

THE SIALKOT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE **HELD ON APRIL 29, 2023**

01. A Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry was held on April 29, 2023 at 11:30 hours at Sheikh Muhammad Shafi Hall of the Sialkot Chamber.

02. Mr. Wahub Jahangir, Senior Vice President of the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry presided over the meeting. He thanked the members for attending the meeting.

03. The proceedings of the meeting started with the recitation of the Holy Quran by Choudhary Jahangir Rashid.

04. The following members attended the meeting:

- Mr. Wahub Jahangir Senior Vice President
- Mr. Afzaal Bhatti -Member-
- Mr. Ahmed Imtiaz Khan -do-
- Mr. Awais Ahmed -do-
- Mr. Choudhry Jahangir Rashid -do-
- Mr. Jawad Hussain -do-
- Ms. Lubna Tubsim -do-
- Mr. Matloob Ahmed Qureshi -do-
- Mian Fiaz Ahmed -do-
- Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz -do-
- Mr. Naeem Yousaf -do-
- Mr. Peeter John -do-
- Mr. Shoaib Imtiaz -do-

05. Leave of Absence

- Mr. Abdul Ghafoor Malik President
- Mr. Amer Majeed Sheikh Vice President
- Mian Imran Akbar -Member-
- Mr. Saqib Ashfaq -do-
- Mr. Toheed Nasir -do-
- Mr. Zain Ul Abideen -do-

06. Members who could not attend the meeting

- Mr. Adnan Yousaf -Member-
- Mrs. Gulzaib Waqas Awan -do-
- Mr. Saleem Akhtar Bhutta -do-

07. The Committee offered Fateha for departed souls and passed condolence resolution on the sad demise of the following: -

- Ch. M. Saleem Kataria M/s. Jaffson Group of Industries
- Sister of Sh. Imran Sandal M/s. Pokal Industries

08. Point discussed.	Approval of minutes of meeting of the Executive Committee held on March 31, 2023.
Approval	Approved.

09. Point discussed.	Approval of Statement of Accounts for the month of March 2023.
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Discussion:

Mr. Naeem Yousaf said that an amount of PKR 1,108,827/- was mentioned as miscellaneous expenses in the head of expenditure. The major amount was issued as donation which he had found on Page No. 11 Point No. 26. He said that explanation regarding issuance of donation was mentioned in details column and merged, due to which the members could not understand. He suggested that detail should be given for the information of members. He also suggested that a separate donation head should be created.

Mr. Amer Rashid Wyne replied that a head of donation had already been created. He said that as per the account's procedure, the amount which had been issued to registered organizations were included in the Donation Head while other donations were added in the miscellaneous head.

Mr. Naeem Yousaf agreed to the accounting points of view, but said that issue created because big amount was mentioned in the head of miscellaneous expenses. Moreover, it was not clearly mentioned about issuance of amount in the note and donation was merged to different people.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir suggested that the explanatory note of the issued amount should be explained clearly so that the members could understand about issuance of amount.

Mr. Owais Ahmed said that there was a huge increase in expenditure under the following heads, although not so many activities were held during the last month due to Ramzan.

- There was a big difference in the purchase of diesel as compared to last month. Diesel worth PKR 338,000/- was purchased during this month while in the previous month diesel PKR 11,400/- was purchased.
- It had been decided by the Executive Committee to reduce the printing of SCCI Bulletin but an amount of PKR 1,324,382 was mentioned in the head of Printing & Stationery which showed increase instead of decrease.
- An amount of PKR 518,242/- was spent in the head of Office Entertainment. He said that if it was calculated by deducting 9-10 days of Fasting and public holidays, the daily expenditures became PKR 27000/- @ per day which was very high.

Mr. Amer Rashid Wyne replied that it was the Account of the Month of March 2023. He said that the diesel bill for the month of February & March were paid due to which the amount showed an increase. Secondly, as concerned to expenses of office entertainment Ever Day tea/coffee PKR 200845/- Biscuits PKR 37483, drinking water PKR 187146/-

Choudhary Jahangir Rashid also raised apprehension about increase in expenditure incurred on entertainment in the month of Ramadan.

The Secretary General replied that it was not the billing of the month of Ramadan.

Choudhary Jahangir Rashid said that dates of billing month should be clarified.

Mr. Awais Ahmed said that whenever he had asked the question, it was replied to him that it was the accounts of previous month.

The Secretary General requested Mr. Awais Ahmed that he could check the detail of accounts with vouchers from Accounts Department to clarify his

questions which was endorsed by Mr. Wahub Jahangir, Choudhary Jahangir Rashid and other members.

Mr. Naeem Yousaf asked why the profit on investment had decreased from PKR 2,260,163 to PKR 830,174/-. He asked whether the cash had been withdrawn or any other issue.

Mr. Amer Rashid Wyne replied that the amount of PKR 2,260,163 was the profit of three months while the amount of PKR 830,174 was the profit of one month. He said that relating to fixed deposit policy the banks had been requested to revise from three months to one month on instructions of Mr. Wahub Jahangir.

Mr. Naeem Yousaf said that it should be mentioned for the information of members.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir shared with the house that the Executive Committee had approved to transfer the funds in conventional banking but despite the approval of house; he negotiated with Islamic Banks where the Account had already been opened to revise policy that had been successfully accomplished. He said that profit of around PKR 60 Lacks would be earned in the next five months on the deposit on which profit of PKR 11 Lakh had been earned during the last five months. Hence, an additional amount of PKR 50 Lac would be earned by renegotiating with the banks on accounts that were already operated by the Chamber. He said that he could not explain why it had not been done in the past. He also shared that an additional amount of PKR 80(M) had been collected from the members during the renewal period of this Year due to nominal increase in membership fee, as approved by the Executive Committee.

Mr. Naeem Yousaf suggested that the Accounts Officer should brief on the Statement of Accounts about the Changes in Executive Meeting, if any, for the information of members.

Choudhary Jahangir Rasheed suggested to share in Executive Committee Group.

Mr. Afzaal Bhatti suggested that a separate note could be mentioned.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir endorsed and further said that Annexure could be annexed. He also requested Mr. Amer Rashid Wyne to come in his office to discuss on it.

Mr. Naeem Yousaf said that an amount of PKR 1,600,000/- and 2,000,000/- had been received from members in the head of publication charges. He asked about the cost of printing of bulletin because it had been charged from members. He said that in this way a big difference might occur in receipt and expense of publication charges and members might ask questions about bulletin to create problem.

The Secretary General replied that most of the income was generated during the renewal period of February & March, every year, to reflect very high sum but it got covered at the end of the year.

Mr. Naeem Yousaf said that there should not be a big difference.

Participants	Mr. Wahub Jahangir, Mr. Awais Ahmed, Mr. Naeem Yousaf, Choudhry Jahangir Rashid, Mr. Afzaal Bhatti, Mr. Tariq Mahmood Malik and Mr. Amer Rashid Wyne.
Approval	Approved.

10. Point discussed.	Approval of minutes of meeting of the Departmental Committee on FBR, Customs, Sales Tax, Federal Taxation and Excise and Provincial Taxation held on March 30, 2023.
Discussion	<p>Mr. Ahmed Imtiaz Khan said that he had suggested in the last EC Meeting that Chairmen of Departmental/Project Committee should be invited in EC Meetings to brief their minutes of meetings which were put up in Executive Committee Meetings.</p> <p>Mr. Wahub Jahangir replied that the Chairmen of the Committees were invited.</p> <p>Miss Lubna Tubsim suggested that online facility of Zoom etc. could be provided to attend the meeting.</p> <p>Mr. Wahub Jahangir endorsed the suggestion of Miss Lubna Tubsim and said that it would be only for Chairmen of Departmental Committees and Special Invitees but not for Executive Members.</p>
Participants	Mr. Wahub Jahangir, Mr. Ahmed Imtiaz Khand and Miss Lubna Tubsim.
Approval	Approved.

11. Point discussed.	Approval of minutes of debriefing meeting on self-finance trade delegation to Kuwait held on April 10, 2023.
Approval	Approved.

12. Point discussed.	Approval of report on Awareness Session of "Export Facilitation Scheme 2021" held on March 30, 2023.
Approval	Approved.

13. Point discussed.	Approval of minutes of meeting of the Departmental Committee on Human Resource held on April 20, 2023.
Approval	Approved.

14. Point discussed.	Approval of report of Seminar on Green Sialkot Campaign arranged by the Departmental Committee on Environment Protection held on March 21, 2023.
Approval	Approved.

15. Point discussed.	Approval of minutes of meeting of the Departmental Committee on Membership/Bye-Laws held on April 27, 2023.
Approval	Approved.

Any Other Point:

16. Mr. Wahub Jahangir said that District Administration Sialkot had built a new chowk adjacent to Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry but later on it was demolished. The President discussed with the Deputy Commissioner about it regarding which he suggested to send the request from this Chamber to build it again, if desired. Mr. Wahub added that it was dire need to build a Chowk to control the traffic especially during the time from 12:00 Noon to 3:00 p.m. He said that as the

President was not available, therefore, he had put up the issue in the meeting to discuss and to get approval.

The house unanimously approved to forward the request to Deputy Commissioner for the construction of Chowk.

Mr. Fiaz Ahmed said that there was the issue of the diameter of the Chowk due to which the Chowk was demolished. He suggested this matter should be considered now.

17. Miss Lubna Tubsim mentioned the following: -

- It was the practice of this Chamber to give donation to different welfare organizations on their request. She suggested that a delegation comprising of the Executive Committee Members could be formed to visit the organizations by whom the requests were received to see their working and the Cheque of the donation should be present in person to the Head of relevant Departments of the organizations by inviting them in this Chamber or in their organizations.
- She had studied the minutes and found some spelling and grammatical mistakes that should be corrected before approval.
- The Management of Shaukat Khanum Hospital had planned to sign an agreement with Sialkot Chamber for their activities like fund raising programs and seminars etc.,

Mr. Wahub Jahangir replied that normally the donation Cheques were presented to concerned persons/ organizations. Secondly, as concerned to Child Protection Bureau, he along with the President visited, in person, to donate the Blanket, Bed sheets and pillows. During the visit it was informed that the Child Protection Bureau was providing safe heaven to destitute, neglected, abused, and run-away children with shelter, education, medical and protection with an emphasis on turning them into useful and productive members of the society. He said that the visit of the members could be arranged by forming a delegation of such Social Institutions on providing the information. As concerned to Shaukat Khanum Hospital, Mr. Wahub suggested to Miss Lubna to request them (Shaukat Khanum) to send proposal to this Chamber Officially to consider it.

Miss Lubna Tubsim shared that Women Chamber of Commerce & Industry Sialkot had planned to organize a seminar on Copy Rights, Cyber Crime & Trade Mark. She requested for the support of Departmental Committee on Media to launch campaign for maximum participation of members and from the Sialkot Chamber to organize the event.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir replied positively and said that the required support would be provided.

Choudhary Jahangir Rashid suggested the following: -

- Discussions mentioned on Point No. 11 Page No. 2-6 in the minutes of the last Executive Committee Meeting should not be noted. He said that such discussions were also held in the past. He suggested that such discussions should not be published. He said that he had not attended the meeting but was informed to him that he had done the planning of such hard talk. He requested the members to provide him a proof, if anybody had.
- Approval should be gotten from Executive Committee before making a major expense in this Chamber, so that the members could be well informed about where the expense were made. He said that as per his information, the Chamber was in deficit. He asked whether approval had been gotten from the EC or not.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir asked to mention the expense.

Choudhry Jahangir Rashid mentioned about renovation work of the Chamber. He requested that Renovation Work should be made agenda point instead of putting up in any other point because Millions of Rupees were involved and that they would be able to respond.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir said that the Executive Committee had to justify because all the works done with their approval and had been noted in the minutes. He added that the EC had approved renovation work, installation of Solar System and other expenses above PKR 200,000/-. The Office Bearers were authorized to make the expense upto PKR 200,000/-as approved by Executive Committee.

Mr. Naeem Yousas informed that approval had been gotten from the Executive Committee for the renovation work of this Chamber but the budget was not presented for approval. He informed that he had asked the question to President about budget in response to which he said that it would be PKR 40(M) but it exceeded.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir replied that approval had been gotten of above amount and even in the last EC Meeting, approval was gotten of some work with amount because it could not show the expenses until and unless it was approved from Executive Committee. He added that it had been informed to Executive Committee about the budget before getting approval which was mentioned in the minutes of meeting and got confirmation. He said that the quotations of the work were not presented which was a separate issue.

Mr. Naeem Yousaf suggested that a separate computer system should be available there to keep such information in soft form so that the members could reply at once with detailed information in order to avoid such long discussions.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir replied that it was not feasible but the members could be provided required information as when project was approved by the EC.

Choudhry Jahangir suggested that if it was possible to make it main agenda point for next meeting.

The Secretary General replied that any other points were also the part of agenda. The main issue was to note it in the minutes of meeting because once it was noted, it become the part of minutes.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir assured that all matters related to this Chamber were done by the Office Bearers with the approval of the Executive Committee and without EC approval they could not do it. All the members were well informed about the working of this Chamber. He added that the members could reconfirm about any approval that had been made by Executive Committee in the meetings which they did not attend.

Mian Fiaz Ahmed informed that approval of the budget for construction work had been gotten in three meetings.

Mr. Ahmed Imtiaz Khan said that amounts of PKR 14 (M) and PKR 22 (M) were approved but the quotations were not submitted.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir said that in last Executive Committee an amount of PKR 30-40(M) were approved for the construction work.

18. Mr. Azhar Dar, Assistant Secretary said that an application for reimbursement of medical bill of Rs. 19,809/- of wife of Mr. Shahzada Fahad had been received. As per the Human Resource Policy he was entitled.

The house unanimously approved to reimburse medical bill of Rs. 19,809/- to Mr. Shahzada Fahad.

19. Mr. Azhar Dar, Assistant Secretary said that an application for reimbursement of medical bill of Rs. 31,277/- of son of Khawaja Shoaib Ahmed had been received. As per the Human Resource Policy he was entitled.

The house unanimously approved to reimburse medical bill of Rs. 31,277/- to Khawaja Shoaib Ahmed.

Mr. Jawad Ahmed suggested that staff should get the facility of Health Card.

Miss Lubna Tubsim informed that she had visited the Amina Hospital and came to know that they were providing medical treatment on Health Card.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir replied that it was a very good suggestion but he did not have a good experience. He said that the patients who were admitted in the hospital to avail Health Card facility but were treated by Junior/Trainee Doctors instead of Senior Doctors.

Mr. Jawad Ahmed said that he was associated with the Surgery Departments and involved in various capacities in hospitals of Pakistan. He also had the information of Health Card. It was not the practice of any hospital to treat from junior Doctors on health doctors. He said that it might be possible that the Doctors did it to earn more money.

The Secretary General instructed Mr. Azhar Iqbal Darr, Assistant Secretary to refer such medical applications of the staff to Mr. Jawad Ahmed for getting his opinion which was agreed by the house.

Mr. Azhar Iqbal Darr said that Surgery related issues would be referred to Mr. Jawad Ahmed.

Mr. Jawad Ahmed said that other issues related to Medical could be discussed with him for getting opinion. He assured every kind of cooperation related to Medical Treatment/ Hospitals or Medical Colleges.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir and the house appreciated Mr. Jawad Ahmed for his assistance.

20. Choudhary Jahangir Rashid said that he had come to know from a group that the President, SCCI had planned to lead a protest, which was appreciated by some people. He said that he had tried to contact with the President, in this regard, but could not contact. He said that the President should get approval from the EC, in case he had planned to lead any protest.

The Secretary General asked on which issue the President had planned to lead the protest.

Choudhry Jahangir Rashid replied that protest was planned about the development funds which had been stopped.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir and the Secretary General denied any such plan.

Choudhry Jahangir Rashid replied that he would share the messages.

Choudhry Jahangir Rashid said that he had requested for issuance of SCCI Shields to present in the programs/seminars that were planned by him in other organization but his request was not accepted by giving comments that Chamber's shield could only be presented in the premises of this Chamber. He said that recently the Sports Committee had organized a Cricket Match wherein the Chamber's shields were presented. He requested to clarify him, in this regard, whether the shields were issued as per law because the event was not held in the premises of this Chamber.

Mr. Jawad Ahmed replied that the said event was arranged for Executive Committee wherein the EC members played.

Mr. Naeem Yousaf replied that it was a cricket match.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir said that shields presentations were generally on the disposal of the Office Bearers who presented the gifts and shield as a token of gesture/appreciation in the meetings held with Ambassadors or other dignitaries in Islamabad or other places. He said that the Office Bearers were present in this event who presented the shields.

Choudhry Jahangir Rashid agreed with Mr. Wahub Jahangir but said that it was the event of the Committee and the Office Bearers went to play the match. The Chairman Committee presented the shields. He said that his question was to clarify him that as per the rule, the Committee Chairman was allowed to present the shield outside the Chamber.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir replied that the Office Bearers presented the shields to Chief Commissioner FBR and the Chairman Committee as man of the Match.

Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim said that it was not an issue because if it would be restricted then it would not be allowed to issue the shields for sports event planned with other Chambers. He added that the Executive Committee had formed a sub-committee on the installation of Solar System which definitely received the quotations that should be put up in Executive Committee for approval. He requested that the quotations should be put up in EC for discussion and approval. Mr. Shahbaz said that he had submitted the quotations for Chamber's Fire/safety System but was not approved with the objection that the rates were high whereas a sub-Committee comprising of 3 members was formed by EC on installation of Solar System but they did not share any information with the house about costs etc. He requested the Chair to clarify it.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir replied that a Sub-Committee comprising of Mr. Amer Majeed Sheikh, Mr. Afzaal Bhatti and Mr. Naeem Yousaf under his supervision was formed. He said that whenever a Sub-Committee was formed it was not compulsory to put up its working in Executive Committee or include it in agenda point because the Sub-Committee was authorized to proceed with given issue.

Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim said that Sub-Committee was formed by the house.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir replied that all the approvals were noted in the minutes; therefore, there was no need to further discuss on it. He requested him to study the minutes. He added that the Sub-Committee had invited quotations for the installation of Solar System, in this Chamber, from four different companies and held 2-3 meetings on it and after finalization, work had been started.

Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim again discussed about his request of installation of safety measures in the building of this Chamber.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir replied that his proposal had been forwarded to Departmental Committee on Chamber's Building because it was related to them.

Mr. Naeem Yousaf said that the recommendations of the Sub-Committee were put up again to Executive Committee which they had approved and similar like the proposal of safety work by 1122 was presented to EC who deferred it.

Mr. Ahmed Imtiaz Khan shared that the President had formed a Sub-Committee under the supervision of Vice President on the quotations to work for safety measures, submitted by Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim. The President had suggested to do work in different phases, whenever the issue would be discussed again in next meeting. He said that it had been noted in the minutes of meeting.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir said that the house appreciated the proposal of safety measures submitted by Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz and a Sub-Committee was formed to proceed further which could be checked.

Mr. Awais Ahmed asked about the status of installation of Solar System in this Chamber. He said that the rates of Solar System had been reduced by 30-40%, therefore, he asked whether reduction in rates was negotiated with them or not.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir replied that the rates of Solar System had reduced by 10-12% but not 30-40%. Secondly, it had been informed in last Executive Committee that the total requirement of the Chamber was 80-85KW system to make zero bill but it had been decided to install it in two phases. In 1st phase it had been planned to install 45KW system while in 2nd phase 40KW would be installed. He said that deal of 1st phase had been finalized which could not be negotiated but the installation of 2nd phase would be done at new rates. As concerned to work of its installation, hopefully the installation of work of 45KW would be completed in the month of May, 2023. Green Meter had been installed.

21. Choudhary Jahangir Rashid shared that he had organized an event on "World Water Day" on which the Committee had launched a Bag mentioning the mono of this Chamber and WWF. The Bag would be distributed in Schools and Colleges. He said that it was very good development but it was not mentioned in the agenda of the meeting. He requested that such developments should be highlighted for the information and appreciation from members.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir requested the Secretariat to look into it.

22. Mr. Wahub Jahangir said that a delegation comprising of the Embassy staff/Commercial Counsellors of Germany, France, Denmark, Poland and Sweden had planned to visit this Chamber on May 02, 2023. He requested the Executive Committee Members to confirm their maximum participation in the meeting. He shared that the issue like grant of visas, and appointments had been mentioned in Address of Welcome and if any member had a point, he/she could discuss with him to include it in the speech. He said that he had planned to include all the points which were faced by the business community relating to EU Countries.

Mr. Naeem Yousaf expressed his inability to attend the meeting mentioning that he had a commitment on that day.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir requested the members to share proposals through WhatsApp Group or Email.

Mr. Jawad Ahmed suggested that the members should not repeat the same question.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir replied that it would be take care.

Miss Lubna Tabsum said that the Ambassadors also had proposals that should be shared with the members to make it easier to ask questions.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir replied that main purpose of the visit of members of Commercial Sections was the promotion of business.

Mr. Naeem Yousaf asked about the invitees of meeting.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir replied that Executive Committee Members and Former Office Bearers had been invited in the meeting.

Mr. Ahmed Imtiaz Khan said that number of irrelevant questions was asked, therefore, he suggested that the members should send their questions, in writing, on a paper to the Chair to put to the guest.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir replied that it was good suggestion but was not feasible due to the reason that former Office Bearers were invited in the meeting.

Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim said that European Union had launched different projects in China & Singapore to produce skilled labour, machinery etc., by setting up zones, therefore, it EU Ambassadors should be requested in the meeting to launch such zones in Sialkot for the development of Sialkot Export Industry. He said that land could be offered in EPZ etc., for setting up industrial units. He said that in this way the issues of Machinery and Skilled Labour could be overcome.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir replied that it was a very valid point, therefore, he requested Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz to discuss the point directly with the Ambassadors in meeting being an Executive Committee Member.

Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim also requested to discuss the point of registration of brand in Europe which was clarified by Mr. Naeem Yousaf.

The Meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

Minutes approved by the President, Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry.