

# *State of South Carolina*

## *State Ethics Commission*

### COMMISSIONERS

JAMES I. WARREN, III, 4<sup>th</sup> DISTRICT  
CHAIR  
SHERRI A. LYDON, MEMBER AT LARGE,  
VICE CHAIR  
THOMAS M. GALARDI, 2<sup>nd</sup> DISTRICT  
FRANCIS E. GRIMBALL, 1<sup>st</sup> DISTRICT



### COMMISSIONERS

SANDY TEMPLETON, 3<sup>rd</sup> DISTRICT  
TWANA BURRIS-ALCIDE, 5<sup>th</sup> DISTRICT  
REGINA HOLLINS LEWIS, 6<sup>th</sup> DISTRICT  
JULIE J. MOOSE, 7<sup>th</sup> DISTRICT  
BRIAN M. BARNWELL, MEMBER AT LARGE

5000 THURMOND MALL, SUITE 250  
COLUMBIA, S.C. 29201

HERBERT R. HAYDEN, JR.  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

### MINUTES COMMISSION MEETING OPEN SESSION

May 20, 2015

The meeting was called to order by Chairman James I. Warren, III, at 9:34 a.m. Other members present were Vice Chair Sherri A. Lydon, Francis E. Grimbball, Sandy Templeton, Twana Burris-Alcide, Regina Hollins Lewis, Julie J. Moose, Thomas M. Galardi, and Brian M. Barnwell.

The news media was duly notified.

#### Staff present:

Herbert R. Hayden, Jr., Executive Director  
James T. Bagnall, Investigator  
Michael R. Burchstead, General Counsel  
Daniel F. Choate, Investigator  
Ami R. Franklin, Assistant Director, Administration  
Kristin M. Smith, Administrative Coordinator  
Karen A. Wiggins, Court Reporter

Chairman Warren welcomed everyone, noted that there was an Amended Agenda for the Open Session and the Executive Session, and reminded the members to use their microphones when speaking for the record.

### MINUTES

Motion was made by Mrs. Moose, seconded by Vice Chair Lydon, to accept the Minutes as presented. Chairman Warren asked for any discussion or opposition. There being none, the motion carried with no opposition to approve the Open and Executive Session Minutes from the March 18, 2015 Commission meeting.

## **OFFICE OPERATIONS**

### **Budget 2014/2015**

Mr. Hayden directed everyone to their yellow folder for the current Budget report for the fiscal year. Mr. Hayden gave a breakdown of the report, noting that everything was in good shape. Mr. Hayden stated that the Senate's version of the Budget bill is currently in a conference committee, and includes a significant increase in appropriated funds, which includes an investigator position, an auditor position, money for the security upgrade in front office, new computers, and salaries. There being no questions, the Budget report was accepted as presented.

### **Compliance Reports**

Mr. Hayden presented for information only the Compliance reports for March and April 2015. Mr. Hayden stated that everything is in line as it should be. Mr. Hayden further commented on the low numbers of forms filed, noting that there were less filings this year—when more people run, the more forms are filed. There being no questions, the Compliance reports were accepted as presented.

## **APPEALS**

Chairman Warren presented the Appeals.

Mr. Hayden noted that a copy of the Appeal Policy was attached to the front of each case for the Commissioners' use.

### **James B. Blackwell**

Mr. Hayden presented this matter and asked the Commissioners to take a minute and review the material. Mr. Grimbball made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Moose, to accept staff recommendation and deny the appeal. Chairman Warren asked for any discussion or opposition. There being none, the motion carried with a 9 - 0 vote.

### **Bryan Kost**

Mr. Hayden presented this matter and asked the Commissioners to take a minute and review the material. Mr. Grimbball made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Lewis, to accept staff recommendation and deny the appeal. Chairman Warren asked for any discussion or opposition. Mr. Grimbball asked if Mr. Kost had paid. Staff responded no. There being no further discussion or opposition, the motion carried with a 9 - 0 vote.

## **DISCUSSION**

### **Legislation**

Chairman Warren recognized Mr. Hayden. Mr. Hayden directed everyone to their yellow folders and gave an update on the following bills: H.3186, H.3187, H.3188, H.3193, H.3189, Senator Rankin's proposed amendment to Section 110 - R52 State Ethics Commission, and S.703. Discussion ensued concerning the future campaign for Governor and Lt. Governor. Mr. Hayden responded. Further discussion ensued concerning proposed changes in the electronic system for House and Senate Ethics Committees and the Judicial Merit Selection Committee. Mr. Burchstead and Mr. Hayden responded,

adding that a meeting is to be held tomorrow to discuss some suggested changes. Mr. Grimball asked if any of our bills might pass this session, and Mr. Hayden responded it was unlikely, and added that this was the first year of a two-year session.

#### **Reappointment of Mr. Warren**

Mr. Hayden presented this matter, stating that Chairman Warren has agreed to serve another full five year term through 2020. Mr. Hayden added that his appointment has gone to the Senate, and staff sees no reason that there should be a problem. There was unanimous congratulations.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Chairman Warren asked if there was any new business to be discussed. There was none.

#### **ELECTION OF COMMISSION OFFICERS**

Mr. Hayden presented this matter, stating that in odd number years, the Chair and Vice Chair are elected and the new two-year term starts at the end of this meeting. The floor was opened for nominations. Mr. Grimball nominated Chairman Warren, seconded by Vice Chair Lydon. Chairman Warren asked for any other nominations, discussion, or opposition. There being none, the motion carried with a 9 – 0 vote.

Chairman Warren then opened the floor for nominations for Vice Chair. Mr. Galardi nominated Vice Chair Lydon, seconded by Mrs. Lewis. Discussion ensued concerning the time left on Vice Chair Lydon's term. Mr. Hayden responded that there would be no problem and clarified the process. Chairman Warren then asked for any further nominations, discussion, or opposition. There being none, the motion carried with a 9 – 0 vote.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chairman Warren asked for a motion to go into Executive Session. A motion was made by Mrs. Lewis, seconded by Mrs. Burris-Alcide, to go into Executive Session. The motion carried with a 9 - 0 vote.

#### **RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION**

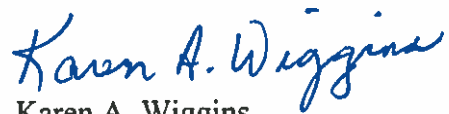
Upon return from Executive Session, a motion was made by Mrs. Lewis, seconded by Mr. Grimball, to adopt and ratify actions taken in Executive Session.

Chairman Warren reminded the Commissioners to leave their books for recycling.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Mrs. Burris-Alcide made a motion, seconded by Mr. Grimball, to adjourn. The motion carried with a 9 – 0 vote.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Karen A. Wiggins". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent loop at the end of the last name.

Karen A. Wiggins  
Administrative Specialist