
Colorado Office of Public Guardianship

Commissioners

Shari Caton, Chair
Deb Bennett Woods, Vice Chair
Marco Chayet
Kelsey Lesco
Karen Kelley



1300 Broadway, Suite 1250
Denver, CO 80203

(720) 625-5130
OPGCommission@gmail.com

PUBLIC MEETING January 3, 2019

Record of Proceedings

CONVENE

The meeting of the Colorado Office of Public Guardianship Commission was convened in the Ralph Carr Judicial Building at 1300 Broadway, Conference Room 2B in Denver, Colorado at 10:02 AM by Commission Chair Caton.

A quorum of the Commission was present.

Commission Members Present

Shari Caton, Chair	Deb Bennett-Woods, Vice-Chair
Kelsey Lesco	Marco Chayet*
Karen Kelley*	

Commission Members Absent

Others Present

Hugh Wilson, Office of the State Court Administrator
Bill DeLisio, Office of the State Court Administrator
Sueanna Johnson, Senior AAG

Public Attendance

Terry Lake
Maureen Welch*

* Appeared/Participated by Telephone

AGENDA ITEMS

I. Approval of the December 7, 2018 Minutes

Commissioner Chayet moved for adoption of the December 7, 2019 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lesco. The motion passed unanimously with Commission Vice-Chair Bennett-Woods absent from the meeting.

II. Monthly Budget Report

Commission Chair Caton skipped approval of approval of the December 12, 2018 meeting minutes, as she and Commissioner Kelley were not present so they needed to wait for Commission Vice-Chair Deb-Bennett Woods to be present.

Mr. Wilson indicated that his reconciliation of the bank records as not complete due to the legislative session, but that he would have a reconciliation done by the next meeting. Mr. Wilson also indicated that there was no change in donations received.

III. Update on the Budget Supplemental

The supplemental budget request was presented to the JBC on December 18, 2019, and no questions were asked of the OPG by the JBC. In the next two weeks, the request and recommendation for the supplemental will be presented to the JBC by Legislative Analyst Steve Allen. Members of the OPG may attend the hearing; however, Mr. Wilson indicated that there will not be an opportunity to testify or ask questions. Mr. Wilson will provide a schedule to AAG Johnson and she will share with Commissioners.

IV. Approval of the December 12, 2018 Minutes

Commission Vice-Chair Bennett-Woods was present so Chair Caton went back to this agenda item. Commission Vice-Chair Bennett-Woods moved to adopt the December 12, 2019 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lesco. Commission Chair Caton abstained from voting, as she was not present at the meeting. The motion passed with Commission Chair Caton abstention.

V. **Update on Letter Sent to the Independent Ethics Commission Requesting Advisory Opinion on Hiring a Professional Lobbyist on a Pro Bono Basis**

AAG Johnson sent the letter to the Independent Ethics Commission for consideration, and should be considered at the IEC's next meeting on January 14, 2019. AAG Johnson indicated that there should be a Commission member present for the IEC meeting, and that delegation should be voted on by the Commission. A motion was made by Chair Caton for Vice-Chair Bennett-Woods to attend the IEC meeting with AAG Johnson on January 14th and answer questions as the representative of the Commission. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lesco. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. **Attorney-Client Advice re: OPG Commissioners Engaging in Lobbyist Activities and Registration Requirements**

At 10:26 AM, Commission Chair Caton requested a motion to enter into Executive Session to review and discuss attorney-client privileged information from Senior AAG Johnson as to whether the OPG Commissioners could engage in lobbying activities. The motion was made by Commission Vice-Chair Bennett-Woods. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lesco. The motion passed unanimously.

Executive Session was held to protect the Attorney-Client Privilege.

Executive Session was recorded

Return to open meeting

At 10:52 AM, the Commission returned to Open Session.

In open session, AAG Johnson announced with approval of the OPG Commissioners that the OPG Commissioners need not register if they engage in lobbying activities based on Colorado law in § 24-6-303.5, C.R.S.

VII. **Legislative Strategy**

The Commission discussed sending informational letter to the General Assembly and other stakeholders and JBC Leadership on the Commission activities. There was a motion to delegate sending the letter with attachments to Chair Caton by Vice-Chair Bennett-Woods. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Chayet. The Commission passed unanimously.

Assignments for making contacts with the General Assembly were divided up among Commissioners.

Hugh Wilson suggested the Commission attempt to identify a member of the legislature interested in sponsoring a bill.

Chair Caton will send a summary of who will contact who.

VIII. Review of the Fundraising Guidelines

AAG Johnson outlined changes to the current Fundraising Guidelines to accept in-kind donations based on certain criteria, as well as some typographical errors that should be corrected since the Guidelines are being updated. Vice-Chair Bennett-Woods moved to approve the Fundraising Guidelines as amended. Commissioner Lesco seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

IX. Fundraising Efforts/Community Outreach

Ongoing efforts to answer questions, share information and provide updates on the benefits of the OPG and legislation to support the office were discussed.

X. Public Comment

Ms. Maureen Welch

Ms. Welch is concerned with the use of executive session by the Commission, pro-bono lobbying discussion, and cost that the Commission has cost to taxpayers so far in administrative and legal work.

There was no other public comment.

XII. Adjourn

Vice-Chair Bennett-Woods moved for the meeting to be adjourned. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Chayet. With no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 11:55 AM.

ATTESTATION

As Commission Chair and Commission Vice-Chair, we attest that these minutes of the open public meeting of the Colorado Office of Public Guardianship Commission substantially reflect the substance of the discussion and action taken related to the matters under the authority of the Commission.

Shari Caton
Commission Chair

Deb Bennett-Woods
Commission Vice-Chair

Date

Date

For OPG Commission Review - 1-23-2019