

# MINUTES

STATE BUILDING COMMISSION  
Executive Subcommittee  
December 2, 2010  
12:30 P.M.

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**Members Present:**

Tre Hargett, Secretary of State  
Justin Wilson, Comptroller of the Treasury  
David Lillard, State Treasurer  
Mike Morrow, Commissioner, Department of Finance and Administration

**Others Present:**

Jonathan Rummel, Secretary of State's Office  
Joy Harris, Treasurer's Office  
Terry Mason, Comptroller's Office  
Genie Whitesell, Attorney General's Office  
Janie Porter, Attorney General's Office  
Maggie Bahou, Secretary of State's Office  
Jerry Preston, retired, Tennessee Board of Regents  
Rudy Johnson, Rufus Johnson Associates  
Russell Skrabut, Genesis Engineering Group  
Scott Fleming, Fleming Associates, via teleconference  
Lanis Cope, Cope Associates, Inc., via teleconference  
John Carr, Department of Finance and Administration  
Bill Finney, Real Property Administration  
Penny DiPiazza, Real Property Administration  
Bob Qualey, Real Property Administration  
Georgia Martin, State Architect's Office

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Commissioner Morrow called the meeting to order at 12:42 p.m. to discuss the consideration of candidates to be interviewed for the position of State Architect. Secretary Hargett asked that his Senior Policy Advisor, Jonathan Rummel, walk everyone through the

process up to that point, and the transparent process they tried to create. He also asked for any comments from staff, as well as the advisors from the private sector who volunteered their time, to offer their thoughts and top three things they were looking for in the next State Architect.

Jonathan Rummel was recognized and stated that the project had been a collaborative effort on the part of all of the staff. He said that on November 10, 2010, the SBC adopted the job description, plan to advertise and process to select a State Architect. Pursuant to these actions, Human Resource professionals and other staff were enlisted to assist the Executive Subcommittee and staff. The advertisement was posted on the Office of the State Architect's website, which served as the primary portal of information about the position. Advertisements were also purchased for the four major newspapers in the state and appeared in online job search engines. Professional groups in the design and construction community were also notified so they could advise their respective memberships of the opportunity.

Mr. Rummel stated that the result of the advertising efforts produced 65 respondents from at least 12 states or territories; 41 were certified by HR professionals on basic qualifications, education, licensure and experience. He said that a group of five voluntary industry consultants was enlisted to advise on the technical and experience representations of the candidates. The consultants included: Lanis Cope, Cope Associates, Inc.; Scott Fleming, Fleming Associates; Rudy Johnson, Rufus Johnson Associates; Jerry Preston, Wiser Company; Russell Skrabut, Genesis Engineering Group. All consultants and staff involved in the process signed conflict of interest disclosures.

Following input from the consultants, Executive Subcommittee staff further met to prepare their recommendation and offered the following candidates for consideration: Peter L. Heimbach, Jr., Douglas A. Johnson, Karengaye M. Johnson, Gregory Mason, Robert E. Oglesby, J. Alan Robertson, and J. Cyril Stewart.

The Subcommittee asked the advisors if they would like to make any comments. Jerry Preston was recognized. He said some of the things the consultants and the committee were looking for were experience in leadership, management, communication and technical ability. He said that this position requires a lot of leadership and the ability to manage and bring consensus to a lot of stake holders. He said they were looking for someone who would bring to the position a vision of the future, as well as managing capital projects and real estate transactions.

Rudy Johnson was recognized. He said he thought it was important for this person to be a leader; to get out in front and to take a stand to lead the departments and agencies. In addition to being a registered architect, he said he thought they should be LEED AP and leading the charge in sustainable design. Mr. Johnson said he thought it should be someone who planned to be here awhile, and not using this position as a stepping stone nor on their way out the door. He said it should be someone who is familiar with institutional architecture and who does the kind of work that the State Building Commission oversees. He felt, as a practitioner, it should be

someone who manages staff, meets a payroll and who understands the travails of leading an architectural firm. He added they should be a good communicator and felt strongly that it should be someone from Tennessee.

Russell Skrabut was recognized and said that he was the sole engineering representative on this consultant team. He said that showing leadership with diplomacy was very important and defines what they are looking for. He said he thought that it should be someone who has been the leader of a firm, but who can also rise to the occasion of meeting in forums and talking to dignitaries such as these. He thought someone who has led a private business could bring something to the table including new technology and trends that the State will have to deal with. Regarding the tenure issue, he thought it was important to have someone in the position for a long time while being able to deal with complicated issues such as contract matters, bidding protests, resolution of very complicated change orders and managing staff that comes with a higher level of experience. So, he thought someone in the 15-20 year range would be an ideal candidate.

Lanis Cope was recognized via teleconference. He concurred that the experience needs to be someone in the 15-20 year range as this profession requires a long learning curve. He thought that having not only architectural or engineering technical aspects were important, but also leadership and diplomacy. He said he would like to see someone on the leading edge of the profession as with a private practitioner or owner representative who sees it from more than one perspective. He thought someone who has the depth of understanding, many years in the business and is used to viewing things from more than one perspective would make a good candidate.

Scott Fleming was recognized via teleconference. He said it's a given that they need to have technical abilities, the understanding of codes, and the whole package. They should be forward thinking visionaries, but also need to be experienced at solving complex problems. He said they should be excellent communicators and be able to work well with others. He added that wisdom is gained from someone who has run a firm from a management perspective.

Comptroller Wilson asked the consultants if any had concern about adequate opportunity and notice being given under this process, and they all responded "no". Treasurer Lillard made a motion to approve the State Architect candidate interview list provided by the State Building Commission staff and to allow SBC staff to begin to schedule interviews following the meeting. The motion was seconded, and passed without objection. Commissioner Morrow thanked all those who volunteered their time to assist the State's effort and, thanks to them, he thought the process was a very good one.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:02 p.m.

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_

Mike Morrow, Commissioner  
Department of Finance and Administration