



Washington State Executive Ethics Board

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Executive Ethics Board News

Shirley Battan, Chair
Gerri Davis, Vice Chair
Lisa Marsh, Member
Anna Dudek Ross, Member

July 16, 2019

The Executive Ethics Board (Board) met on Friday, July 12, 2019 for their regular meeting. Board members present were Chair Shirley Battan, Vice Chair Gerri Davis and Members Lisa Marsh and Anna Dudek Ross. Others attending included: Kate Reynolds, Executive Director, Bruce Turcott, Senior Assistant Attorney General, Michelle Carr, Assistant Attorney General, Chad Standifer, Assistant Attorney General, David Killeen, Senior Investigator, Bobby Frye, Investigator and Ruthann Bryant, Administrative Officer. Members of the public also attended.

Enforcement

The Board heard oral arguments on a Motion for Partial Summary Judgment regarding EEB Case 2017-044 Michael Katze.

The Board also heard oral arguments regarding a penalty in the matter of EEB Case 2016-059 Queenie Baker.

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

- **Sean Baldeschwiler**, an employee with the Seattle Maritime Academy, may have violated the Ethics in Public Service Act when he used the facility to store his personal boat and accessed the property to launch the boat. The Board levied a civil penalty of \$1,750.
- **Melisa Williams**, a former Green River College employee, may have violated the Ethics in Public Service Act by using state resources for her private benefit. The Board levied a civil penalty of \$1,500.
- **Gloria Ponce**, a former Department of Social and Health Services employee, may have violated the Ethics in Public Service Act when she approved payments to clients who did not meet the requirements, used state resources for non-work related activities and used her state computer to transmit confidential information. The Board levied a civil penalty of \$5,000.
- **Jesse Days**, a former Central Washington University employee, may have violated the Ethics in Public Service Act by using state resources for his private benefit or gain by failing to submit leave when he was absent from work. The Board levied a civil penalty of \$1,500.
- **Kris Budde**, a former employee of the Department of Agriculture, may have violated the Ethics in Public Service Act when he used his position to receive a special privilege and conducted activities incompatible with his official duties by using WSDA employees to complete inappropriate livestock brand inspection on his personal livestock and by purchasing cattle from a person he regulates. The Board levied a civil penalty of \$2,000.

Meeting agendas can be found at www.ethics.wa.gov under "Meetings."

The next meeting of the Executive Ethics Board is scheduled for September 13, 2019.

- **Theresa Monteverdi**, a former Department of Social and Health Services employee, may have violated the Ethics in Public Service Act by using state resources in support of her outside business. The Board levied a civil penalty of \$325.
- **Clifford Mass**, a Professor at the University of Washington, may have violated the Ethics in Public Service Act by using state resources to oppose an initiative during the 2018 statewide election. The Board levied a civil penalty of \$5,000 with \$1,500 suspended.
- **Gregory Spatz**, a Professor at Eastern Washington University, may have violated the Ethics in Public Service Act by using state resources to promote his new CD. The Board levied a civil penalty of \$2,500 with \$500 suspended.
- The Board found Reasonable Cause in EEB Case 2018-061 (O'Brien), EEB Case 2018-063 (Hawley), EEB Case 2018-066 (Brooks), EEB Case 2018-067 (Charles) and EEB Case 2019-009 (Mott).
- The Board found No Reasonable Cause in EEB Case 2019-020 (Dexter).
- The Board Dismissed EEB Case 2019-002 (Aseph) and EEB Case 2019-006 (Batte).
- The Board issued a Final Order of Default in EEB Case 2018-018 (Clark).
- The Board reviewed four Executive Director's Dismissals: EEB Case 2019-003 (Perkins), EEB Case 2019-004 (Clark), EEB Case 2019-007 (Merrill) and EEB Case 2019-023 (De Leon).

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