

Rhode Island Atomic Energy Commission

Meeting of 18 December 2012

16 Reactor Road

Narragansett, RI 02882

9:00 AM

Dr. Mecca called the meeting of the Rhode Island Atomic Energy Commission to order at 9:10 AM. The following individuals were present at the meeting:

Dr. Steve Mecca, RIAEC Chair

Dr. Bahram Nassersharif, Commissioner

Dr. Peter Gromet, Commissioner

Dr. Tony Nunes, Commissioner

Mr. Jeff Davis, RINSC Assistant Director for Operations

Mr. Steve Guarino, RINSC Assistant Director for Radiation and Reactor Safety

Mr. Zach Richards, RINSC Reactor Supervisor

Ms. C. Hathaway, RINSC Health Physicist

Ms. Sophia Lenihan, RINSC Information Specialist

Mr. Bill Golas, RI State Budget Office

1. Approval of the Minutes of the 7 September 2012 Meeting

The draft minutes for the 7 September 2012 RIAEC meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Dr. Nunes to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Dr. Gromet. No changes were made, and the motion passed unanimously.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the 10 December 2012 Meeting

The draft minutes for the 10 December 2012 RIAEC meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Dr. Gromet to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Dr. Nassersharif. Dr. Mecca suggested that the minutes that are posted on the RI Secretary of State website have a note at the end of them that says that they are “Respectfully submitted by Sophia Lenihan”. The Commission was informed that according to its bylaws, the Commissioners elect a Secretary from the Commission that serves for one year, rather than using a RINSC staff member as the secretary. Dr. Mecca requested that the Commissioners be given a copy of the bylaws. The minutes to the 10 December 2012 meeting were approved unanimously without any changes.

3. Motion to Discuss Old Business

Noting that one Commissioner’s time was limited, Dr. Mecca requested that a motion be made to discuss old business at this point

in the meeting. The motion was made by Dr. Nassersharif, and seconded by Dr. Nunes.

4. Old Business

Dr. Mecca discussed the fact that he had put together a preliminary plan for hiring a new RINSC Facility Director. He provided the other Commissioners with a proposed schedule, and an advertisement narrative, and indicated that he had been working with the RI State Personnel Office to expedite the process. There was discussion about the final wording for the advertisement, after which the wording was agreed upon. Dr. Mecca indicated that he would submit the advertisement to Nuclear News later in the day. He indicated that additional advertising would go out to the Test, Research, and Training Reactor organization (TRTR), as well as the Nuclear Engineering Department Head Organization (NEDHO). Dr. Nassersharif committed to notifying the NEDHO. It was suggested that as part of the hiring process, Dr. Nassersharif introduce prospective candidates to key University of Rhode Island personnel as part of the interview process.

Dr. Mecca discussed the fact that a salary survey had been performed for entry level Radiation Safety Officer positions, and that the salary level for the Assistant Director for Radiation and Reactor Safety is commensurate with the survey results. He informed the Commissioners that he had spoken with representatives from the

Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) about making a title change from Assistant Director, to Radiation Safety Officer for the position, and that he didn't think that the NRC would object. He indicated that he is in the process of sending a letter to the RI State Personnel Office requesting the title change, directed the RINSC staff to change the request that the license be changed appropriately.

5. Operations Program Report

Prior to the meeting, the Commissioners were given a copy of the Operations Program Report for the meeting. Also prior to the meeting, Dr. Kadak made a number of comments to the report. Mr. Davis was asked to address each of the comments. Mr. Davis went through the comments item by item and discussed the comments.

6. Radiation Safety Program Report

Prior to the meeting, The Commissioners were given a copy of the Radiation Safety Program Report for the meeting.

7. Budget

Dr. Mecca indicated that he had made a request to the RI Budget Office to do an audit of all of the RINSC financial accounts.

Prior to the meeting, the Commissioners were provided with a list of all of the RINSC financial accounts, and their current cash balances. Dr. Mecca indicated that the Commission was concerned about the budget deficit that was to be made up in turnover. Mr. Davis informed the Commissioners that the state uses turnover as a mechanism to balance agency budgets at the end of the year, and that this is just part of the way that the state budget works.

8. New Business

The Commissioners decided that an action item for the RIAEC in the future would be to do a detailed financial review of RINSC expenditures.

9. Adjourn