

Commission Governance Policy 3: Officers of the Commission

- A. **Term:** Officer elections are held during the last Commission meeting of each year. Commission officers are elected and serve for a one-year term, as specified in statute, beginning the first of the month following the elections. Officers may serve multiple terms. Any Commissioner interested in seeking office may do so at the time of the annual elections.
- B. **Nominations:** Nominees should be knowledgeable of the duties and responsibilities of the office and be willing and able to devote adequate time to the duties of the office.

Any Commissioner may submit a nomination, and self-nominations are permitted and encouraged. Interested candidates should submit their names upon the opening of nominations. Nominations shall be submitted to the General Counsel, no later than 15 days in advance of the last Commission meeting of each year, for inclusion in the Commission meeting agenda materials.

- C. **Elections:** Elections shall be held during the last Commission meeting of each year. The meeting agenda shall include an item noticing the election of officers. Names of nominated candidates and the office for which they were nominated shall be included in the agenda materials.

During the meeting, prior to the election, candidates for office shall be given an opportunity to address the Commission and share their vision for their service as an elected officer. Commissioners and members of the public may comment or otherwise speak on the qualifications of a candidate.

- D. **Voting:** Commissioners present at the meeting may vote for their candidate of choice. The vote shall be by roll call if there is more than one candidate for an office and shall be included in the meeting minutes. There is no proxy voting.

Elected officers will be determined by a majority of votes of those present and voting.

- E. **Officers:** Elections will determine the three officers of the Commission:

1. Chair

The Commission Chair will ensure the integrity and fulfillment of the Commission's governance policies and process, and that the Commission's conduct is consistent with statutes, regulations, and other applicable law. As necessary, the Chair represents the Commission to outside parties. Specifically, the role of the Chair is to:

- a. Coordinate the planning of the Commission's activities for the year ahead providing guidance and leadership on general policy direction, and develop the agenda for each Commission meeting, with input from Commissioners and the Executive Director.
- b. Preside at Commission meetings, ensuring that meetings are noticed and conducted in accordance with the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act and that time is set aside for public comment at meetings.

- c. Ensure that meeting discussion and deliberation is conducted in a manner that is fair, open, and thorough, and at the same time is efficient, focused and timely.
- d. Organize the Commission's Committees as established per the Committees policy below, and maintain contact with the Committee Chairs to ensure that Committees are operating effectively.
- e. Meet regularly with the Executive Director and make decisions as necessary to ensure implementation of the Commission's policies herein.
- f. Execute specific documents as authorized by the Commission, except as otherwise provided by law.
- g. Represent the Commission at hearings and/or meetings with Legislators, administration officials, stakeholders, advisory groups, and attend Commission related functions as necessary.
- h. Appoint the Chairs, Vice Chairs and members of the Standing Committees and Ad Hoc Committees as needed; and appoint interim officers of the Commission in the event of a vacancy.
- i. Attend Standing Committees as an ex-officio member.
- j. Approve attendance by Commissioners at conferences, training, or site visits of related professional organizations for which they can be reimbursed for eligible travel expenses.

2. Vice Chair

The Vice-Chair is responsible for performing the duties of the Chair in their absence. The Vice-Chair is expected to participate in management and other meetings, as appropriate, and at the discretion of the Chair.

3. Secretary

The Secretary is responsible providing assistance with parliamentary procedures as needed, and for reviewing and signing approved minutes of Commission meetings in the Chair's absence. The Secretary ensures that General Counsel prepares a confidential written record approved by the Chair which records the topics discussed and decisions made at any Closed Session meetings of the Commission in accordance with the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act.

- F. **Vacancies:** If an officer is, for any reason, unable to complete their term, the Chair shall appoint an interim officer. The Chair may thereafter schedule an election to fill the vacancy at the next regularly scheduled meeting. The interim or elected officer would serve out the remainder of the term.