

# State of South Carolina State Ethics Commission

BRIAN M. BARNWELL, CHAIR  
VICTOR K. LI, VICE CHAIR  
DONALD GIST  
SAMUEL L. ERWIN



DON JACKSON  
BRANDOLYN THOMAS PINKSTON  
CHILDS CANTEY THRASHER  
ASHLEIGH R. WILSON

201 EXECUTIVE CENTER DRIVE, SUITE 150  
COLUMBIA, S.C. 29210

MEGHAN L. WALKER  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

## MINUTES COMMISSION MEETING OPEN SESSION

January 17, 2019

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Brian M. Barnwell at 9:42 a.m. at the State Ethics Commission's Hearing Room located at 201 Executive Center Drive, Suite 150, Columbia, South Carolina. Commission members present were Samuel L. Erwin, Donald Gist, Donald H. Jackson, Brandolyn T. Pinkston, and Childs Cantey Thrasher. Vice Chair Victor K. Li arrived at 10:00 a.m. Commissioner Ashleigh R. Wilson had an excused absence for this meeting, but did join the meeting via phone at 10:13 a.m.

The news media was duly and timely notified.

Staff present: Meghan L. Walker, Ami Franklin, Jimmy Bagnall, Ryanne Caldwell, Kristin Nabors, Kevin Hinson, Courtney Laster, Reggie Gaymon, Richard Provencher, Teresa Posey, Dianne Peagler, and Bridgette Goff.

Others present: The Honorable Gilda Cobb-Hunter and Brett Burse.

Director Meghan Walker gave an opening statement, welcomed everyone, and thanked Kristin Nabors and Kevin Hinson for the Commission's new Hearing Room. Introductions were given to two new employees, Dianne Peagler, Program Assistant, and Bridgette L. Goff, Auditor.

### OFFICE OPERATIONS

#### 2018-2019 Budget Report, Compliance Report, and Pending and Paid Orders Report

Director Walker presented for information only the 2018-2019 Budget Report, Compliance Report, and the Pending and Paid Orders Report. The reports were approved as presented.

### NEW BUSINESS

Director Walker presented the Honorable Gilda Cobb-Hunter, Member of the South Carolina House of Representatives and Chair of the SC Progressive Legislative Caucus, and Brett Bursey, Executive Director for SC Progressive Network. Remarks were given and material was handed out to the Commission and staff concerning House Bill 4500/Senate Bill 806 which have been introduced to the General Assembly concerning the Commission's electronic filing system for disclosures and reports.

### MINUTES

Chairman Barnwell called for approval of the Minutes. A motion was made by Commissioner Thrasher, seconded by Commissioner Erwin, to accept the Minutes. Chairman Barnwell asked for any discussion or opposition. There being none, the motion carried with no opposition to approve the Open Session Minutes and the Executive Session Minutes from the November 15, 2018 Commission meeting. The motion was carried unanimously with a 6 - 0 vote.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Barnwell recognized the arrival of Vice Chair Li. Chairman Barnwell then asked for a motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing pending litigation and probable cause matters. A motion was made by Commissioner Thrasher, seconded by Commissioner Erwin, to go into Executive Session. There being no discussion or opposition, the motion was carried unanimously with a 7 - 0 vote.

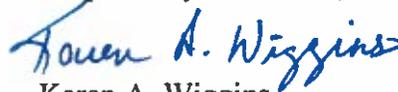
### RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon return from Executive Session, Chairman Barnwell noted a litigation matter and probable cause matters were discussed in Executive Session. A motion was made by Commissioner Thrasher, seconded by Commissioner Gist, to adopt and ratify actions taken in Executive Session with regard to probable cause. The motion carried unanimously with a 7 - 0 vote.

### ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Barnwell asked for further discussion. There being none, a motion was made by Commissioner Pinkston, seconded by Commissioner Gist, to adjourn. The motion was carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



Karen A. Wiggins  
Program Assistant