

SUNSHINE LAW MEETING
MINUTES OF THE HAWAII STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

STATE OF HAWAII

Date: Thursday, July 19, 2018

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Place: Hawaii State Ethics Commission Conference Room
American Savings Bank Tower
1001 Bishop Street, Suite 960
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Present: State Ethics Commission Members

Reynard D. Graulty, Chair
Ruth D. Tschumy, Vice Chair
Susan N. DeGuzman, Commissioner
Wesley F. Fong, Commissioner

State Ethics Commission Staff

Susan D. Yoza, Associate Director
Nancy C. Neuffer, Staff Attorney
Virginia M. Chock, Staff Attorney
Bonita Y.M. Chang, Staff Attorney
Kee M. Campbell, Staff Attorney

Excused: Melinda S. Wood, Commissioner

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m.

Agenda Item No. I: Appointment of Wesley F. Fong and re-appointment of Melinda Wood to the Hawaii State Ethics Commission

Chair Graulty congratulated Commissioner Fong on his appointment to the Commission and also announced that Commissioner Wood has been reappointed.

Agenda Item No. II: Consideration and Approval of the Minutes of the June 21, 2018 Meeting

Vice Chair Tschumy made and Commissioner DeGuzman seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the June 21, 2018 meeting. The motion carried. (Graulty, Tschumy, DeGuzman voting; Fong abstaining).

Agenda Item No. III: Akana v. Hawaii State Ethics Commission, Civil No. 18-1-1019-06 (JHA)

RECESS OF SUNSHINE LAW MEETING AND CONVENING OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 10:03 a.m., Vice Chair Tschumy made and Commissioner Fong seconded a motion to convene an Executive Session pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes section 92-5(a)(4) to consult with the Commission's attorneys on questions and issues pertaining to the Commission's powers, duties, privileges, immunities, and liabilities. The motion carried unanimously (Graulty, Tschumy, DeGuzman, and Fong voting).

The Commission met in Executive Session with Deputy Attorney General Robyn Chun to discuss the status of the Akana case.

ADJOURNMENT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION AND RETURN TO SUNSHINE LAW MEETING

At 10:25 a.m., Commissioner DeGuzman made and Vice Chair Tschumy seconded a motion to adjourn the Executive Session and return to the Sunshine Law meeting. The motion carried unanimously (Graulty, Tschumy, DeGuzman, and Fong voting).

Agenda Item No. IV: Executive Director's Report

1. *Education / Training Report*

Associate Director Yoza reported that several training sessions were scheduled in the coming months, and that the Commission had received additional requests for training sessions.

2. *Guidance and Assignment Statistics – June 2018*

Attachment 2: 2018 Guidance and Assignment Statistics

Associate Director Yoza noted that the staff has been busy with numerous investigations. Chair Gaulty asked about the decrease in Attorney of the Day calls, and Associate Director Yoza said this may be due to the normal ebb and flow of those inquiries.

3. 2018 Financial and Gifts Disclosure Statements

Associate Director Yoza reported that approximately 1,800 financial disclosure statements were filed by the May 31, 2018, deadline. Approximately 195 state officials have not yet filed their financial disclosure statements, and staff is following up with those officials.

Associate Director Yoza reported that the deadline for candidates for state office to file their financial disclosure statements is July 23, 2018, and only 55 of the 200 candidates have filed their disclosure statements to date. Staff sent courtesy reminders to candidates who have not yet filed.

The Gifts Disclosure Deadline was June 30, 2018, and approximately 220 gift disclosure statements have been filed. Staff will review those statements to determine whether further action is warranted.

4. Financial Report for FY 2017-2018

Attachment 3: Fourth Quarter and Year-End Report for FY 2017-2018

Associate Director Yoza reported that \$13,600 (approximately 1%) of the Ethics Commission's budget for FY 2017-2018 lapsed back to the State. In the fourth quarter, the Commission paid for travel and registration fees for the Council on Governmental Ethics Laws conference and for the Commission's computer specialist to attend a training class in Arizona; office rent; and a consulting contract for the Commission's e-filing project.

5. Miscellaneous Office Projects / Updates

a. Hiring of Investigator

Associate Director Yoza informed the Commission that its investigator plans to leave his employment in August 2018. Staff is currently looking for a new investigator and is advertising the position.

ADJOURNMENT OF SUNSHINE LAW MEETING

At 10:39 a.m., Commissioner DeGuzman made and Commissioner Fong seconded a motion to adjourn the Sunshine Law meeting. The motion carried unanimously (Graulty, Tschumy, DeGuzman, and Fong voting).

The meeting was adjourned at 10:39 a.m.

Minutes approved on: August 16, 2018.