



## Vermont State Ethics Commission

### Minutes of December 2, 2020 Meeting (Approved)

- 1. Call to Order:** The meeting, held remotely via Zoom, was called to order by Commission Chair Julie Hulburd at 10:04 a.m. Also present for the meeting were Commission members Christopher Davis, Paul Erlbaum, Michele Eid, Sarah Biolsi Vangel, and Executive Director Larry Novins.
  - 2. Approval of Minutes:** On the motion of Paul Erlbaum second by Christopher Davis, the minutes of the last November 4, 2020 meeting were approved.
  - 3. Public Comment:** None. No member of the public attended the meeting.
  - 4. Executive Director's Report:** Larry Novins described the three ethics trainings he provided in November. He is revising the power point used so that it can be the basis of future trainings.
  - 5. Annual Report Discussion:** Novins briefed the Commission on the anticipated contents of the upcoming annual report. Among the topics to be discussed will be complaints received and why their numbers continue to decline, queries to the Ethics Commission, guidance provided, and administrative tasks performed in 2020. The report will also describe the Commission's work leading to H.464 and S.198 and the process leading to submission of a proposed code of ethics to the legislature on November 11, 2020. The report will discuss the Commission's position that ethics code enforcement is best discussed after a statutory code of ethics has been adopted and there has been adequate ethics education and public awareness of its provisions.
  - 6. Other business:** None
  - 7. Executive Session to Discuss Complaints and Guidance Requests:** On the motion of Michele Eid, second by Paul Erlbaum, the Commission went into executive session to discuss complaints and guidance requests. These matters are confidential per 3 V.S.A. §§ 1221(d), 1223(c), and 1225(a)(3). On the motion of Sarah Biolsi Vangel and Michele Eid the Commission voted to conclude the Executive Session and return to open session.
  - 10. Adjournment:** Sarah Biolsi Vangel moved to adjourn, second by Michele Eid. The meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.
- Next Meetings:** Next regular monthly meeting Wednesday, January 6, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.