

4/18/12

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
BOARD OF LABOR RELATIONS**

AGENDA

BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, April 18, 2012
9:30 a.m.

1. Approval of Minutes
2. General Counsel's Report
 - a.) Decisions
 - b.) Litigation Update
3. Agent's Report
 - a.) Statistics
4. FOI Report – Alex Gross
5. 2012 Labor Relations Conferences
 - a.) ALRA Conference
 - b.) New England Consortium
6. Chairman's Report
7. Adjournment

CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF LABOR RELATIONS

BOARD MEETING

April 18, 2012

9:30 a.m.

MINUTES

Present: Patricia V. Low, Wendella A. Battey, Barbara J. Collins,
Katherine C. Foley, Harry E. Elliott, Jr., Alexandra Gross
and Joanne Coligan

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Patricia V. Low at 9:30 a.m. The Board took a few moments to read over the Minutes of the March 21, 2012 Board Meeting.

I. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Upon a motion duly made by Barbara J. Collins and seconded by Wendella A. Battey, the Board unanimously

VOTED to accept the Minutes of the March 21, 2012 Board Meeting as presented.

II. GENERAL COUNSEL'S REPORT

- a.) **Decisions** – Harry Elliott reported that since the last Board Meeting on March 21, 2012, two Board decisions have been issued.
- b.) **Litigation Update** - Harry reported that the pretrial in the **City of Bridgeport (CAD)** dispatchers case is scheduled for April 27, 2012 at 3:30 p.m. In **City of Norwich (Decision No. 4585)**, an appeal was filed on April 12, 2012. He noted that we will be filing an appearance and motion to dismiss in this case. Harry reported that in **Board of Trustees, Case No. SPP-29,523 (Decision No. 4592)**, the deadline to file an appeal is May 7, 2012.
- c.) **ALRA** – Harry reported that the 2012 ALRA Conference will be held from July 28, 2012 to July 31, 2012 in Montreal, Canada. He noted that on April 13, 2012, a requisition was submitted in the amount of \$400 to cover dues for fiscal year 2012/2013. Harry noted that our dues for fiscal year 2011/2012 were not paid.

The issue of a ban on state travel was raised. Kathy noted that there is a modified ban on travel. She has asked Harry to submit his travel request to her and she will try to get some funding. It was noted that in past years, Jaye Bailey's conference expenses were completely covered by ALRA because of the active role she played in the planning, training and panel participation at the conferences, as well as serving a term as President .

Pat Low asked Harry if he has any information regarding the ALRA conference to which he responded that he does not believe the agenda is available yet. He noted that he was permitted only limited access to the ALRA website. Wendella stated that she would be interested in getting a copy of the Agenda when it becomes available.

Harry raised the issue of Regulations. Upon a motion duly made by Barbara Collins and seconded by Wendella Battey, it was unanimously

VOTED to add the item "Regulations Project" to the Agenda.

- d.) **Regulations Project** – Harry reported that the first meeting of the Regulations Project was held on Monday, April 16, 2012 with staff and Deputy Commissioner Dennis Murphy in attendance. The group reviewed the changes that had previously been agreed to in 2000 and 2008. He noted that there are two or three additional items that the Board hasn't approved yet. Subsequent meetings are scheduled for May 16th and June 4th at 1:30 p.m. Pat stated that she is also interested in reviewing the process of changing the regulations and would like to see these changes brought before the Legislature during its next session. Harry noted that this is the goal of the committee. A brief discussion took place regarding the newly proposed changes. Kathy commended Alex for the outstanding job she did in incorporating the changes.

The Agent deferred her place on the Agenda to allow Alex Gross to present her reports first.

III. **FOI REPORT**

Alex Gross reported that she attended the FOI Commission's Annual Conference on April 3, 2012. She noted that it was the best attended FOI conference yet and has become a very popular event. Alex confirmed that

we are in compliance with the posting and notice requirements as outlined in her January 2012 memo to the Board. She shared some additional FOI requirements that she learned at the conference. The first has to do with Executive Sessions – if you plan to talk about an employee, you must give that person “meaningful” notice of that fact. Even though that person has no right to be present in the Executive Session, he/she does have a right to require that a public hearing be held on the issue rather than going into Executive Session. Another requirement is that if you change the date or time of your meeting less than 30 days in advance, it is no longer considered a regular meeting, but is converted to a special meeting. This means that unlike a regular meeting, you will not be permitted to make any agenda changes during the meeting as you would be able to do at a regular meeting with a 2/3 vote.

IV. NEW ENGLAND CONSORTIUM

Alex handed out the “Save the Date” flyer for the NECSLRA’s Conference to be held on July 20, 2012 at Western New England University School of Law in Springfield, MA. Alex outlined some of the panel topics and speakers for the event. Pat inquired whether there is money available to pay for staff registration fees. Alex stated that the consortium usually has funds available to cover staff expenses, and anticipates these funds will be available again this year. In answer to Pat’s inquiry regarding who from our Agency represents the Consortium and who represents ALRA, Harry responded that Alex is the representative for the Consortium and he for ALRA. Pat asked if ALRA dues comes out of the General Fund Budget, to which Kathy replied that it does.

V. AGENT’S REPORT

- a.) **Statistics** - Kathy Foley reported that 457 cases were filed since July 1, 2011; 489 cases have been closed during this time period and that 285 remain open. Kathy reported that Attorney Bill Gagne has requested some postponements in May due to a court matter. She said that Gagne has agreed to wait and see what transpires with these cases before postponements are granted

VI. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

Pat Low inquired about the SEBAC briefs. Harry said that the briefs are due today and the reply briefs are due on the 30th of the month. Harry also informed the Board that the Motion to Quash filed in the Piteau case

will be available for them to pick up this week.

Pat Low raised the issue of setting a date for the June Board Meeting. Kathy indicated that the Weston hearing scheduled for June 21 and the Milford hearing scheduled for June 18 might possibly come off. Pat stated that if the June 21st hearing comes off, we will schedule the June Board Meeting on that date and if it doesn't, we can schedule the Board Meeting on June 18th.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the meeting, a motion was duly made by Barbara J. Collins, seconded by Wendella A. Battey, and it was unanimously

VOTED to adjourn the meeting.