



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**  
**STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION**  
20 Trinity Street Hartford, Connecticut 06106 – 1628

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**MINUTES**  
**STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**20 Trinity Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room**  
**September 17, 2008**  
**9:00 A.M.**

**I. *Call to Order***

Chairman Cashman called the meeting to order at 9:04 A.M. Commissioners Gerratana, Jenkins, Bozzuto and Dolan were present. Agency staffs were also present.

**II. *Approval of the Minutes***

*Approval of the Minutes of September 10, 2008 Regular Telephonic Meeting*

It was moved by Commissioner Gerratana and seconded by Commissioner Bozzuto to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2008 regular telephonic meeting. So voted.

**III. *Consideration of Applications for Public Grants from the Citizens' Election Fund***

Dianna Kulmacz, Director of Campaign Disclosure and Audit, summarized each application and results of the staff review.

1. "Friends of John Frey" John Frey  
It was moved by Commissioner Bozzuto and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to approve the grant application for "Friends of John Frey." So voted.
2. "Debralee Hovey 2008" Debralee Hovey  
It was moved by Commissioner Gerratana and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to approve the grant application for "Debralee Hovey 2008." So voted.
3. "House for Senate" Arthur House  
It was moved by Commissioner Bozzuto and seconded by Commissioner Gerratana to approve the grant application for "House for Senate." So voted.
4. "Perillo for State Rep. 2008" Jason Perillo  
It was moved by Commissioner Bozzuto and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to approve the grant application for "Perillo for State Rep. 2008." So voted.

5. "Friends of Bob Duff" Robert Duff  
It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Gerratana to continue without prejudice the grant application for "Friends of Bob Duff." So voted.
6. "Friends of Patricia Billie Miller" Patricia Billie Miller  
It was moved by Commissioner Bozzuto and seconded by Commissioner Gerratana to approve the grant application for "Friends of Patricia Billie Miller." So voted.
7. "Gentile '08" Linda Gentile  
It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Gerratana to approve the grant application for "Gentile '08." So voted.
8. "Ferrari '08" Richard Ferrari  
It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Gerratana to continue without prejudice the grant application for "Ferrari '08." So voted.
9. "Catherine Johnson '08" Catherine Johnson  
It was moved by Commissioner Bozzuto and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to continue without prejudice the grant application for "Catherine Johnson '08." So voted
10. "Jansen '08" Cheryl Jansen  
It was moved by Commissioner Gerratana and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to approve the grant application for "Jansen '08." So voted
11. "Spallone 2008" James Spallone  
It was moved by Commissioner Gerratana and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to approve the grant application for "Spallone 2008." So voted.
12. "Michelle Cook for the 65<sup>th</sup>" Michelle Cook  
It was moved by Commissioner Bozzuto and seconded by Commissioner Gerratana to continue without prejudice the grant application for "Michelle Cook for the 65<sup>th</sup>." So voted.
13. "Russo for Senate" Robert Russo  
It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Gerratana to continue without prejudice the grant application for "Russo for Senate." So voted.
14. "Bauer for Change" David Bauer  
It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Gerratana to continue without prejudice the grant application for "Bauer for Change." So voted.
15. "Committee to Re-Elect Pat Widlitz" Patricia Widlitz  
It was moved by Commissioner Gerratana and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to approve the grant application for "Re-Elect Pat Widlitz." So voted.
16. "Citizens for Saunders" Scott Saunders  
It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Gerratana to continue without prejudice the grant application for "Citizens for Saunders." So voted.

17. "Nanci '08" Nanci Selzer  
It was moved by Commissioner Bozzuto and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to approve the grant application for "Nanci '08." So voted.
18. "Liddy for Milford" Kevin Liddy  
It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Gerratana to approve the grant application for "Liddy for Milford." So voted.
19. "Hwang for 134<sup>th</sup>" Anthony Hwang  
It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Bozzuto to approve the grant application for "Hwang for 134<sup>th</sup>." So voted.
20. "Lori Musco to Hartford 2008" Lori Musco  
It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Gerratana to continue without prejudice the grant application for "Lori Musco to Hartford 2008." So voted.
21. "Friends of Conroy" Theresa Conroy  
It was moved by Commissioner Bozzuto and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to approve the grant application for "Friends of Conroy." So voted.
22. "Wink '08" Ellen Wink  
It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Gerratana to continue without prejudice the grant application for "Wink '08." So voted.
23. "Sandy Nafis 2008" Sandra Nafis  
It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Bozzuto to approve the grant application for "Sandy Nafis 2008." So voted.
24. "Marino 2008" Vincent Marino  
It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Gerratana to approve the grant application for "Marino 2008." So voted.
25. "Roy 08" Richard Roy  
It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Gerratana to approve the grant application for "Roy 08." So voted.
26. "Fitzgerald 08" Jill Fitzgerald  
It was moved by Commissioner Bozzuto and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to approve the grant application for "Fitzgerald 08." So voted.
27. "Hamzy 2008" William Hamzy  
It was moved by Commissioner Bozzuto and seconded by Commissioner Gerratana to approve the grant application for "Hamzy 2008." So voted.

28. "Re-Elect Tom Drew 2008" Thomas Drew  
It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Gerratana to approve the grant application for "Re-Elect Tom Drew 2008." So voted.
29. "Deb for the 41<sup>st</sup>" Deb Peruzzotti  
It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Gerratana to continue without prejudice the grant application for "Deb for the 41<sup>st</sup>." So voted.
30. "Royston 2008" Michael Royston  
It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Gerratana to continue without prejudice the grant application for "Royston 2008." So voted.
31. "Re-Elect Kathy Tallarita" Kathy Tallarita  
It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Bozzuto to continue without prejudice the grant application for "Re-Elect Kathy Tallarita." So voted.

#### ***IV. Pending Complaints and Investigations***

##### *A. Public Session*

1. In the Matter of a Complaint by Margaret Potts, Town Clerk, Oxford  
Reason to Believe Finding Recommendation and Designation of Hearing Officer  
File No. 2007-351  
Respondent: August Palmer  
Investigator: Attorney Marc Crayton  
Managing Attorney: Joan M. Andrews  
  
Recommendation: Find Reason to Believe that Respondent August Palmer violated Connecticut General Statutes §9-604.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Dolan that the Commission find reason to believe that the Respondent in the above captioned case violated the statute indicated and that a hearing officer be designated for this matter.

Attorney Stephen Cashman was designated as Hearing Officer for this matter.

2. In the Matter of a Complaint by Lillian Arciniegas, Hartford  
File No. 2008-030  
Proposed Findings and Conclusions  
Respondents: Alphonse Marotta and Hector Robles  
Investigator: Attorney William Smith  
Managing Attorney: Joan M. Andrews

It was moved by Commissioner Gerratana and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to adopt the proposed Findings and Conclusions in File No. 2008-030. So voted. The Complaint is dismissed for the reasons stated. A copy of the Findings and Conclusions is attached and incorporated herein as part of these minutes.

B. *Executive Session per C.G.S. 1-200(6)(B) and (E), and 1-210(b)(3) and (4)*

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Dolan at 9:18 A.M. to proceed into Executive Session pursuant to C.G.S. 1-200(6) (B) and (E), and 1-210(b)(3) and (4) to discuss strategy and negotiations with respect to pending claims and exempt records relating thereto, listed as Items 3 through 9 on the agenda. So voted. Commissioner Cashman was present; Commissioners Jenkins, Gerratana, Dolan and Bozzuto were present. Staff members present were: Mr. Garfield, Mr. Lenge, Ms. Andrews, Mr. Smith, Mr. Crayton, Ms. Bergquist, Mr. Oyola, Ms. Rotman, Mr. Urso, Ms. Adams, Ms. Kulmacz, Ms. Stratton, Ms. Varrs, Ms. Pulaski, Ms. Love, Ms. Kief, Mr. Talbert-Slagle and Ms. Staniewicz.

It was moved by Commissioner Gerratana and seconded by Commissioner Dolan at 9:59 a.m. to return to public session. So voted.

Returning to Public Session the Commission took the following action:

3. In the Matter of a Complaint by Matthew J. Kelly, Barkhamstad  
File No. 2007-274  
Investigator: Attorney Marc W. Crayton  
Managing Attorney: Joan M Andrews

This matter was continued.

4. In the Matter of a Complaint by Myrna E. Watanabe, Harwinton  
File No. 2007-386  
Investigator: Attorney Kevin Ahern  
Managing Attorney: Joan M Andrews

This matter was continued.

5. In the Matter of a Complaint by Jeffrey P. Kerekes, New Haven  
File No. 2007-388  
Investigator: Attorneys William Smith and Shannon Bergquist  
Managing Attorney: Joan M. Andrews

This matter was continued.

6. In the Matter of a Complaint by Alisa Masterson, Madison  
File No. 2008-066  
Investigator: Attorney Kevin Ahern  
Managing Attorney: Joan M. Andrews

This matter was continued.

7. In the Matter of a Complaint by Heather Cappabianca, Winsted  
File No. 2008-071  
Investigator: Attorney Kevin Ahern  
Managing Attorney: Joan M. Andrews

This matter was continued.

8. In the Matter of a Complaint by Robert Kalechman, Simsbury  
File No. 2008-072  
Investigator: Attorney William Smith  
Managing Attorney: Joan M. Andrews

This matter was continued.

9. In the Matter of a Complaint by Nicholas Paonessa, New Britain  
File No. 2008-097  
Investigator: Attorney Marc Crayton  
Managing Attorney: Joan M. Andrews

This matter was continued.

**V. *Legislative Recommendations***

Mr. Garfield outlined the proposed schedule for discussion of possible recommendations to the 2008 General Assembly, and suggested that public hearings be held on November 19, 2008 and December 3, 2008 for input regarding the Citizens' Election Program. Public hearing dates will be posted to the State Elections Enforcement Commission website. A legislative proposal for electronic filings and transferring municipal campaign finance filing repository functions to the State Elections Enforcement Commission were discussed. Mr. Garfield outlined two separate legislative proposals; 1) to lower the threshold for mandatory electronic filing for statewide and General Assembly candidates, political action committees and party committees, effective January 1, 2010 applying to elections and primaries held thereafter. After discussion, Mr. Garfield then requested the Commission authorize the proposal for legislation to the General Assembly to reduce the threshold for mandatory electronic filing. It was moved by Commissioner Gerratana and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to approve the proposed legislation. So voted. Mr. Garfield requested the Commission authorize the legislative proposal to transfer municipal campaign finance filings repository functions to the State Elections Enforcement Commission, effective January 2011. Also applying to elections and primaries held thereafter. It was moved by Commissioner Gerratana and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to approve the proposed legislation. So voted. Mr. Garfield addressed the 2008 Legislative analysis that was prepared by Ms. Nicolescu, Director of Communications, Legislative Affairs and Candidate Services and the intern staff.

**VI. *Administrative Reports***

Mr. Garfield acknowledged Ms. Love, Fiscal Administrative Manager, for her work on the totals for the grants that have thus far been issued by the Commission with regard to the 2008

General Assembly primaries and elections. As of September 15, 2008, the grand total is almost 4.3 million dollars in grants. Mr. Garfield gave special thanks to the Legal Compliance Unit, who are working under the direction of Director, Shannon Kief, for their hard work answering questions that are arising due to the Citizens' Election Program as well as other campaign finance laws. Mr. Garfield acknowledged the hard work of the elections officers and the positive feedback he has been receiving from candidates who are very pleased with the level of communication they are receiving. Mr. Garfield also acknowledged the hard work and long hours worked by the Campaign Disclosure and Audit staff on the many grant applications received by the State Elections Enforcement Commission.

Ms. Rotman discussed the upcoming deadlines for the Citizens' Election Program. Ms. Rotman introduced, Sheri-Lyn Legeux, a new employee with the Public Finance Unit. The Commission was updated on pending litigation and a new pilot program that will soon be implemented called "We comply," an internet training program designed to aid candidates in the Citizens' Election Program. The present numbers for participating General Election candidates in the Citizens' Election Program are two hundred and two (202) in the House and fifty seven (57) in the Senate; more participants are expected prior to the upcoming deadline.

Ms. Kulmacz thanked her staff for their hard work. The Disclosure Unit is working on mailings to remind all treasurers of deadlines to help aid them with compliance. The Commission received updates on the general elections grants.

Ms. Andrews updated the Commission on issues related to present and pending complaints.

**VII. *Adjournment***

It was moved by Commissioner Gerratana and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins at 11:13 A.M. to adjourn the meeting. So voted. Unless otherwise indicated, all votes of the Commission were unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

MaryAnn Stratton  
Acting Clerk of the Commission

Adopted this 24th day of September, 2008, at Hartford, Connecticut.



Stephen F. Cashman, Chairman  
By Order of the Commission

***The next meeting will be a Regular Telephonic Meeting held on September 24, 2008 at 4:00 P.M., in the 5th Floor Conference Room.***