

CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF LABOR RELATIONS

BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

June 25, 2024 – Pending Approval

10:30 a.m.

Present: Barbara J. Collins, Katherine C. Foley, Kenneth A. Hampton, Frank N. Cassetta, Jose' A. Santana and Sondra Ivory

The meeting was called to order by Barbara Collins at 10:4450 a.m.

* Prior to the opening of the meeting, the Board Members discussed the current meeting minutes format and recommended that, going forward, they provide a more inclusive summary to ensure compliance with the Freedom of Information Act.

I. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Upon a motion duly made by Barbara Collins and seconded by Katherine Foley

VOTED to accept the minutes of the May 23, 2024, Board meeting as presented.

II. GENERAL COUNSEL'S REPORT

a) Decisions – 3 decision(s) have issued since the last board meeting on 05/23/24

b) Records pending: 0

c) Litigation:

1. Superior Court

a. Castro-Cruz v. Frank Cassetta, et al, Decision No. 5299

06/24/24 –LB objection to plaintiffs' motion to dismiss defendants' motions to dismiss filed; decision on motions anticipated in September 2024.

b. Stephanie Wilson v. Katherine Foley, et. al, Superior Court, Docket No. HHB-CV24-6084400-S: Nothing to report; being handled by the Attorney General's Office.

III. AGENT'S REPORT

Agenda Item 1:

Agent discussed Public Act 21-25, **The Act Concerning Access to Certain Public Employees by the Exclusive Bargaining Representative of the Public Employer Bargaining Unit** codified at CGS Section 31-40bb, effective October 1, 2021. Failure to comply with the provisions of this Section is a violation of the duty of bargain and an unfair labor practice and further:

“(o) It shall be a prohibited practice for a public employer to: (1) Encourage an employee to resign or decline to obtain membership in a public employee organization, (2) encourage an employee to revoke authorization for a payroll deduction of dues to a public employee organization, (3) knowingly aid any such effort by any other entity, or (4) permit use of the employer’s electronic mail system by any entity to discourage membership in a public employee organization or discourage authorization of payroll deduction of dues to a public employee organization.”

Further Board discussion on Conn Gen. Stat. §31-40bb pursued as follows:

- Include text of §31-40bb with MERA, SERA, TNA & SLRA on our website
- Create new forms or amend existing forms to allow for filing a prohibited practice complaint under §31-40bb
- Place a notice on website alerting public of these changes

Agenda Item 2:

Agent asked General Counsel to discuss the State’s website and search engine being updated by DOL’s IT Department as part of the State’s initiative to update its entire website. The IT Department is starting with our agency (SBLR) first because we have the greatest number of posted public documents and they’re working on merging all the older files into the State’s new website. The goal, at a minimum, is to maintain all current search capabilities.

Board Member Barbara Collins mentioned that there are two different webpages, and one did not list new Board Member Kenneth A. Hampton. Inquired about the contact person for our webpage and how things could be more streamlined. She talked briefly about alerting DOL about the new Web Content and Mobile App accessibility guidelines under Title II of the ADA regarding website posting.

Miscellaneous Business Items

- Discussion regarding preparation for updating the fiscal analysis impact for the upcoming legislative proposal to increase Board’s per diem rate.
- Discussion on DOL’s new efforts to streamline its mailing operations including allowing for electronic confirmation without having to deal with the green cards required in certified mail.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

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

VOTED to adjourn the meeting.