

Executive Ethics Board News

Jan Jutte, Chair
Kelli Hooke, Vice Chair
Megan Abel, Member
Cam Comfort, Member
David Hankins, Member

September 16, 2024

The Executive Ethics Board (Board) met on Friday, September 13, 2024, for their regular meeting. Board members present were Chair Jan Jutte, Vice Chair Kelli Hooke and Members Megan Abel, Cam Comfort and David Hankins. Others attending included: Kate Reynolds, Executive Director, Matt Kernutt, Senior Counsel, Julia Eisentrout, Assistant Attorney General, Ruthann Bryant, Administrative Officer and Justin Cotte, Senior Digital Forensic Investigator. Members of the public also attended.

Enforcement

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

- **Paige Perkinson**, Senior Administrator of Engagement and Outreach with the Department of Corrections, agreed that they may have violated the Ethics in Public Service Act by using state resources for non-work-related activities. Evidence indicated that Paige Perkinson browsed the internet, visiting sites including Zillow and YouTube, and saved several personal documents and photos on their computer. The Board levied a civil penalty of \$750 with \$250 suspended.

The Board found Reasonable Cause in EEB Case 2023-061 (Ochoa), EEB Case 2023-064 (Estep), EEB Case 2023-066 (Plassman), EEB Case 2023-067 (Lamb), EEB Case 2023-069 (Vinje), EEB Case 2023-070 (Rainey) and EEB Case 2023-072 (Miller).

The Board dismissed EEB Case 2023-056 (Mercado) and EEB Case 2023-059 (Lewis).

The Board also reviewed one Executive Director Dismissal in EEB Case 2023-068 (Hevly).

Board Action:

- A. The Board discussed the use of state resources by state employees working to receive a certificate not related to their official duties.
- B. The Board reviewed and approved The Office of Financial Management's Ethics policy.

Approved versions of policies are posted on the Board's website at www.ethics.wa.gov.

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

The next meeting of the Executive Ethics Board is scheduled for November 8, 2024.