

**GCEC Regular Meeting
Tuesday, April 8, 2014
5:30 p.m., UOG SOE Building
MINUTES**

I. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

GCEC Chair Artero called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 8, 2014 at UOG SOE Room 117, Mangilao.

Commission Members

Present: Margie LG – Artero, Gayle Hendricks, Lisa Baza-Cruz, Roberta Abaday, Connie Guerrero and Lawrence Kasperbauer

Absent: Jesse San Nicolas

Other Present: Dr. Jose Cruz (GEB), Joann Muna (GCC) and Deputy Chief Marshall Joe Leon Guerrero.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Kasperbauer and seconded by Abaday to approve the minutes subject to any minor technical corrections. APPROVED.

III. REPORTS

A. TREASURER'S REPORT

Baza-Cruz explained that there is no report because there were no changes. Mesngon is on sick leave and Camacho does not have access to the AS400 to print the report.

Motion by Baza-Cruz and seconded by Kasperbauer to accept the Treasurer's report. APPROVED.

B. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

No report.

C. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

From March 13 to April 2, the Commission issued 17 certificates. The office received 142 telephone calls, 61 walk-ins and 178 emails.

- Responded to a NASDTEC survey from the Professional Practices Institute asking if Guam charges a fee for the legal cost related to sanctions on certificates
- Attended an SOE Advisory Council meeting on April 1
- Meeting with Deputy Chief Marshall Joe Leon Guerrero regarding FBI fingerprinting

Guerrero requested to staff to submit a report with a breakdown of the questions discussed on all telephone calls to determine if a public awareness program was needed.

D. SUB-COMMITTEES

No Report.

E. LEGISLATIVE LIAISON

No report.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. Draft – RULES GOVERNING THE STANDARDS OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT FOR GUAM EDUCATORS

a. Clearances

Deputy Chief Marshall Joseph Leon Guerrero explained that he oversees the FBI fingerprinting program for law enforcement. Currently, there is no local law to conduct national background checks on professionals – educators, doctors, etc. Through a federal statute, the Governor can sign an executive order authorizing background checks for the short term or for the Legislature to pass a local law authorizing the checks so that it is codified. The Volunteers for Children Act under the National Child Protection Act of 1993, Public Law 103-209, encourages states to require background check for people dealing with children. He plans on working with the Legislature to pass a law for requiring background checks for all professionals.

The cost is about \$50 to cover administrative expenses and the FBI charges. When asked if the check is only for off-island hires, he pointed out that locals can go off-island for vacation and commit a crime then return to Guam. He recommends that this should be for everyone. He added that the agency will have to pay for the cost if this is required for all employees.

The FBI charges extra for a Wrap Back System so that Guam is notified when a person commits a crime anywhere in the US.

He is recommending that all employees dealing with children should under background checks.

Abaday stated that GCEC has the following options: 1) require the background check for certification, 2) write a letter of support to DOE for hiring purposes; or 3) write the Legislature supporting the effort for a background check on all personnel dealing with children. Baza-Cruz added that we can ask Governor to sign an Executive Order.

Leon Guerrero stated that the turnover rate for civil request is 24 hours and 2 hours for criminal requests.

Hendricks expressed her concern over the predators that move around to different school districts. He added that they can run both national and international checks through the Interpol.

Santos pointed out that over the last 2 years, Camacho estimates that she issued 41 Temporary and Initial certificates from off-island and but only 23 went to DOE.

B. LIST OF PRAXIS II CONTENT TESTS

No change.

C. REFORMATTED PRAXIS I PASSING SCORES

Hendricks reported that based on a March 25 work session, they are recommending the following.

- a. Cut score for the new Praxis I tests are: 156 for Reading, 162 for Writing and 150 for Mathematics.
- b. GCEC will recognize previous passing score(s) when the new test becomes effective.
- c. Composite scores are no longer acceptable for the new Praxis I test.
- d. UOG and GCC to offer prep courses for the new test.

Abaday pointed out that the passing scores only require test takers to pass 60% of the test questions.

Motion by Hendricks and seconded by Abaday to accept the committee's recommendations and that the passing scores are 156 for Reading, 162 for Writing and 150 for Mathematics. APPROVED.

Guerrero recommended that GCEC conduct some PR on the new test scores. Hendricks will inform the students of the new scores that will be effective starting September, 2014.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

V1. Adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Motion by Baza-Cruz and seconded by Hendricks to adjourn.

Next meeting scheduled for July 8, 2014.