



555 Capitol Mall, Suite 300
Sacramento, California 95811
Phone: (916) 445-0255

APPLICANT REVIEW PANEL

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

June 11, 2010

Mr. Ahmadi served as Chair and called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

Roll call was taken with all members present: Ms. Spano, Mr. Ahmadi, and Ms. Camacho

After soliciting public comment and receiving none, Mr. Ahmadi moved to adopt as written the minutes of the April 30, 2010, panel meeting. Ms. Camacho seconded. There being no public comment or opposition, the motion passed.

Mr. Ahmadi announced that the meeting would proceed as listed on the agenda; counsel would present reports which would later be posted on the web site; that three laptop computers were available for public use at the back of the room enabling members of the public to access applicant materials considered by the panel in preparation for the meeting, that bureau staff would update the website as soon as possible to reflect changes to the applicant pool as a result of the meeting. Mr. Ahmadi also reminded the public that decisions to eliminate applicants must be unanimous, preventing panelists from abstaining on votes involving applicants the panelists know personally.

Mr. Ahmadi asked the panel members to disclose the nature of any relationships they have or had with any applicant who submitted a completed supplemental application. Ms. Spano disclosed that she knew Barbara Noble from Ms. Spano's work with a prior employer. Ms. Camacho indicated that she did not personally know any applicants. Mr. Ahmadi disclosed that applicant David Chan has been his neighbor since July of 2005 that they have a limited, but neighborly, relationship and have never discussed any matter related to Proposition 11. One member of the public provided public comment.

Bureau of State Audits' Chief of Investigations Steven B. Russo presented a report describing the bureau's role in screening and investigating applicants prior to providing

applications to the panel, and the bureau's ongoing role in responding to panel inquiries about applicants and verifying that the 120 applicants who will be invited to participate in interviews do not have a conflict that prevents them from serving on the Citizens Redistricting Commission. Upon completion of his report, Mr. Russo responded to several questions from panel members. There were no inquiries from the public.

Panel staff disseminated reports reflecting each panelist's recommendations as to whether applicants should be retained or eliminated from the pool, and the demographic breakdown of various applicant sub pools. Panel Counsel reported that each report was created on Tuesday, June 8, 2010, using the electronic applicant database and explained that no panelist had seen the reports prior to the meeting. Counsel explained the contents of each report and directed bureau staff to post the reports on the website so that members of the public who were viewing the meeting via live stream could follow the meeting's progress. Counsel further explained that, under Agenda Item 7, she had randomly selected the names of six applicants and asked the panelists to be prepared to discuss their individual assessments of those applicants. The six applicants identified were Tangerine Brigham, David Deaver, Octavio Gonzalez, Gracie Madrid, Charles Starr and Phoenix Von Hendy. Counsel stated that she did not reveal to the panelists whether the six applicants received recommendations to remain in the applicant pool before the meeting.

At 10:41 a.m., the panel recessed for 20 minutes to review the reports provided by panel counsel.

At 11:00 a.m., the panel briefly reconvened for the purpose of extending the recess while staff addressed a technical problem that had resulted in an incomplete report. The panel recessed until noon

At 12:00 p.m., the panel reconvened. Mr. Ahmadi announced that the report had been corrected and the missing pages had been made available to the panel and the public, both in hard copy and via the website.

Ms. Camacho announced that applicant Tom Dithridge called the bureau to report that he had worked with her several years ago at the Department of Finance. Ms. Camacho added that though she did not directly report to him, he oversaw her unit and that she had forgotten she knew him.

The panel solicited public comment about applicants and two individuals provided comment.

After some discussion and soliciting public comment, Mr. Ahmadi moved to eliminate from the applicant pool all applicants who did not receive a favorable recommendation from any panelist, as listed in the report entitled "3,924 Applicants Who Did Not

Receive a Favorable Recommendation from Any Panelist.” Ms. Camacho seconded the motion. There being no public comment or opposition, the motion passed. Mr. Ahmadi reminded the public that applicant materials related to applicants who were eliminated from the applicant pool would be removed from the web site and panel counsel stated that applicant materials are public records and will be archived for twelve (12) years.

The panelists then engaged in a detailed discussion explaining their independent assessments and recommendations for the following applicants: Tangerine Brigham, David Deaver, Octavio Gonzalez, Gracie Madrid, Charles Starr and Phoenix Von Hendy. Each panelist discussed his or her approach in analyzing those applicants’ application materials in a manner consistent with the legal requirements.

The panel recessed at 2:07 p.m. and reconvened at 2:20 p.m. to continue the panelists’ discussion relating to the specified applicants. The panel concluded that discussion and indicated that each panelist would review all remaining applicants once again. The panel members discussed how they will further evaluate the remaining applicants’ responses, public comments and letters of recommendation.

Mr. Ahmadi then announced that the bureau will request that each applicant remaining in the pool submit a completed Statement of Economic Interest (Form 700), which must be received by the Bureau of State Audits no later than July 12, 2010. The panel emphasized that postmarks will not be considered and that the completed Form 700s must be received by the bureau on or before the deadline. Panel counsel explained that the bureau will hold completed Form 700s until after the next meeting which the panel anticipates will adjourn on or before July 2, 2010. The bureau will return the completed Form 700s for any applicants eliminated from the applicant pool at the meeting and those applicants’ Form 700s will not be posted on the Internet or retained by the bureau. Accordingly, they will not become public records.

The panel accepted several public comments on items not on the agenda.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

For full transcripts of this meeting, please refer to the website:

www.WeDrawTheLines.ca.gov