

# CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF LABOR RELATIONS

## BOARD MEETING

### MINUTES

December 17, 2014  
9:30 a.m.

**Present:** Wendella A. Battey, Barbara J. Collins, Katherine C. Foley, Harry B. Elliott, Jr. & Joanne Coligan. Chairman Patricia V. Low participated in the meeting via speaker phone.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Patricia V. Low at 9:40 a.m.

#### 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 November 19, 2014 Board Meeting as presented.

#### II. GENERAL COUNSEL'S REPORT

- a) **Decisions** – Attorney Elliott reported that since the last Board meeting on November 19, 2014, two (2) decisions have been issued - Farmington (Decision #4767) and Danbury (Decision #4768).
- b) **Litigation Update** – Attorney Elliott reported on the following cases on appeal: **AFSCME v. Norwalk** – We are awaiting a decision by the Appellate Court. **Poquonnock Bridge v. SBLR** - The court sustained the Plaintiff's appeal on December 1, 2014. Attorney Elliott is in the process of drafting the Labor Board's appeal, which is due on or before December 22, 2014. **New Haven Firefighters v. SBLR** – The appeal in this case was withdrawn on December 16, 2014. **Stamford Career Firefighters (Berg)** - A pretrial was held on December 8, 2014; the Plaintiff's brief is due on February 27, 2015 and the Labor Board's brief is due on March 30, 2015. **Shane LaPointe v. UConn** – The Labor Board filed a Motion to Dismiss on November 24, 2014; the Plaintiff's response is due December 24, 2014; a hearing is scheduled for January 21, 2015. **SBLR v. Mark Blumenthal** – Pending completion of Piteau hearing. **Bristol Board of Education** – Argument was held last Friday; awaiting court's decision.

### III. AGENT'S REPORT

- a) **Filings** - Agent Foley reported that filings are up 17 cases from last year at this time.
- b) **Christmas Party** – Agent Foley reported that the office Christmas luncheon will be held on Monday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> at noon. She noted that the Board is scheduled to be in for a 1:30 hearing and suggested they come in a little earlier to join us for lunch. Barbara Collins, who is not on the hearing, noted that she will make an effort to come in for the luncheon.

Agent Foley asked Attorney Elliott to give her a “heads up” when a case in court is withdrawn/settled.

### IV. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- a) **PARS** - Barbara Collins stated that another date has to be scheduled to conduct the PARS meeting and suggested that it be held on Friday morning. Attorney Elliott noted that his PARS must be submitted before December 26<sup>th</sup> in order to get his increase. Chairman Low indicated that she will notify the Board of her availability on Friday morning depending on the outcome of her doctor's appointment.
- b) **Subpoenas** – Chairman Low raised the issue of subpoenas and asked Attorney Elliott to update the Board on this matter. Attorney Elliott indicated that he understood he was to draft a proposed amendment to the statutes which would eliminate subpoena power of the Labor Board. Wendella Battey raised the issue of the impact this would have on pro se's, noting that they are required to hire an attorney and the cost could be problematic. She stated that we could inform the attorneys that we are not going to issue a subpoena and/or reserve the right to say no if and when the process gets abusive. Chairman Low noted that if the parties refuse, the Board should have the opportunity to subpoena witnesses if relevant.

### V. 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.