

## NORWICH ETHICS COMMISSION

### STEPHEN SINKO STATEMENT

Case Number 2016-9

January 19, 2017

Question: What is your name and position with Norwich Public Utilities and the Connecticut Municipal Electric Energy Cooperative ("CMEEC")?

Answer: My name is Stephen Sinko. I have worked at NPU in various capacities since August of 2000. I am currently one of four Division Managers at Norwich Public Utilities which is an AFSCME union position. Each Division Manager's primary job functions are as assigned by the General Manager. My specific assigned duties include oversight of Finance and Accounting, Information Technology, Geographic Information Systems and wholesale natural gas supply and interstate pipeline capacity management. One of my assigned duties is to also serve as an alternate director on the CMEEC Board.

Question: How and why were you invited to participate in the May 2016 CMEEC Board retreat in Kentucky?

Answer: I was requested to attend the May 2016 Board retreat by the CMEEC CEO as a member of the CMEEC Board.

Question: Why did you agree to go?

Answer: Our Board Chairman and Vice-Chairman were attending as well as our General Manager, who strongly suggested that I attend. I also felt obligated to attend since it was a Board development activity and I was on the CMEEC Board.

Question: Before you saw the press accounts of the event, did you know what the event cost, either in total or per person?

Answer: No.

Question: Outside of CMEEC Board activities, do you socialize with CMEEC Board members from the other municipal utility members?

Answer: No.

Question: During the trip, did you speak with CMEEC staff or fellow Board members about CMEEC business?

Answer: Based on my recollection, various CMEEC related topics were discussed throughout the retreat with both CMEEC staff and other Board members.

Particular conversations I recall having were regarding the extension of fiber services into Bozrah to enhance data communications to our water plants, the potential to provide Bozrah electric service to our Stony Brook plant in Montville, general discussions regarding electric rates, strengthened relationships among Board members and the high performance of CMEEC staff members under Drew's management.

Question: During the trip did you get to know your Board colleagues better?

Answer: Yes. In particular, David Collard of Groton and Bozrah since we share similar responsibilities at our respective organizations.

Question: Did you get to know CMEEC staff better?

Answer: Yes.

Question: Did including spouses at CMEEC expense make it easier for you to attend?

Answer: Yes. I would not have attended without my spouse since other spouses were also attending.