and the motion carried. Subsequently, a motion was made by Commissioner Ireland to approve proposed Advisory Opinion 2016-11 as amended. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Singleton, and the motion passed unanimously.

WHEREUPON, Chairperson Wolfe called upon Ms. Kirk to discuss the public comments received in response to the Ethics Commission's proposed revisions to Legislative Rule, Title 158, Series 6, Use of Office for Private Gain, Including Nepotism.

WHEREUPON, Ms. Kirk gave an overview of each public comment received, and the comments proposed to be accepted and rejected. The Commission was provided copies of the comments received, the proposed responses, and the proposed Rule. After discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Ireland to approve the amended Rule in response to the comments and to send the proposed responses to those who submitted comments. Commissioner Walker gave a second, and the motion carried.

WHEREUPON, the Commission reviewed purchases on the P-Card monthly reports for May and June. No corrections or additions were made to the reports. Commissioner Tweel moved and Commissioner Ireland seconded that the reports be accepted. The motion carried.

WHEREUPON, Chairperson Wolfe requested Commissioner Walker to read a RESOLUTION in honor of Commissioner Michael D. Greer. Commissioner Walker read as follows:

WHEREAS, the West Virginia Ethics Commission honors Commissioner Michael D. Greer for outstanding leadership and guidance to the West Virginia Ethics Commission;

WHEREAS, Commissioner Greer faithfully and with honor, integrity and great distinction served on the West Virginia Ethics Commission;

WHEREAS, Commissioner Greer is recognized as being an original member of the West Virginia Ethics Commission established in 1989 and a member of the reconstituted Commission from 2014 to 2016.

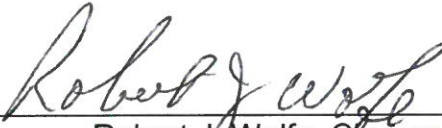
RESOLVED, that the West Virginia Ethics Commission formally acknowledges and extends its profound appreciation of Commissioner Greer for his years of dedicated service to the State of West Virginia and the West Virginia Ethics Commission; and

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the original of this **RESOLUTION** be sent to Commissioner Greer and that this **RESOLUTION** be recorded in the official minutes of the West Virginia Ethics Commission this 4th day of August 2016.

A motion was made by Commissioner Tweel, seconded by Commissioner Ireland, and carried unanimously that this **RESOLUTION** be approved and the original be sent to Commissioner Greer.


WHEREUPON, Chairperson Wolfe stated there were no more items for discussion. Commissioner Ireland made a motion to adjourn, and Commissioner Tweel seconded. The motion passed, and the meeting was adjourned.

The foregoing minutes of the West Virginia Ethics Commission were approved at the September 1, 2016, meeting.



Robert J. Wolfe, Chairperson
West Virginia Ethics Commission

ATTEST:



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