

ALASKA STATE PERSONNEL BOARD MEETING

January 19, 2021

10:00 A.M.

Atwood Building

550 W 7th Avenue, Suite 1236

Anchorage, Alaska

In person:

Al Tamagni, Chair

Craig Johnson, Board Member

Dr. Keith Hamilton, Board Member

Kate Sheehan, Director, Division of Personnel & Labor Relations

Present by teleconference:

Maria Bahr, Attorney IV, Department of Law

Siobhan McIntyre, Attorney IV, Department of Law

Jennifer Williams, Paralegal I, Department of Law

Jeff Hahnen, Human Resource Consultant I, Division of Personnel & Labor Relations

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Tamagni called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was moved and approved.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the November 12, 2020, meeting was moved and approved.

4. ETHICS DISCLOSURE – PERSONNEL BOARD MEMBERS

The board members had no disclosures or conflicts of interest that they were aware of.

5. REVIEW OF QUARTERLY ETHICS REPORTS AND SUBMITTAL COMPLIANCE

There are no new reports to discuss. The Department of Law confirmed that they should have the 2020 fourth quarter and year end ethics reports ready by the second week of February.

Board Member Johnson asked if the court case challenging board appointments have resulted in any delay in receiving ethics reports? Jennifer Williams with the Department of Law did not see an impact based on the court case, but she did state that there is such high turnover with board members that she is routinely updating her contact information. Chairperson Tamagni asked if there was any updated information regarding this court case and Maria Bahr responded that they had very little information because a case of this nature has not been seen before.

The court case is working its way through the litigative process, so the Department of Law is operating under the assumption that all appointments made by the Governor's Office are legitimate.

6. EXECUTIVE SESSION UNDER AS 44.62.310(c)(3)

The Personnel Board went into executive session to review the confidential ethics case logs.

7. UPDATE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF PERSONNEL & LABOR RELATIONS

Director Kate Sheehan stated that the state is in contract negotiations with the Alaska Correctional Officers Association, Alaska Public Employees Association, Labor, Trades and Crafts Union, Marine Engineer's Beneficial Association, and the International Organization of Masters, Mates and Pilots. Board Member Johnson asked how many employees this makes up? Director Sheehan responded that Supervisory employees (APEA) make up about 2000 employees as the second largest union. The largest union is the General Government (ASEA) union, which is about 8000 employees. LTC employees is about 1700 employees. The two marine unions are very small and only make up about 80 employees. Per statute the contracts need to be provided to the legislature by the 60th day of the legislative session.

Director Sheehan plans to have regulations for the board to review and approve during the next meeting regarding the State moving to biweekly payroll processing on 06/01/2020. Chairperson Tamagni asked how much extra the change to biweekly payroll processing will cost the state each year? Director Sheehan responded that it would depend on the year. For calendar year 2020 it cost the state a bit more because the State switched in June instead of in December of 2019. The ideal time to switch would have been in December of 2019 but contract letters of agreement could not get approved in time. Going forward there should be no extra cost to the State. Chairperson Tamagni asked how the change to biweekly payroll processing was going? Director Sheehan responded that employee's can better track when payday is now since it falls on every other Friday. Under semi-monthly payroll processing pay days were not as consistent. Employees had to initially get used to the fact that their paychecks would be smaller because of there being an average of two extra pay periods process per year under biweekly payroll.

Board Member Johnson submitted a motion that the board appoint the chair to investigate statutory and policy changes to the boards and commissions. This matter would be discussed further at the next board meeting. Director Sheehan noted that regulations changes require a 30-day public meeting notice, whereas if there were no regulation changes it would only require a 10-day notice.

8. OTHER MATTERS THAT MAY COME BEFORE THE BOARD

The board tentatively agreed to meet on June 23, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. The board is planning to meet again prior to that but the exact date was yet to be determined.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:47 a.m.