

APPROVED MINUTES OF THE STATE OF IDAHO PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION SPECIAL TELECONFERENCE MEETING OF APRIL 18, 2016

A special teleconference meeting of the State of Idaho Professional Standards Commission was held April 18, 2016. It originated from the Department of Education in Boise, Idaho. The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. with a roll-call of members. Commission Chair Esther Henry presided.

Members present: Allred, Chipman, Henry, Koehler, McKinney, Meyer, Mikolajczyk, Nelson, Nuckols, Roark, Saffle, Sulfridge, Van Mullem, Welton, Zeydel. Members absent: Enger, Hedeem, Johnson.

Staff present: Professional Standards Commission - Colón, Haas, Lackey, Markland, Schwab; Office of the Attorney General – Brian Church, Steven Olsen.

Guests present: Matt Compton, Paul Stark.

AGENDA REVIEW/AMENDMENT

Chair Esther Henry called the teleconference meeting to order and reported that the purpose of the meeting was to provide opportunity for public comment on the practice of posting of stipulations/final orders to the Professional Standards Commission website. Esther also called member attention to the need for scheduling a new meeting date for the September 2016 Commission meeting.

M/S (Sulfridge/McKinney): To amend the April 18, 2016, Commission special teleconference meeting agenda by adding the item New September 2016 Commission Meeting Date to the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF PUBLIC COMMENT ON POSTING STIPULATIONS/FINAL ORDERS TO THE COMMISSION WEBSITE

Deputy Attorney General Brian Church introduced guests Matt Compton (Director of Public Policy) and Paul Stark (Legal Counsel) of the Idaho Education Association. Brian called for public comment on a prior motion passed in October of 2015 by the Commission to post stipulations/final orders from Commission ethics cases retroactively for the last five years on the Commission website. Paul Stark first referenced concerns over such a practice expressed in correspondence written by attorney James Piotrowski; he then emphasized that each year on the average, there are complaints made to the Commission about the unethical conduct of just one-tenth of 1 percent of the teaching pool in Idaho – a very small number. He then went on to say that 1) if the objective of such a practice is education, the same goal can be achieved by redacting the names in the published stipulations/final orders; 2) if the objective is deterrence, such action should be substantiated by research; 3) the Commission, in its operations and by its mission statement, should really focus on fostering a culture for improving teachers rather than

punishing them; and 4) publication of stipulations/final orders will likely lead to more hearings and more costs.

M/S (Nelson/Koehler): To move the Commission into Executive Session to consider the posting of stipulations/final orders to the Professional Standards Commission's website, as prescribed by Idaho Code §74-206(1)(f). Motion carried unanimously.

M/S (Chipman/Koehler): To move the Executive Session of the Commission into Open Session to vote on the posting of stipulations/final orders to the Professional Standards Commission's website, as prescribed by Idaho Code §74-206(1)(f). Motion carried unanimously.

M/S (Koehler/Chipman): To 1) approve Professional Standards Commission administrator Lisa Colón's action in removing any stipulations and other assorted material, including the final orders that were not in stipulations, from the Commission website and 2) post this item on the June 23-24, 2016, Commission meeting agenda for consideration, with the objective of looking forward rather than looking back at any past disciplines. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF NEW SEPTEMBER 2016 COMMISSION MEETING DATE

Members discussed the lack of available downtown hotel lodging for out-of-the-area Commission members during the originally scheduled September 15-16 Commission meeting because of a city-wide conflicting event during that time period.

M/S (Zeydel/McKinney): To re-schedule the September 2016 Commission meeting from September 15-16 to September 22-23. Motion carried unanimously. Henry and Meyer abstained.

M/S (Sulfridge/McKinney): To adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

The teleconference meeting adjourned at 5:14 p.m.

Mary Jane Markland, Secretary
Professional Standards Commission

Lisa Colón, Administrator
Professional Standards Commission