



Vermont State Ethics Commission

Minutes of March 2, 2022 (Unapproved)

Remote Attendance

- 1. Call to Order:** The regular meeting, held remotely via Zoom, was called to order by Paul Erlbaum, Chair, at 10:06 A.M. Also present for the meeting were Commission members Sarah Biolsi Vangel, Christopher Davis, Executive Director Christina Sivret, and Administrative Assistant Carolyn Desch. Michele Eid was absent. Ze Anderson-Brown joined the meeting for the Executive Session.
- 2. Approval of Minutes:** Meeting minutes for 2/2/2022 and 2/14/2022 will be approved during the April meeting due to a lack of a quorum of Commissioners who attended the February meetings.
- 3. Public Comment:** None.
- 4. Executive Director's Report:** Executive Director Christina Sivret gave a Legislative update. The Senate Government Operations Committee will meet again on March 9th to discuss S. 171, the draft Code of Ethics. The Committee was twice ready to vote on S. 171 last week, but opposition by representatives of government attorneys to the application of the Code of Ethics to attorneys delayed the vote again. The Director also reported on a public inquiry about the statutory requirement that candidates for statewide office include their tax return when they submit their disclosure form, and how a candidate who has not filed a tax return should meet this requirement. It was agreed the candidate should fill out the form to the best of their ability, and perhaps the form needs to be modified to allow for clarification as to why the required information is not being provided. It is also a potential topic for discussion with the Legislature next session.
- 5. Other Business:** Commissioner Chris Davis is up for reappointment, which is currently being discussed with the Vermont Bar Association. Carolyn Desch will follow-up with the Office of the Chief Justice regarding documentation for Commissioner Sarah Vangel's reappointment in 2021.
- 6. Executive Session:** On the motion of Sarah Vangel, second by Christopher Davis, the Commission went into executive session to discuss personnel matters and a confidential complaint. On the motion of Christopher Davis, seconded by Sarah Vangel, the Commission voted to conclude the Executive Session and returned to Open Session.
- 7. Adjournment** Christopher Davis moved to adjourn, second by Sarah Vangel. The meeting adjourned at 11:00 A.M.