

STATE BOARD OF MEDIATION AND ARBITRATION

38 WOLCOTT HILL ROAD, WETHERSFIELD, CT 06109

MINUTES OF ARBITRATORS' MEETING

Monday, November 21, 2022

A meeting of the Connecticut State Board of Mediation and Arbitration was held on Monday, November 21, 2022. This meeting was held virtually, via Teams.

Present: Gerald T. Weiner, Esq., Chairman
Dennis C. Murphy, Esq. Deputy Chairman
Betty Kuehnel, Labor Member

Guest: Douglas Cho, Esq., Director/Mediator

Public Guest: Steven McEleheny

The Monday, November 21, 2022, meeting of the State Board of Mediation and Arbitration was opened by Gerald T. Weiner, Chairman, at 8:30 a.m.

1) Minutes of Previous Meeting: A motion was made by Dennis Murphy to accept the minutes of the September 19, 2022, Board meeting. The motion was seconded by Betty Kuehnel and passed unanimously.

2) Old Business:

A. Review of Outstanding Arbitration Hearings: The number of pending arbitrations, the number of cases held in abeyance, scheduled and re-scheduled were examined by the Board. There are approximately two hundred and sixty-six (266) cases pending which is an increase from 259; cases held in abeyance decreased from 33 to 31; scheduled cases decreased from 152 to 100; and rescheduled cases decreased from 27 to 25.

- B. Review of Fiscal Year Figures: The SBMA fiscal year figures were compared to the past year, and has decreased slightly; revenues collected to date have also decreased slightly; however, state cases filed have increased significantly, by over three-fold.
- C. Outstanding Overdue Awards: There are no overdue awards at this time.
- D. Motions to Vacate: All open motions to vacate were briefly reviewed as to their status.
- E. New Alternate Management Arbitrators: Phil White and Tina Ann Collins were recently approved by the Governor, are in the process of being trained, and will be assigned to cases hopefully in the very near future.

3) New Business:

- A. It was noted that the Board and SBMA staff collected over \$200 as a donation to the Smilow Cancer Center on behalf of the late David Ryan, Sr.
- B. A discussion was held over a recent Hartford Courant article on an SBMA award involving a termination of a City of Hartford sanitation employee for posting a video of two undercover police officers fueling an unmarked police vehicle.

4) Director's Report: Job postings for three open SBMA clerical positions were placed in the past month. The posting time deadline has passed, and applicants should be available to be interviewed shortly.

5) Executive Session: Chairman Weiner moved to go into executive session to discuss some persons who have applied to be arbitrators with SBMA. Betty Kuehnel seconded the motion, and the Board members unanimously voted to go into executive session. A discussion was held regarding the applicants, and the applications were tabled until the next Board meeting. After completing the executive session, the Board did not conduct any action on the applicants.

6) Motion to Adjourn: A motion to adjourn was made by Dennis Murphy and seconded by Betty Kuehnel; the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:55 a.m.

Douglas A. Cho, Esq.
Director/Mediator
November 25, 2022