



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Rhode Island State Labor Relations Board

1511 Pontiac Avenue
Building 73, 2nd floor
Cranston, Rhode Island 02920-4407
Website: www.rislrb.ri.gov

OPEN MINUTES
BOARD MEETING

TIME: 9:00 A.M.
DATE: Tuesday, January 7, 2025
PLACE: 1511 Pontiac Ave., Building #73, 3rd Floor, Cranston, RI 02920

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Walter J. Lanni
Aronda R. Kirby
Kenneth B. Chiavarini
Harry F. Winthrop
Stan Israel
Lawrence Purtill

ABSENT: Scott G. Duhamel

OTHERS PRESENT: Thomas A. Hanley, Administrator
Lisa L. Ribezzo, Programming Services Officer
Jeffrey W. Kasle, Esq. (by telephone)

Chairman Lanni called the meeting to order in Open Session at 9:05 A.M.

1. REVIEW OF OPEN MINUTES OF DECEMBER 10, 2024 BOARD MEETING:
(Review and Determination)

All Board Members present reviewed the Open Minutes of the December 10, 2024 Board Meeting. A Motion was made by Stan Israel and seconded by Kenneth B. Chiavarini to accept the Open Minutes as written, and it was

VOTED: by all Board Members present to accept the minutes as written. Motion passed.

2. CONSENT AGREEMENT & AFFIDAVITS: (Review and Determination):

(a) EE-3515 – State of Rhode Island – Board of Regents for Elementary and Secondary Education & Rhode Island School for the Deaf Teachers Association/NEA **(Accretion of: Speech and Language Pathologists (4))**



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A Motion was made by Aronda R. Kirby and seconded by Harry F. Winthrop to accept the parties' signed Consent Agreement & Affidavit in this matter. All Board Members present voted in favor of the Motion. Motion passed Unanimously.

(b) EE-3161 – State of Rhode Island – Department for Administration & Association of Rhode Island State Supervisors (**Accretion of: Tax Unit Chief (DLT)**)

A Motion was made by Kenneth B. Chiavarini and seconded by Lawrence Purtill to accept the parties' signed Consent Agreement & Affidavit in this matter. All Board Members voted in favor of the Motion. Motion passed Unanimously.

3. **CONCLUDED CASES: (Discussion and Determination of whether or not an unfair labor practice was committed in the following case(s)):**

(a) ULP- 6397 Providence Public School Department – Rhode Island Department of Education – Mayor Brett Smiley – Commissioner Angelica Infante-Green & RI Council 94, AFSCME, AFL-CIO, Local 1339

A Motion was made by Harry F. Winthrop and seconded by Kenneth B. Chiavarini to deny and dismiss the unfair labor practice Complaint in this matter. After discussion, Aronda R. Kirby, Harry F. Winthrop and Kenneth B. Chiavarini voted in favor of the Motion. Chairman Lanni, Stan Israel and Lawrence Purtill opposed the Motion. Motion failed as a result of a tied vote.

A Motion was made by Stan Israel and seconded by Lawrence Purtill to hold the final decision in abeyance subject to legal counsel getting information as to how the Board can react to, and what its options are with regards to a tied vote. After discussion, all Board Members present voted in favor of the Motion. Motion passed.

4. **MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS: (Discussion and Determination):**

(a) Proposed Rules for the Oral and/or Video Recording of Formal Hearings of the RI State Labor Relations Board

A Motion was made by Kenneth B. Chiavarini and seconded by Lawrence Purtill to accept the proposed rules for the oral and/or video recording of formal hearings of the RI State Labor Relations Board. After discussion, the Board suggested amending the proposed rules to include a statement that holds the Board harmless



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in the event something bad happens with any video that is made by a party in a formal proceeding, such as alteration of the video, and to clarify that the Board will not foreclose the right to livestream a formal hearing; however, the parties will have to present evidence to the Board and the Board will make a determination on a case by case basis to determine whether livestreaming a particular proceeding will be appropriate. Kenneth B. Chiavarini then withdrew his Motion and Lawrence Purtill withdrew his second. Legal Counsel will rework the rules and bring it back to the Board at the next meeting for discussion and determination.

A Motion was made by Stan Israel to go into Closed Session for the purpose of review/voting on the Closed Minutes and Unfair Labor Practice Matters, as well as an update by Legal Counsel on pending litigation – Superior Court Case No. PC-2024-01030 – State of Rhode Island – Department of Corrections & RI State Labor Relations Board et al., pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws §42-46-5(a) (2) & (4) of the Open Meetings Act. Aronda R. Kirby seconded the Motion, and it was unanimously

VOTED: by all Board Members present to go into closed session and to seal the minutes.

The meeting and minutes were closed at 10:05 A.M.

A Motion was made by Kenneth B. Chiavarini and seconded by Harry F. Winthrop to re-open the Open session at 10:25 a.m. for the purpose of reading into the record, a record of all votes taken in Closed Session. All Board Members present voted in favor of the Motion. Motion passed.

The meeting resumed in open session at 10:25 A.M. for the purpose of reading into the minutes, the determinations made by the Board in Closed Session, and adjourning the Board meeting.

1. REVIEW OF CLOSED MINUTES:

Minutes of December 10, 2024

DETERMINATION: A Motion was made by Kenneth B. Chiavarini, and seconded by Lawrence Purtill, to accept and seal the Closed Minutes as written, and it was voted by all Board Members present to accept the minutes as written. Motion passed.



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2. **UNFAIR LABOR PRACTICE MATTERS:** (R.I.G.L. 42-46-5(a)(4))
(Discussion and Determination of whether or not a Complaint should issue in the following unfair labor practice cases):

(a) ULP- 6413 Rhode Island Airport Corporation – State of Rhode Island & RI Council 94, AFSCME, AFL-CIO, Local 2873

DETERMINATION: A Motion was made by Aronda R. Kirby and seconded by Stan Israel to approve the issuance of a Complaint and proceed to formal hearing in this matter. After discussion, all Board Members present voted in favor of the Motion. Motion passed.

(b) ULP- 6414 City of Pawtucket & Pawtucket Firefighters, IAFF, Local 1261

DETERMINATION: A Motion was made by Stan Israel and seconded by Lawrence Purtill to approve the issuance of a Complaint and proceed to formal hearing in this matter. After discussion, all Board Members present voted in favor of the Motion. Motion passed.

3. **MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS:**

(a) Update on Pending Litigation (R.I.G.L. 42-46-5(a)(2)): Superior Court Case No. PC-2024-01030 – Informational Only – No votes taken

A Motion was made by Aronda R. Kirby, and seconded by Harry F. Winthrop, to adjourn at 10:30 a.m. All Board Members present voted in favor of the Motion. Motion passed.