

10/16/13

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
BOARD OF LABOR RELATIONS**

AGENDA

BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, October 16, 2013
9:30 a.m.

1. Acceptance of Minutes
2. General Counsel's Report
 - a.) Decisions
 - b.) Litigation Update
3. Agent's Report
 - a.) Statistics
4. Chairman's Report
5. Adjournment

CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF LABOR RELATIONS

MINUTES

BOARD MEETING

October 16, 2013
9:30 a.m.

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

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Low at 9:35 a.m. The Board took a few moments to read over the minutes of the September 30, 2013 Board Meeting.

I. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Upon a motion duly made by Barbara J. Collins and seconded by Patricia V. Low, the Board unanimously

VOTED to accept the Minutes of the September 30, 2013 Board Meeting as presented.

II. GENERAL COUNSEL'S REPORT

- a.) **Decisions** - Attorney Elliott reported that since the last Board meeting on September 30, 2013, no (0) decisions have been issued and one (1) draft decision is pending review by the Board (Hartford). Attorney Elliott reported that six (6) records are pending: three (3) are due in November (Bridgeport – MPP-29,228; North Branford – MPP-29,844; & New Britain – MPP-29,825); two (2) in December (State – SPP-29,749 & Burlington – MPP-30,179 & MPP-30,189); and one (1) which was due yesterday (New Haven – MPP-29,754) of which one party claims it mailed its brief Monday via FEDEX overnight delivery and the other mailed it last Thursday.
- b.) **Litigation Update** – Attorney Elliott reported on the following cases on appeal: **Board of Regents v. SBLR** – case was withdrawn by the Board of Regents on September 30, 2013. In **New Haven v. Local 3144 (Headstart reorganization)**, the City's brief is due on November 7, 2013 and the Labor Board's brief is due on December 7, 2013. Attorney Elliott noted that this is the last extension which the court will grant. In **Poquonock v. SBLR**, a pre-trial is scheduled for November 8, 2013 at

10:45 a.m. with Judge Levine. In **Norwalk v. SBLR**, Frank Cassetta attended a pre-argument hearing in Derby on October 1, 2013. The Union's brief is due on December 2, 2013 and the Labor Board's brief is due the next business day after January 1, 2014. In **Hartford v. SBLR (nepotism)**, both the Union and the Labor Board's answers were filed on October 9, 2013. A pre-trial is scheduled for November 21, 2013. Attorney Elliott noted that he hopes to file a record with the court on October 21, 2013. In **Michael Cruess v. CSEA (DFR)**, Mr. Cruess filed a lawsuit against the Union on October 7, 2013, raising claims related to those he brought in SUPP-29,477. On October 10, 2013, Mr. Cruess filed an amended complaint adding a third count against the Labor Board by way of an appeal. Attorney Elliott noted that the Labor Board cannot appear and defend that case until Mr. Cruess moves to properly add the SBLR as a party.

III. AGENT'S REPORT

Chairman Low inquired about the new case filed against Poquonnock Bridge Fire District. Agent Foley responded that another complaint has been filed, but an informal conference has not yet been held. She noted that a conference letter will be sent out shortly on this matter.

Agent Foley reported that the Board can remove the hearing scheduled for Monday, October 21, 2013 (State v. Alison Curry) off their calendars because the complaint has been verbally withdrawn. A letter of withdrawal is forthcoming.

- a.) **Statistics** - Agent Foley reported that 171 cases were filed since July 1, 2013, which reflects an increase of 17 cases over last year filings. She also reported that 176 cases have been closed during that period.
- b.) **Court Reporter** - The problem of not receiving completed and signed transcripts in a timely manner was discussed. Agent Foley reported that she has made several attempts to contact the court reporter regarding a solution to the problem. After a lengthy discussion on the matter, it was decided that Agent Foley will contact the court reporter to work out a plan to have the outstanding transcripts turned in.

IV. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Low raised the issue of the problem she is experiencing with the changes made to the status report. She decided that the briefs due date should no longer trigger a case to appear on the status report because it is too confusing. Cases should appear only after the Board has received the record.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

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

VOTED to adjourn the meeting.