



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, February 11, 2025
PLACE: 1511 Pontiac Ave., Building #73, 3rd Floor, Cranston, RI 02920

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Walter J. Lanni
Scott G. Duhamel
Kenneth B. Chiavarini
Stan Israel
Lawrence Purtill

ABSENT: Aronda R. Kirby
Harry F. Winthrop

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

Chairman Lanni called the meeting to order in Open Session at 9:15 A.M.

1. REVIEW OF OPEN MINUTES OF JANUARY 7, 2025 BOARD MEETING:
(Review and Determination)

All Board Members present reviewed the Open Minutes of the January 7, 2025 Board Meeting. A Motion was made by Kenneth B. Chiavarini and seconded by Lawrence Purtill 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-1896A – State of Rhode Island – Department of Environmental Management & RI Council 94, AFSCME, AFL-CIO, Local 2881 **(Accretion of: Environmental Police Officer (Captain)(DEM) and Natural Resources Operations Chief (DEM))**



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A Motion was made by Kenneth B. Chiavarini and seconded by Lawrence Purtil, to accept the Parties' signed Consent Agreement & Affidavit in this matter. After discussion, Walter J. Lanni, Scott G. Duhamel Stan Israel and Lawrence Purtil voted in favor of the Motion. Kenneth B. Chiavarini opposed the Motion. Motion passed.

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

This matter was voted on and tabled at the January 7, 2025 Board Meeting due to there being a tied vote and the Board wanting more information as to what it can do in the event of a tied vote other than administratively dismiss the matter. After discussion, the Board agreed that in the past, tied votes had always been administratively dismissed. The Board agreed that if it wants to have further discussion on this matter on a going forward basis to determine what other options it has in the event of a tied vote that would be the appropriate way to proceed; however, for purposes of this matter, the vote is the vote, and the matter shall be administratively dismissed.

A Motion was made by Stan Israel and seconded by Scott G. Duhamel to move on to the next item on the Agenda. There was no discussion. All Board Members present voted in favor of the Motion. Motion passed.

4. **MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS: (Discussion and/or 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 Stan Israel and seconded by Scott G. Duhamel to accept the proposed rules for the oral and/or video recording of formal hearings of the RI State Labor Relations Board. This matter was scheduled for the January 7, 2025 Board Meeting and after discussion, the Board agreed that certain changes and/or additions should be made. Attorney Kasle made the recommended changes, and after discussion, all Board Members present voted in favor of the Motion. Motion passed.



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- (b) Proposed Legislation 2025-H 5187 An Act Relating to Labor and Labor Relations – Labor Relations Act

This matter was scheduled for discussion. Chairman Lanni stated that the parties responsible for introducing the legislation met with the Board Chairman, Administrator, Legal Counsel and Programming Services Officer prior to the legislation being introduced, and at the time, the Board took a neutral position. The legislation was then introduced; however, after reviewing the legislation, there are some areas of concern the Board has. Those being the addition of hearing officers, more responsibility on the Board Investigator, and the implementation of fines on only the Employer. The creator of the legislation was present at the hearing and stated that he would address the Board's concerns with the drafter of the legislation and make the necessary amendments. There was no vote.

A Motion was made by Lawrence Purtill 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 – Supreme Court Case No. SU-2022-0285 – State of Rhode Island – Department of Corrections & RI Brotherhood of Correctional Officers & RI State Labor Relations Board et al., pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws §42-46-5(a) (2) & (4) of the Open Meetings Act. Stan Israel 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 9:40 A.M.

A Motion was made by Kenneth B. Chiavarini and seconded by Stan Israel to re-open the Open session at 9:45 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 9:40 A.M. for the purpose of reading into the minutes, the determinations made by the Board in Closed Session, and adjourning the Board meeting.



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1. **REVIEW OF CLOSED MINUTES:**

Minutes of January 7, 2025

DETERMINATION: A Motion was made by Stan Israel, 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.

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- 6420 East Providence School Committee & East Providence Education Association/NEARI/NEA

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)): Supreme Court Case No. SU-2022-0285 – Informational Only – No votes taken

A Motion was made by Kenneth B. Chiavarini, and seconded by Lawrence Purtill, to adjourn at 9:50 a.m. All Board Members present voted in favor of the Motion. Motion passed.