

**STATE ETHICS COMMISSION
205 Jesse Hill Jr. Drive, S.E.
Suite 478 – East Tower
Atlanta, Georgia 30334**

AGENDA

LOCATION: Douglas County Courthouse
Citizen's Hall
Douglasville, Georgia

DATE: February 23, 2006

TIME: 9:00 a.m. (Sub-committee)
10:00 a.m. (Regular Meeting)

SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING

Jack Williams, Jr., Chairman
Steve Farrow, Member
David Moskowitz, Member

Discussion of Search for Executive Secretary

HEARINGS

In the Matter of Robert B. Baker, Jr.
(Added Respondents: Powell Goldstein Frazer & Murphy, LLP;
McKenna Long & Aldridge, LLP; Troutman Sanders, LLP; Strickland
Brockington & Lewis, LLP).....A

In the Matter of Citizens for a Better Georgia and Georgia Trial
Lawyers Association.....B

In the Matter of Olivia Monette Jones.....C

In the Matter of Ruth Barr.....D

REGULAR MEETING

Meeting Called to Order

Reading & Approval of the Minutes.....E

Request for Finding of Probable Cause

Request for Opinion

Comments from the Attorney General's Office

Report of the Interim Executive Secretary

Future Commission Meeting Date

**MINUTES OF THE
STATE ETHICS COMMISSION SUB-COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD**

**February 23, 2006
Douglas County Courthouse
Citizen's Hall
Douglasville, Georgia**

Present:

**Jack Williams, Chairman
Steve Farrow, Member
David Moskowitz
Dennis Dunn, Deputy Attorney General**

The meeting commenced at approximately 9:01 a.m.

APPROVAL OF APPLICATION FOR EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

The sub-committee approved the draft application for the position of Executive Secretary subject to formatting.

Motion made by Mr. Farrow
Carried Unanimously

Seconded by Mr. Moskowitz

Following guidance from the Deputy Attorney General, Dennis Dunn, the sub-committee voted to eliminate the drug screening requirement of the application for the position of Executive Secretary.

Motion made by Mr. Moskowitz
Carried Unanimously

Seconded by Mr. Farrow

DISCUSSION OF JOB DESCRIPTION, ADVERTISING, AND MINIMUM SALARY

The sub-committee expanded the job description of the Executive Secretary to include administration of state-level filing officer duties under H.B. 48.

The sub-committee discussed various advertising venues such as the State Ethics Commission web site, the *Georgia Bar Journal*, the *Wall Street Journal*, the Council on Governmental Ethics Laws, Georgia Merit System, the Department of Labor, and Alumni Services at Georgia State University, the University of Georgia, Emory University, and Mercer University.

The sub-committee added "familiarity with governmental budgeting processes" to the preferred qualifications to be included in the advertisement for the position of Executive Secretary.

The sub-committee set the minimum salary for the position of Executive Secretary at \$89,000 per annum, subject to upward adjustment based on qualifications and experience.

FUTURE SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING

The sub-committee set the next meeting for March 8, 2006, at 3:00 p.m. via telephone conference.

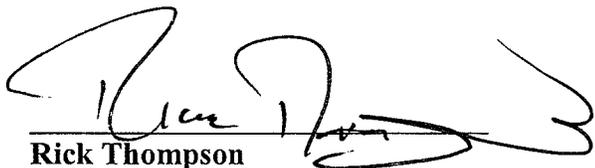
READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the February 9, 2006 meeting were approved as presented.

Motion made by Mr. Farrow
Carried Unanimously

Seconded by Mr. Moskowitz

The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:01 a.m.

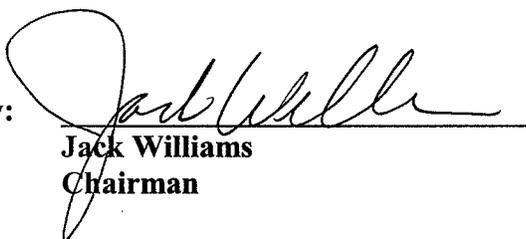


Rick Thompson
Interim Executive Secretary

Official Minutes Statement

The foregoing Minutes for the February 9, 2006 sub-committee meeting for the State Ethics Commission were approved and adopted by the Commission sub-committee at the sub-committee meeting on April 10, 2006.

STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

By: 
Jack Williams
Chairman

**MINUTES OF THE
STATE ETHICS COMMISSION
MEETING HELD
February 23, 2006
Douglas County Courthouse
Citizen's Hall
Douglasville, Georgia**

Present:

**Steve Farrow, Chairman
Jack Williams, Vice Chairman
Emmett Bowers
David Moskowitz**

The meeting commenced at approximately 10:10 a.m.

HEARINGS UNDER THE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE ACT

**IN THE MATTER OF BOBBY BAKER CASE NO. 2004-0044
(ADDED RESPONDENTS: POWELL GOLDSTEIN FRAZER & MURPHY, LLP;
MCKENNA LONG & ALDRIDGE, LLP; TROUTMAN SANDERS, LLP; STRICKLAND
BROCKINGTON LEWIS, LLP)**

The Commission dismissed this matter based on the Motion to Dismiss filed by the Attorney General's office.

Motion made by Mr. Moskowitz
Carried Unanimously

Seconded by Mr. Bowers

Mr. Williams recused himself in this matter due to his membership in the firm of Powell Goldstein Frazer & Murphy, LLP.

**IN THE MATTER OF CITIZENS FOR A BETTER GEORGIA AND GEORGIA TRIAL
LAWYERS ASSOCIATION CASE NO.'s 2004-0048, 2005-0086**

The Commission adopted a consent order finding violations and assessing civil penalties in the amount of \$10,000 and ordering the Respondent to pay late filing fees in the amount of \$600.

Motion made by Mr. Williams
Carried Unanimously

Seconded by Mr. Bowers

Mr. Moskowitz recused himself in this matter due to his membership in the above-named association.

The Commission voted to issue an order prepared by the Attorney General's office finding violations and assessing civil penalties in the amount of \$400, with the Respondent to pay an additional \$1,050 in late filing fees.

Motion made by Mr. Moskowitz
Carried Unanimously

Seconded by Mr. Williams

The Commission continued this matter until evidence was presented that the Respondent received or refused delivery of the Notice of Hearing delivered via certified mail.

Motion made by Mr. Bowers
Carried Unanimously

Seconded by Mr. Williams

REGULAR MEETING

The Commission adopted the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law reached in the Administrative Procedure Act hearings as the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law of the State Ethics Commission.

Motion made by Mr. Williams
Carried Unanimously

Seconded by Mr. Bowers

The minutes of the January 4, 2006 meeting were approved as presented.

Motion made by Mr. Moskowitz
Carried Unanimously

Seconded by Mr. Bowers

The minutes of the January 30, 2006 meeting were approved as presented.

Motion made by Mr. Moskowitz
Carried Unanimously

Seconded by Mr. Bowers

NEW BUSINESS

The Commission found probable cause to open an investigation as to whether William G. Usry and the Flint River Regional Water Council had violated the Ethics in Government Act.

Motion made by Mr. Moskowitz
Carried Unanimously

Seconded by Mr. Bowers

The Commission tabled the Request for Opinion until the next Commission meeting.

Motion made by Mr. Bowers
Carried Unanimously

Seconded by Mr. Williams

COMMENTS OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

DeBrae Kennedy of the Attorney General's office addressed the following issues with the Commission:

- **Scheduling of Commission meetings in order to reduce the number of pending Administrative Procedure Act hearings**

REPORT OF THE INTERIM EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

The Interim Executive Secretary briefed the Commission on the following:

- **The addition of a new employee as a Programmer Analyst, in order to expedite the preparation of specifications for third party filing software and to assist with electronic filing needs as enacted by H.B. 48**
- **Proposed legislation that would have a direct impact on the State Ethics Commission**
- **Supplemental budget update**
- **Clarification of language in H.B. 48 that describes the State Ethics Commission as a "separate budget unit"**
- **Hearing of sworn testimony at preliminary hearings and the potential problems of allowing such testimony**

FUTURE MEETING DATE

The Commission set May 18, 2006 as the next meeting date.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 12:21 p.m.



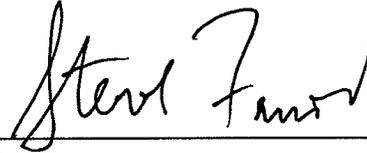
Rick Thompson
Interim Executive Secretary

Official Minutes Statement

The foregoing Minutes for the February 23, 2006 meeting for the State Ethics Commission were approved and adopted by the Commission at the Commission's meeting on March 30, 2006.

STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Farrow", written over a horizontal line.

**Steve Farrow
Chairman**