

LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

TELEPHONE CONFERENCE

Tuesday, November 28, 2000

3:10 p.m.

Legal Services Corporation
750 First Street, NE 11th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20002

LSC BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Douglas S. Eakeley, Esq., Chair	Hon. John Broderick, Jr. Edna Fairbanks-Williams
Hon. John N. Erlenborn, Vice Chair	Ernestine P. Watlington
Hulett H. Askew, Esq.	
LaVeeda M. Battle, Esq.	
Prof. Nancy H. Rogers	
Thomas F. Smegal, Jr., Esq.	

STAFF AND PUBLIC PRESENT:

Victor M. Fortuno, VP for Legal Affairs,
General Counsel & Corporate Secretary
Randi Youells, VP for Programs
Jim Hogan, VP for Administration
Laurie Tarantowicz, Assistant Inspector General
for Legal Review
Dawn Browning, Assistant General Counsel

C O N T E N T S

PAGE

Motion to Approve Agenda 2

Motion to Approve Revision of Draft 10

Motion to Adjourn 11

MOTIONS: 2, 10, 11

P R O C E E D I N G S

DOUGLAS EAKELEY: We have an agenda, which has just four names on it, the first of which is approval of the agenda.

EDNA FAIRBANKS-WILLIAMS: Edna.

DOUGLAS EAKELEY: Edna. Second it?

LAVEEDA BATTLE: I'll second it. This is LaVeeda.

DOUGLAS EAKELEY: LaVeeda. All those in favor?

(Chorus of ayes.)

DOUGLAS EAKELEY: Opposed? The ayes have it. I should mention that there was another action item on the agenda of this meeting as originally considered, and it was our conclusion that that was an item that really needed to be put on the board agenda for discussion at the January meeting, as deserving as the individual was for the consideration being recommended, but it's a question of Board policy in terms of bonus grants for officers of the corporation. So that's why we've moved that the January board meeting.

So, we are now on item number two.

(John Erlenborn signs on to the conference call.)

DOUGLAS EAKELEY: We just started and we are on the action item, which is the Board's semi-annual report to the Congress. And what we should be talking from is the November 20th draft that Dawn Browning circulated -- on November 20th, which includes Bill McCalpin's changes. And let me just -- if I might, why don't we just go page by page through that, if it's okay with everyone. I'm hearing no objections. I have -- my only substantive change is on page little "i", and Dawn, you'll get used to this, but my middle initial is "S" for Scott.

DAWN BROWNING: Okay, I'll make the change.

DOUGLAS EAKELEY: Does anyone have any comments or suggestions to make on page one, The Message of the Board of Directors?

TOM SMEGAL: None on this end --

DOUGLAS EAKELEY: Okay, page two, Background? By the way, I thought this was all quite well done, and makes it easy work for the board, but I'm just -- I don't want to speak for everyone, and we've only gone through one page.

Page two, Background.

Page three, Management Initiatives -- My only comment is, I'd like to hear more about National Information

Network's on applicant's strength and best practices at our board meeting in January, Randy.

RANDI YOUELLS: Okay.

DOUGLAS EAKELEY: On page four, first full paragraph, we repeat, verbatim, our ultimate goal, and maybe it bears repeating. It just struck me as being, I don't know -- our ultimate goal being help Randi's -- speak to the communities of Justice?

RANDY YOUELLS: Yes.

DOUGLAS EAKELEY: That, we state in the second paragraph of our message on page one. I'm not saying, necessarily that it should come out, but --

TOM SMEGAL: Would you like a motion on that?

DOUGLAS EAKELEY: No. What's the sense of the Board? It's a great sentence, and a great concept. But does it bear repeating under management initiatives?

JOHN ERLLENBORN My feeling is it probably doesn't belong there.

DOUGLAS EAKELEY: Yes. Why don't we take it out then, if that's okay. Anything else on page four? Page five? Six? Seven? Eight? And nine? And, by the way, this, I mean, unfortunately, or fortunately, this is --

reminds me a bit of hiding our management's light under a bushel. I mean, I think this message deserves a broader audience than the few congressional staffers who might read through some of this.

In any event. Complaints, Monitoring and Enforcement, page 10?

JOHN ERLNBORN: Do you put this on the web, by the way?

VICTOR FORTUNO: Yes. We actually recently discussed getting all these on there. The IG does have a -- Laurie, correct me if I'm wrong -- the SAR on there. But we were going to put both on the LSC website, just make sure we have both of them on.

LAURIE TARANTOWICZ: We normally put both on.

VICTOR FORTUNO: We did?

DOUGLAS EAKELEY: We used to do an annual report that we made available fairly broadly, and we haven't done that for a couple of years. Is there any thought being given to doing that again?

VICTOR FORTUNO: Jim?

JIM HOGAN: I think we should do it again. I think we were just holding up because of the problems we had with

the CSR numbers.

DOUGLAS EAKELEY: Yes. I mean, it would be very nice, in the Board's last year in office, to have something that really traces the distance and bumpy roads we've traveled, accurately describes our present situation, and looks forward. Not quite the way the MIE does it in its current version, but I think there's a lot in here that deserves greater attention and emphasis elsewhere. I mean, it's written fine here, but it's something to be very proud of.

JOHN ERLENBORN: Pursuant to what you said, we ought to plan on doing that, but then also have this document on the website, along with the IG's annual report.

DOUGLAS EAKELEY: So, Jim, we can do that?

JIM HOGAN: Yes.

DOUGLAS EAKELEY: Okay. Thank you.

JOHN ERLENBORN: I think the statute requires the annual report.

DOUGLAS EAKELEY: Page ten? Page eleven. I just have one tiny little change in the second paragraph under Appropriations for Management and Administration. Second line?

TOM SMEGAL: What page?

DOUGLAS EAKELEY: Page eleven. Second line of the second full paragraph. Discretion in Establishing Mechanisms to Obtain Access to and Review "of" Information Needed. Can we insert the word "of"? Is that okay?

DAWN BROWNING: Yes, that's okay.

DOUGLAS EAKELEY: Is that all right, everyone?

(General assent.)

DOUGLAS EAKELEY: Okay. Now we get to -- Alleged Undermining of OIG Access, and that runs on to page twelve. Any suggestions or changes there?

VICTOR FORTUNO: The one observation, if I may, Doug, and this is Vic, is that what we have here is fairly detailed of, and does kind of touch on kind of legal arguments. The question was, do you want it to read this way, or do you want to convert it to something in the way of a more generic statement? You know, the Board of Directors wish to consider the OIG's evaluation project in light of the IG's authorities under the IG Act, and the role of them as head of the agency.

DOUGLAS EAKELEY: I was comfortable with the way this was written. I don't know how everyone else felt.

NANCY ROGERS: Vic, were you comfortable that this doesn't violate any contract we've just signed?

VICTOR FORTUNO: No. I'm comfortable with that. My question was simply whether we want to go specific or something more generic. But in terms of what we have here, whether that would in any way conflict with the agreement we have with the IG, I'm of the view that no, it most certainly does not.

DOUGLAS EAKELEY: It also echoes in a condensed version what we wrote to the Congress at the time.

EDNA FAIRBANKS-WILLIAMS: Yes. I thought that, too.

HULETT ASKEW: I think it's well done.

VICTOR FORTUNO: Well, so that you know, I've basically lifted this from Doug's letter, so Doug, I hope you like it. That's largely where it comes from, is your letter to the Congress.

DOUGLAS EAKELEY: I told you I was comfortable with it. All right, well, are there any other suggested changes or corrections? Hearing none, could I have a motion to approve the draft as slightly revised in the course of this conversation?

JOHN ERLBORN: So moved.

EDNA FAIRBANKS-WILLIAMS: Second.

DOUGLAS EAKELEY: All those in favor?

(Chorus of ayes.)

DOUGLAS EAKELEY: Opposed? (No response.) The ayes have it. And Victor, if you would just set this up for my signature so that we will get it in on the 30th, please?

VICTOR FORTUNO: Will do.

DOUGLAS EAKELEY: Now, is there any other business?

(No response.) Hearing none, is there any public comment?

(No response.)

Hearing none, I thank you all for your many efforts, this is a very nice job. I'm sorry we have to bring everyone together so soon after Thanksgiving, but --

EDNA FAIRBANKS-WILLIAMS: We needed the exercise after eating so much.

DOUGLAS EAKELEY: We sure did, Edna, that's true. And I look forward to seeing some of you tomorrow, and all of you, hopefully, next month in Montgomery. We need to motion to adjourn.

ERNESTINE WATLINGTON: I so move.

EDNA FAIRBANKS-WILLIAMS: Second.

DOUGLAS EAKELEY: All those in favor?

(Chorus of ayes.)

The ayes have it, we stand adjourned.

(Adjourned at 3:25 p.m.)

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