

SEC Office  
800 Bradbury Dr. SE,  
Suite 215  
Albuquerque, NM 87106



Hon. William F. Lang  
Jeff Baker  
Stuart M. Bluestone  
Hon. Garrey Carruthers  
Ron Solimon  
Judy Villanueva  
Frances F. Williams

## STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

Commission Meeting Minutes of August 28, 2020 | 9:00am-11:00am

Virtually Via Zoom

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### [SUBJECT TO RATIFICATION BY COMMISSION]

The meeting began with introductions from public attendees.

#### **1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Lang. The roll was called. The following Commissioners were present:

Jeffrey Baker, Commissioner  
Stuart Bluestone, Commissioner  
Hon. Garrey Carruthers, Commissioner  
Ron Solimon, Commissioner  
Judy Villanueva, Commissioner  
Frances Williams, Commissioner  
Hon. William Lang, Chair

#### **2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

- Chair Lang sought a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Carruthers moved to approve the agenda. Commissioner Williams seconded. Chair Lang conducted a roll-call vote. All Commissioners voted in the affirmative, and the agenda was approved unanimously.

#### **3. APPROVAL OF AUGUST 7, 2020 COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES:**

- Chair Lang sought a motion to approve the minutes of the August 7, 2020 meeting. Commissioner Bluestone moved to approve the minutes; Commissioner Williams seconded. Chair Lang conducted a roll-call vote. Commissioner Solimon abstained due to his absence at the August 7 meeting. All other commissioners voted in the affirmative, and the minutes were approved.

#### **4. APPROVAL OF FY22 BUDGET REQUEST**

Executive Director Jeremy Farris presented the Commission's FY22 budget, first providing an overview of the FY21 & FY22 Strategic Plans and then the Commission's FY22 Budget Request.

Director Farris sought a motion to approve the FY22 budget. Chair Lang asked if there was a motion to approve the FY22 Budget Request as written. Commissioner Carruthers moved to approve the budget request; Commissioner Williams seconded. Chair Lang conducted a roll-call

vote. All commissioners voted in the affirmative, and the FY22 Budget Request was approved unanimously.

## **5. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- Chair Lang sought a motion to enter a closed executive session to discuss pending administrative complaints pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, NMSA 1978, § 10-15-1(H)(3), and the State Ethics Commission Act, NMSA 1978, §§ 10-16G-10 & 13(B). Commissioner Carruthers moved to enter executive session; Commissioner Villanueva seconded. Chair Lang conducted a roll-call vote. All commissioners voted in the affirmative, and the Commission entered closed executive session at 10:13am.
- The Commission discussed the following administrative complaints during executive session:
  - o Administrative Complaint No. 2020-007
- The matters discussed in the closed meeting were limited only to those specified in the motion to enter executive session. After concluding its discussion of these matters, the Commission resumed public session.

The Commission re-entered open public session at 10:28am.

## **6. ACTIONS ON ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLAINTS**

- **Administrative Complaint No. 2020-007**
  - o Director Farris requested a motion for the Commission to direct staff to continue the investigation of SEC administrative case No. 2020-007 for another ninety (90) days.
  - o Chair Lang sought a motion to direct the staff as stated above. Commissioner Bluestone moved to direct the staff to continue the investigation; Commissioner Solimon seconded. Chair Lang conducted a roll-call vote. All Commissioners voted in the affirmative, and the motion was approved.

## **7. LETTER REGARDING GUARDIANSHIPS**

- o Commissioner Williams provided a statement on issues with the system of legal guardianships in New Mexico. She stated that she would write a letter to the Governor regarding her concerns, in her individual capacity as a State Ethics Commissioner. Upon Commissioner Bluestone's request for clarification, Commissioner Williams stated that she would not write to the Governor as an official act of, or on behalf of, the State Ethics Commission, but only in her individual capacity and noting her current position as a Commissioner.

## **8. DETERMINATION OF NEXT MEETING**

- o The Commissioners decided to meet on Friday, October 2, 2020, at 9:00am.
- o Director Farris stated that the Commission might need to meet before October 2, and that he would advise Chair Lang if such a meeting is needed.

## **9. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Members of the public were invited to provide comments to the Commission.

- **Tony Ortiz** stated that he still planned to present at the October 2 meeting, and Director Farris noted his intention to reach out to Mr. Ortiz to discuss that presentation.
- No other public comments were offered.
- Director Farris expressed his gratitude to the staff for their work on the FY22 Budget Request.

#### **10. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Lang sought a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Carruthers moved to adjourn; Commissioner Williams seconded. Chair Lang conducted a roll-call vote. All Commissioners voted in the affirmative, and the meeting was adjourned.

**[SUBJECT TO RATIFICATION BY COMMISSION]**