



TEXAS ETHICS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Executive Session

January 30, 2018, 1:00 p.m.
Capitol Extension, Room E1.014
Austin, Texas 78701



COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Steven D. Wolens, Chair; Chad M. Craycraft, Randall H. Erben, Chris Flood, Mary K. “Katie” Kennedy and Joseph O. Slovacek.

COMMISSIONERS NOT PRESENT: Jim Clancy and Tom Ramsay.

STAFF PRESENT: Seana Willing, Executive Director; Ian M. Steusloff, General Counsel.

MINUTES

These minutes are a summary record of the Commission’s actions at the meeting. For a detailed record of discussions and statements made by persons speaking at the meeting, please consult the audio recordings on file at the Commission’s office.

Agenda Item 1: Call to order; roll call.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Wolens. Seana Willing, Executive Director, called the roll. All Commissioners were present except Commissioners Clancy, Ramsay and Slovacek. Commissioner Clancy was unable to attend because he was in court; Commissioner Ramsay was unable to attend due to illness; Commissioner Slovacek arrived later.

Commissioner Slovacek arrived during this agenda item.

Agenda Item 2: Executive session pursuant to Section 551.071, Government Code, Consultation with Attorneys, and Section 551.074, Government Code, Personnel Matters; Closed Meeting.

Agenda Item 3: Discussion of pending litigation to seek legal advice relating to the following:

- A. Cause No. D-1-GN-17-001878: *Texas Ethics Commission v. Michael Quinn Sullivan*, in the 250th Judicial District Court in Travis County, Texas; and Cause No. 03-17-00392-CV: *Michael Quinn Sullivan v. Texas Ethics Commission*, in the Third Court of Appeals at Austin, Texas.
- B. Cause No. D-1-GN-14-001252: *Empower Texans, Inc. and Michael Quinn Sullivan v. State of Texas Ethics Commission; Natalia Luna Ashley, in her capacity as Executive Director of the Texas Ethics Commission; Tom Ramsay, individually and in his capacity as Commissioner; et al.*; in the 53rd Judicial District Court of Travis County, Texas; and related case, Cause No. 03-17-

00770-CV: *Empower Texans, Inc., and Michael Quinn Sullivan v. Tom Ramsay in his individual capacity, et al.*; in the Third Court of Appeals, Austin, Texas.

- C. Cause No. D-1-GN-15-004455: *Texas Ethics Commission v. Empower Texans, Inc. and Michael Quinn Sullivan*, in the 345th Judicial District Court of Travis County, Texas; and related case, Cause No. 03-16-00872-CV: *Empower Texans, Inc., and Michael Quinn Sullivan v. Texas Ethics Commission*, in the Third Court of Appeals, Austin, Texas.
- D. Civil Action No. 5:14-cv-00133-C: *Texas Home School Coalition Association, Inc. v. Matthew D. Powell, in his official capacity as District Attorney of Lubbock County, et al.*, in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas, Lubbock Division.
- E. Cause No. D-1-GN-16-000149: *Texas Home School Coalition Association, Inc. v. Texas Ethics Commission*, in the 261st Judicial District Court of Travis County, Texas; and related case, Cause No. 03-17-00167-CV: *Texas Home School Coalition Association, Inc. v. Texas Ethics Commission*, in the Third Court of Appeals, Austin, Texas.

Agenda Item 4: Discussion to seek legal advice relating to conflicts of interest and recusal requirements.

Agenda Item 5: Discussion to seek legal advice relating to sworn complaint procedures.

Agenda Item 6: Discussion of personnel matters.

Agenda Item 7: Reconvene in open session.

The Commission reconvened in open session at 2:25 p.m. No action was taken.

Agenda Item 8: Adjourn.

Motion by Chair Wolens to adjourn. **Commission meeting adjourned by unanimous consent.**

Meeting adjourned at 2:25 p.m.