



Washington State Executive Ethics Board

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Executive Ethics Board News

Lisa Marsh, Chair
Anna Dudek Ross, Vice Chair
Mike Bahn, Member
Matthew Williams III, Member
Samantha Simmons, Member

March 8, 2013

The Executive Ethics Board (Board) met on Thursday, March 7, 2013 for an enforcement hearing and on Friday, March 8, 2013 for their regular business meeting. Board member Mike Bahn was absent both days. Others attending the business meeting included: Melanie de Leon, Executive Director, David Killeen, Investigator, Bruce Turcott, Board Counsel and Ruthann Bryant Board Secretary. Members of the public also attended.

Enforcement

In lieu of an enforcement hearing, the Board accepted stipulations from:

- **Charles Pezeshki**, Professor, School of Mechanical and Material Engineering, Washington State University, for using state resources for personal gain and to support two outside business ventures. Evidence indicated that Mr. Pezeshki used state resources to further his business as an environmental photographer. He also used state resources to write articles for local newspapers that were not related to his official state duties and for which he received separate compensation. The Board levied a civil penalty of \$3,000, suspending \$1,500.
- **Sandy Bigelow**, an employee of the Emergency Management Division, Military Department, for using state resources for personal gain. Records indicated that Ms. Bigelow used state resources to complete schoolwork, track personal expenses and further other personal business. The Board levied a civil penalty of \$2,500, suspending \$1,000.
- **Jonathan Holmes**, an employee of the Emergency Management Division, Military Department, for using state resources for personal gain. Records indicated that Mr. Holmes used state resources to complete tax returns, track personal expenses and further other personal business. The Board levied a civil penalty of \$2,500, suspending \$1,000.
- **Chris Long**, an employee of the Emergency Management Division, Military Department, for using state resources for personal gain. Records indicated that Mr. Long used state resources research military weaponry, download MP3 files and view non-work related videos on YouTube. The Board levied a civil penalty of \$3,000, suspending \$1,000.
- **James Hutchinson**, an employee of the Emergency Management Division, Military Department, for using state resources for personal gain. Records indicated that Mr. Hutchinson used state resources to view sites relating to steel guitars, retirement, tax returns and other personal business. The Board levied a civil penalty of \$2,500, suspending \$1,500.
- **Lisa Johnson**, an employee of the Emergency Management Division, Military Department, for using state resources for personal gain. Records indicated that Ms. Johnson used state

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The next meeting of the Executive Ethics Board is scheduled for May 10, 2013.

resources to view sites and gather information on remodeling a home, applying for a construction loan and to further other personal business. The Board levied a civil penalty of \$2,500, suspending \$1,000.

- **Krystal Welch**, an employee of Tacoma Community College, for using state resources for personal gain. Records indicated that Ms. Welch used state resources to conduct business for two home based businesses - Pampered Chef and ItWorks, a business that sells a natural based, body contouring line of products. The Board levied a civil penalty of \$2,500, suspending \$1,000.
- **Jenna Hyatt**, an employee of Central Washington University, for using state resources to support a political candidate for Superior court judge. The Board levied a civil penalty of \$1,500, suspending \$500.
- The Board found Reasonable Cause in five cases: 2012-046(Cleman), 2012-051 (Young), 2012-057 (Lovelady), 2012-062 (Dickson) and 2013-001 (Frederickson).
- The Board reviewed and affirmed Executive Director dismissals in three cases: 2012-070 (Lake), 2012-072 (Fairfield) and 2012-073 (Bracey).

The Board completed an administrative hearing for EEB Case 2010-018, Jose Diaz. The Board's Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law are currently being drafted by Board Counsel.

Board Action:

- A. The Board reviewed and approved the Department of Transportation's Employee Use of Electronic Communication Systems policy.
- B. The Board reviewed a proposed change to the Washington Horse Racing Commission's WAC 260-14-050 to allow the commission member who is required by statute to be a breeder of horses to also be able to own and race those horses at race meets regulated by the commission. The Board determined that it would be a conflict of interest for a commissioner to own and race horses at race meets that they regulated, as well as a possible financial interest in a transaction and contrary to Advisory Opinion 97-03.
- C. The Board is monitoring three legislative bills: SHB 1005, SSB 5577 and SB 5504 as all impact the Ethics in Public Service Act or the Board itself.

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