

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

November 15, 2018

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Brian M. Barnwell at 9:49 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 Donald H. Jackson, Vice Chair Victor K. Li, Brandolyn T. Pinkston, Childs Cantey Thrasher, and Ashleigh R. Wilson. Commissioner Samuel L. Erwin and Commissioner Donald Gist had excused absences for this meeting.

The news media was duly and timely notified.

Staff present: Meghan L. Walker, Ami Franklin, Jimmy Bagnall, Rynne Caldwell, Kristin Nabors, Kevin Hinson, Courtney Laster, Reggie Gaymon, Karen A. Wiggins, and Richard Provencher.

Others present: Charlie Terreni.

Director Meghan Walker gave an opening statement, welcomed everyone, and thanked Kristin Nabors and Kevin Hinson for the Commission's first meeting in the new Hearing Room.

MINUTES

Chairman Barnwell called for approval of the Minutes. A motion was made by Commissioner Thrasher, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, 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 September 20,

2018 Commission meeting. The motion was carried unanimously with a 6 - 0 vote. Commissioner Erwin and Commissioner Gist had excused absences for this meeting.

OFFICE OPERATIONS

2018-2019 Budget and Compliance Reports

Director Walker presented for information only the 2018-2019 Budget, Compliance Report, and the Pending and Paid Orders Report. Recognition was given to General Counsel Courtney Laster --and supporting staff--for their tremendous work in having 70 cases removed from the Hearing Docket since General Counsel's arrival this Spring. The reports were approved as presented.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Barnwell asked for a motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing an advisory opinion and probable cause matters. A motion was made by Commissioner Pinkston, seconded by Commissioner Thrasher, to go into Executive Session. There being no discussion or opposition, the motion carried with a 6 - 0 vote. Commissioner Erwin and Commissioner Gist had excused absences for this meeting.

RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon return from Executive Session, Chairman Barnwell noted an advisory opinion and probable cause matters were discussed in Executive Session. A motion was made by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Thrasher, to adopt and ratify actions taken with regard to the advisory opinion and probable cause matters in Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously with a 6 - 0 vote. Commissioner Erwin and Commissioner Gist had excused absences for this meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Barnwell asked for further discussion. There being none, a motion was made by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Thrasher, to adjourn. The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,



Karen A. Wiggins
Program Assistant