



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

MINUTES
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION
REGULAR TELEPHONIC MEETING
20 Trinity Street, 5th Floor Conference Room
September 24, 2008
4:00 P.M.

I. *Call to Order*

Chairman Cashman called the meeting to order at 4:01 P.M. Commissioners Jenkins, Gerratana, and Bozzuto were present via teleconference. Agency staffs were also present.

II. *Approval of the Minutes*

Approval of the Minutes of September 17, 2008 Regular Meeting

It was moved by Commissioner Gerratana and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to approve the minutes of the September 17, 2008 regular meeting. So voted.

It was moved by Commissioner Bozzuto and seconded by Commissioner Gerratana to add to today's agenda in Executive Session consideration of whether to initiate an investigation. So voted.

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

It was moved by Commissioner Bozzuto and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins at 4:04 P.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. So voted. Commissioner Cashman was present and Commissioner Jenkins, Gerratana, and Bozzuto were on line via teleconference. Staff members present were: Mr. Garfield, Mr. Lenge, Ms. Andrews, Mr. Smith, Ms. Bergquist, Ms. Blackburn, Ms. Stratton, Ms. Rotman, Mr. Urso, Ms. Kulmacz, Ms. Kief, Ms. Zaccagnino and Ms. Staniewicz.

2A. *Consideration of whether to initiate an investigation*

It was moved by Commissioner Bozzuto and seconded by Commissioner Gerratana at 4:17 p.m. to return to public session. So voted.

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

Returning to Public Session the Commission took the following action:

Chairman Cashman stated his desire to have all applications that are recommended be continued without prejudice based upon the staff recommendation received, addressed by the Commission in one motion. The following items were recommended for continuance without prejudice.

16. "Butler 2008" Larry Butler
17. "Maynard for State Senate" Andrew Maynard
20. "Papadakos for Senate" Steve Papadakos
22. "Ruwet for 65th" Ann Ruwet
23. "Frank 2008" Rocco Frank
27. "Bowley for the 132nd" Ralph Bowley
28. "Stillman for Senate" Andrea Stillman
30. "David Aldarondo for State Representative 2008" David Aldarondo
32. "Stephanie Williams for State Representative" Stephanie Williams
37. "Knox 2008" Thomas Knox
38. "Anderson '08" Janice Andersen
39. "Friends of Jacqui Denski" Jacqui Denski
40. "Re-Elect Fasano State Senate 34th" Leonard Fasano

It was moved by Commissioner Gerratana and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to continue without prejudice all of the grant applications referred to earlier." So voted.

Dianna Kulmacz, Director of Campaign Disclosure and Audit, summarized the following applications and results of the staff review.

1. "TK '08" Themis Klarides
It was moved by Commissioner Gerratana and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to approve the grant application for "TK '08." So voted.
2. "Airey-Wilson for Senate" Veronica Airey-Wilson
It was moved by Commissioner Gerratana and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to continue without prejudice the pending grant application for "Airey-Wilson for Senate". So voted.

- 2.A. It was moved by Commissioner Bozzuto and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to initiate an investigation into the "Airey-Wilson for Senate" Committee relating to possible statutory violations associated with the non-deposit of checks. So voted.
3. "Lori Musco to Hartford 2008" Lori Musco
Chairman Cashman noted that while the Commission is aware of a pending complaint by Ms. Musco's opponent, the facts and circumstances of that complaint do not appear to rise to the level of seriousness to warrant an objection or delay in the approval of the grant application. It was moved by Commissioner Bozzuto and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to approve the grant application for "Lori Musco to Hartford 2008." So voted.
4. "Friends of Bob Duff" Robert Duff
It was moved by Commissioner Gerratana and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to approve the grant application for "Friends of Bob Duff." So voted.
5. "Catherine Johnson '08" Catherine Johnson
It was moved by Commissioner Gerratana and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to approve the grant application for "Catherine Johnson '08." So voted.
6. "Michelle Cook for the 65th" Michelle Cook
It was moved by Commissioner Bozzuto and seconded by Commissioner Gerratana to approve the grant application for "Michelle Cook for the 65th." So voted.
7. "Bauer for Change" David Bauer
It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Gerratana to approve the grant application for "Bauer for Change." So voted.
8. "Citizens for Saunders" Scott Saunders
It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Gerratana to approve the grant application for "Citizens for Saunders." So voted.
9. "Wink '08" Ellen Wink
It was moved by Commissioner Bozzuto and seconded by Commissioner Gerratana to approve the grant application for "Wink '08." So voted
10. "Deb for the 41st" Deb Peruzzotti
It was moved by Commissioner Gerratana and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to approve the grant application for "Deb for the 41st." So voted
11. "Re-Elect Kathy Tallarita" Kathy Tallarita
It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Gerratana to approve the grant application for "Re-Elect Kathy Tallarita." So voted.
12. "Ferrari '08" Richard Ferrari
It was moved by Commissioner Bozzuto and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to approve the grant application for "Ferrari '08." So voted.
13. "Russo for Senate" Robert Russo

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Bozzuto to approve the grant application for “Russo for Senate.” So voted.

14. “Royston 2008” Michael Royston

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Gerratana to approve the grant application for “Royston 2008.” So voted.

15. “John Rigby for 63rd” John Rigby

It was moved by Commissioner Gerratana and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to approve the grant application for “John Rigby for 63rd.” So voted.

18. “O’Brien for State Representative” Timothy O’Brien

It was moved by Commissioner Gerratana and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to approve the grant application for “O’Brien for State Representative.” So voted.

19. “Miller 2008” Lawrence Miller

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Gerratana to approve the grant application for “Miller 2008.” So voted.

21. “Friends of Harkins ‘08” John Harkins

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Gerratana to approve the grant application for “Friends of Harkins ‘08.” So voted.

24. “Committee to Elect Brett Eisenlohr” Brett Eisenlohr

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Gerratana to approve the grant application for “Committee to Elect Brett Eisenlohr.” So voted.

25. “Friends of Gail 2008” Gail Hamm

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Gerratana to approve the grant application for “Friends of Gail 2008.” So voted.

26. “Hetherington 2008” John Hetherington

It was moved by Commissioner Bozzuto and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to approve the grant application for “Hetherington 2008.” So voted.

29. “Godfrey 2008” Robert Godfrey

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Gerratana to approve the grant application for “Godfrey 2008.” So voted.

31. “Citizens for Jim O’Rourke” Jim O’Rourke

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Gerratana to approve the grant application for “Citizens for Jim O’Rourke.” So voted.

33. “Barry 2008” Ryan Barry

It was moved by Commissioner Gerratana and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to approve the grant application for “Barry 2008.” So voted.

34. “Re-Elect Piscopo” John Piscopo

It was moved by Commissioner Gerratana and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to approve the grant application for “Re-Elect Piscopo.” So voted.

35. "Heagney 2008" Robert Heagney
It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Gerratana to approve the grant application for "Heagney 2008." So voted.
36. "Vote for Matt Conway" Matthew Conway
It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Gerratana to approve the grant application for "Vote for Matt Conway." So voted.
41. "Perone for State Rep." Christopher Perone
It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Bozzuto to approve the grant application for "Perone for State Rep." So voted.

IV. Pending Complaints and Investigations

A. Public Session

1. In the Matter of a Complaint by Joseph M. Bomba, Derby
File No. 2008-010
Respondent: Anita Dugatto-Coscia
Investigator: Attorney William Smith
Managing Attorney: Joan M. Andrews

Attorney Andrews summarized the above referenced complaint and the proposed Consent Agreement and Order. She stated that Respondent Dugatto-Coscia has signed the proposed agreement and forfeited from the Derby Democratic Town Committee \$467.72 which represents the remainder of 2007 contributions raised by the committee without internal records to support the entries on campaign finance reports. The Commission entered into a separate agreement with the treasurer at a prior meeting. This will close the file. She recommended its adoption.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Gerratana to adopt the proposed Consent Agreement and Order in File No. 2008-010. So voted. A copy of the Consent Agreement and Order is attached and incorporated herein as part of these minutes.

V. Legislative Recommendations

Mr. Garfield stated that today's legislative recommendation for the Commission's review and consideration addresses certain voids in the Commission's powers and duties. The draft proposal contains some issues that would explicitly authorize the Commission to investigate and impose civil penalties for violations of any regulations that are promulgated under the election law where we presently have civil penalty authority, including those promulgated by the Secretary of the State. This proposal would insure that the Commission would be able to enforce the regulations concerning the new voting systems that are now being used and will be used in the November election.

Ms. Andrews briefly summarized the key points contained in the draft proposal that address voids concerning the new voting machines, their components and the impoundment ability of the Commission. Following the Commission's discussion, it was moved by Commissioner

Jenkins and seconded Commissioner Bozzuto to authorize staff to draft the proposal titled An Act Concerning State Elections Enforcement Commission Powers and Duties. So voted.

Mr. Garfield stated that discussions of the Commission's legislative recommendations will continue at the meeting to be held on October 8th.

VI. Administrative Reports

Ms. Kief introduced Mr. Richard Gebo, the Commission's new paralegal staff member in the Legal Compliance Unit. The Commission welcomed him.

Mr. Garfield asked the Commission to review the letter that he and Ms. Rotman drafted in response to the Governor's letter. The Commission approved the letter.

Ms. Rotman briefly stated that the issue of independent expenditures remains to be a concern and the Commission may need address it. She also stated that there have been several people signing up for the Nov. and Dec. public hearings to give feedback on the Citizen's Election Program. She stated that September 25th is the last day to sign up for the CEP program.

VII. Adjournment

It was moved by Commissioner Bozzuto and seconded by Commissioner Gerratana at 4:58 P.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 1st day of October, 2008, at Hartford, Connecticut.

Stephen F. Cashman, Chairman
By Order of the Commission

The next meeting will be a Regular Telephonic Meeting held on October 1, 2008 at 4:00 P.M., in the 5th Floor Conference Room.