State of South Carolina
State Ethics Commission

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

MEGHAN WALKER DAYSON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MINUTES
COMMISSION MEETING
OPEN SESSION
May 21, 2026

The May 21, 2026 meeting was called to order at 9:31 a.m. by Chairman F. Xavier Starkes at the State Ethics Commission's Hearing Room located at 201 Executive Center Drive, Suite 150, Columbia, South Carolina. Chairman F. Xavier Starkes, Commissioner Matthew N. Tyler, Commissioner Helen Munnerlyn and Commissioner Kristian Cross were in attendance. Commissioner Bryant Caldwell and Commissioner Sara Parrish appeared via Zoom. Vice Chairman Neal D. Truslow and Commissioner Mary Hunter B. Tomlinson were not present.

Staff present: Meghan Walker Dayson, Ami Franklin, Courtney Laster, Jordan Davis, Kevin Hinson, Ryanne Caldwell, Reggie Gaymon, W.B. White, Jr., Timothy J. Plunkett, Kristin Nabors, Marquita Kessler and Erin Caughman were in attendance.

Chairman Starkes declared a quorum present. Director Dayson noted for the record that the news media was duly notified.

MINUTES

Chairman Starkes called for the approval of the March 19, 2026 minutes. Chairman Starkes asked for any discussion. A motion was made by Commissioner Munnerlyn, seconded by Commissioner Tyler, to accept the minutes from the March 19, 2026 Commission meeting. The motion carried with a 6 – 0 vote.

OFFICE OPERATIONS

Director Dayson presented the Budget, Compliance reports, and Pending and Paid Orders report for information.

COMMISSION OFFICERS

Chairman Starkes called for nominations for Commission Chairman. Commissioner Tyler nominated Commissioner Truslow. Chairman Starkes accepted the nomination on Commissioner Truslow's behalf. The nomination was held to a vote and carried with a 6 – 0 vote.

Chairman Starkes then called for nominations for Commission Vice-Chairman. Commissioner Tyler nominated Commissioner Parrish. Commission Parrish accepted the nomination. The nomination was held to a vote and carried with a 6 – 0 vote.

Director Dayson stated that the newly elected officer would be sworn in during the July meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Starkes asked for any further discussion or a motion to go into Executive Session to hear probable cause matters. A motion was made by Commissioner Tyler, seconded by Commissioner Munnerlyn, to go into Executive Session. The motion carried with a 6–0 vote.

RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Commissioners returned from Executive Session at 10:46 a.m. Chairman Starkes noted for the record that no votes, other than those allowed by statute, were taken in executive session.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Tyler, seconded by Commissioner Munnerlyn, to adjourn at 10:47 a.m. The motion carried with a 6– 0 vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Erin Caughman

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