Minutes of May 8th Meeting of the Vermont Labor Relations Board

The meeting convened at 1:25 p.m. in the Labor Relations Board Hearing Room. Present were Chairperson Gary Karnedy and Members Jim Kiehle, Richard Park, Alan Willard, Robert Greemore and Edward Clark. Also present were Executive Director Timothy Noonan and Clerk Melinda Moz-Knight.

Caseload Status Report:

Mr. Noonan provided a caseload status report. At this point the Board has fifteen open cases which is thirty eight percent below the average of twenty four open cases. Only four cases have been open longer than three months. Nineteen cases have been filed this year, an average number of filings at this point of the year.

The hearing on May 21st has been cancelled as the case settled. The hearings on May 14th and May 28th are still being held at this time.

Board Assignments

May 14th -Karnedy, Kiehle, Greemore May 28th-Karnedy, Kiehle, Greemore June 19th-Karnedy, Clark, Greemore July 30th-Park, Kiehle, Willard August 13th-Park, Kiehle, Willard August 20th-Park, Clark, Willard August 27th-Karnedy, Greemore, Kiehle September 3rd-Karnedy, Greemore, Clark

Budget Report:

Mr. Noonan discussed our budget and responded to questions.

Legislation:

Mr. Noonan discussed legislative developments this year, particularly; 1) S.72, Binding Arbitration of State Employees grievances, which passed both the Senate and House, and is awaiting the Governor's signature; and 2) the legislative bills seeking to amend the Labor Relations for Teachers Act, which were not approved.

Conferences and Training Sessions:

Mr. Noonan reported that the New England Consortium of State Labor Relations Agencies (NECSLRA) training in April was well received.

The New England Consortium Annual Conference will be held on July 24th in Sturbridge, Massachusetts. Mr. Noonan asked for those who were interested in going to let us know.

The ALRA conference will be held in Minnesota from July 18th-21st, 2015.

The Board continued discussions on hosting a Fall Conference on September 23, 2015. Mr. Noonan will be calling each Board member individually to talk about the topic that they have chosen to moderate by the end of May. There will be a full Board conference call on July 1st to finalize the program and other conference arrangements.

Board Decisions on the Website:

The Board discussed the issue of whether we should redact names of persons in decisions if the person requesting it is not a party in the case. The Board continues to consider this issue and will contact the Vermont Supreme Court to explore how the Court handles this issue.

The public meeting adjourned at approximately 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,