

INDIANA  
STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

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315 WEST OHIO STREET, ROOM 104, INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46202 317.232.3850

Minutes of the  
Indiana State Ethics Commission  
January 9, 2025  
At 10:00 am

Indiana State Library  
Indiana Authors Room  
315 West Ohio Street, Second Floor  
Indianapolis, IN 46202

**Commission Members Present:**

Katherine Noel, Chairperson  
Robert Duncan

**Commission Members Present via Teams Audio:**

Corinne Finnerty  
Rafael Sanchez

**OIG Members Present:**

Regan Perrodin, State Ethics Commission Director  
David Cook  
Tiffany Mulligan  
Doreen Clark  
Elaine Vullmahn  
Will Deane  
JJ Fajt  
Sam Stearly  
Mark Day  
Mike Lepper  
Teresa Henson

**I. Call to Order and Establishment of Quorum**

**10:00 am**

Katherine Noel calls the meeting to order. Establishes quorum by roll call acknowledging Commissioner Finnerty and Commissioner Sanchez they can hear all parties, and they can be heard via teams audio.

## **II. Adoption of Agenda**

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the agenda. Sanchez/Finnerty  
Approved: 4-0

## **III. Approval of Minutes from January 9, 2025**

Approval of minutes of December 12, 2024. A motion was made and seconded to adopt the minutes. Sanchez/Finnerty  
Approved: 4-0

## **IV. Consideration of Formal Advisory Opinions**

Indiana Department of Health – Sheila Paul  
Presented by: Deputy Chief of Staff Jon Ferguson  
Ethics Officer Erin Elam

Sheila Paul, Jon Ferguson and Erin Elam were present and sworn in.

The department of health has requested this formal advisory opinion for Sheila Paul, a Regional Director at IDOH. They are requesting the commission's opinion on whether she can accept employment from Lake County Health Department due to her work with them at IDOH.

A motion to approve a formal advisory opinion was made by Sanchez and seconded by Duncan.

Roll Call: Commissioner Finnerty approve; Commissioner Sanchez approve;  
Commissioner Duncan approve; Chair Noel approve.

## **V. Post-Employment Waivers**

**All PE waivers used our template.** Under IC 4-2-6-11(g), you may conduct an *administrative review* of the waiver and approve the waiver only if you are satisfied that the requirements for a waiver as outlined by the rule are specifically and satisfactorily articulated.

- a. Consideration of Post-Employment Waiver for:  
Indiana Department of Health – Sheila Paul  
Presented by Deputy Chief of Staff Jon Ferguson  
Ethics Officer Erin Elam

Dr. Weaver, the appointing authority for IDOH can't be here today and designated Deputy Chief of Staff Jon Ferguson to present the waiver. Dr. Weaver provided a waiver waiving the particular matter restriction of the post-employment rule.

In light of formal advisory opinion, IDOH will withdraw the request for a post-employment waiver.

- b. Consideration of Post-Employment Waiver for:  
Office of the Governor – Indiana Department of Environmental Management  
Commissioner Brian Rockensuess  
Presented by Office of the Governor General Counsel and Ethics Officer Joseph Heerens  
IDEM Attorney and Ethics Officer James Michael French

Joseph Heerens, Brian Rockensuess, James Michel French were present and sworn in.

Appointing Authority for the Office of the Governor, Earl Goode, is unable to join us so he sent a letter designating Office of the Governor General Counsel and Ethics Officer Joseph Heerens and IDEM Attorney and Ethics Officer James Michael French to present the waiver.

Mr. Goode provided a waiver waiving the cooling off provision related to contract for Commissioner Rockensuess to work for Keramida.

A motion was made to approve and seconded by Sanchez and Noel.

Roll Call: Commissioner Finnerty approve; Commissioner Sanchez approve;  
Commissioner Duncan approve; Chair Noel approve.

- c. Consideration of Post-Employment Waiver for:  
Office of the Governor – Indiana Department of Transportation Commissioner Michael Smith  
Presented by Office of the Governor General Counsel and Ethics Officer Joseph Heerens  
INDOT General Counsel and Ethics Officer Kate Shelby

Joseph Heerens, Michael Smith, Kate Shelby were present and sworn in.

Appointing Authority for the Office of the Governor, Earl Goode, is unable to join us so he sent a letter designating Office of the Governor General Counsel and Ethics Officer Joseph Heerens and IDEM Attorney and INDOT General Counsel and Ethics Officer Kate Shelby to present the waiver

Mr. Goode provided a waiver waiving the cooling off provision related to contracts to allow Commissioner Smith to work for HNTB.

A motion was made to approve and seconded by Noel and Sanchez

Roll Call: Commissioner Finnerty approve; Commissioner Sanchez approve;  
Commissioner Duncan approve; Chair Noel approve.

- d. Consideration of Post-Employment Waiver for:  
Office of the Governor – Family and Social Services Administration Secretary Dr.  
Daniel Rusyniak  
Presented by Office of the Governor General Counsel and Ethics Officer Joseph  
Heerens  
FSSA Deputy General Counsel and Ethics Officer Matthew Gerber

Jessica Keyes, Joseph Heerens, Daniel Rusyniak, Matthew Gerger were present and  
sworn in.

Appointing Authority for the Office of the Governor, Earl Goode, is unable to join us  
so he sent a letter designating Office of the Governor General Counsel and Ethics  
Officer Joseph Heerens and IDEM Attorney and FSSA Deputy General Counsel and  
Ethics Officer Matthew Gerber to present the waiver.

Mr. Goode provided a waiver waiving the cooling off provision related to contracts and  
regulatory and licensing decisions as well as the particular matter restriction to all Dr.  
Rusyniak to work for Eskenazi Health.

A motion was made to approve and seconded by Noel and Sanchez

Roll Call: Commissioner Finnerty approve; Commissioner Sanchez approve;  
Commissioner Duncan approve; Chair Noel approve.

- e. Consideration of Post-Employment Waiver for:  
Office of the Governor – Indiana Economic Development Corporation Secretary of  
Commerce David Rosenberg  
Presented by Office of the Governor General Counsel and Ethics Officer Joseph  
Heerens

David Rosenberg and Joseph Heerens were present and sworn in.

Appointing Authority for the Office of the Governor, Earl Goode, is unable to join us  
so he sent a letter designating Office of the Governor General Counsel and Ethics  
Officer Joseph Heerens and IDEM Attorney and FSSA Deputy General Counsel and  
Ethics Officer Matthew Gerber to present the waiver.

Mr. Goode provided a waiver waiving the cooling off provision related to contracts to  
allow Secretary Rosenberg to work for IU.

A motion was made to approve and seconded by Sanchez and Noel.

Roll Call: Commissioner Finnerty approve; Commissioner Sanchez approve;  
Commissioner Duncan approve; Chair Noel approve.

- f. Consideration of Post-Employment Waiver for:  
Indiana Economic Development Corporation – John Cochran  
Presented by Commissioner David Rosenberg

David Rosenberg and John Cochran were present and sworn in.

Secretary Rosenberg is here to present the waiver, waiving the lobbying restriction of the post-employment rule to allow Mr. Cochran to add lobbying to his current scope of employment with the Corydon Group. Since this one is a little different as Mr. Cochran currently works for the Corydon Group but he is looking to expand his responsibilities, I wanted to note a specific provision of the Code. IC 4-2-6-11(g)(4) says the waiver must be limited to an employee or special state appointee who obtains the waiver before engaging in the conduct that would give rise to a violation of this post-employment rule, meaning the lobbying.

A motion was made to approve and seconded by Noel and Sanchez.

Roll Call: Commissioner Finnerty approve; Commissioner Sanchez approve;  
Commissioner Duncan approve; Chair Noel approve.

## **VI. State Ethics Commission Director's Report**

- a. Ethics officer round table coming up January 27—approved for an ethics CLE
- b. 28 IAOs since last meeting—a lot of PE, some gifts, outside employment
- c. Rule: filed first notice which will be published in a couple of weeks to begin our public comment period.
- d. Any media that is here—please contact our public information officer, Stephanie McFarland with any questions. For those of you who don't already have her info, you can find it on our website.

## **VII. Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made and approved by Duncan and Sanchez.

Roll Call: Commissioner Finnerty approve; Commissioner Sanchez approve;  
Commissioner Duncan approve; Chair Noel approve.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 10:57.