



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

**MINUTES OF THE
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION'S
EMERGENCY SPECIAL TELECONFERENCE MEETING
October 30, 2008**

I. Call to Order

Chairman Cashman called the meeting to order at 4:04 P.M. Commissioner Cashman was present in person and Commissioner Jenkins, Gerratana, Bozzuto and Dolan were present via teleconference. Agency staff was also present.

Chairman Cashman requested that a portion of the item on today's agenda for discussion take place in Executive Session due to the overlap with a pending complaint.

Executive Session

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Gerratana at 4:05 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 relating thereto. So voted. Commissioner Cashman was present in person and Commissioner Jenkins, Gerratana, Bozzuto and Dolan were present via teleconference. Staff present were: Mr. Garfield, Ms. Andrews, Ms. Kulmacz, Ms. Kief, Mr. Smith, Ms. Bergquist, Mr. Crayton, Ms. Blackburn, Mr. Ahern, Ms. Stratton, Ms. Love, Ms. Sadowski, Mr. Foley, Mr. Talbert-Slagle, Ms. Montgomery, Ms Leibenhaut, and Mr. Urso.

It was moved by Commissioner Dolan and seconded by Commissioner Gerratana at 4:13 P.M. to return to public session. So voted.

II. Consideration of Request for a Supplemental Grant from the Citizens' Election Fund

"Arlene Avery for State Rep." Arlene Avery

Commissioner Cashman noted for the record that Jonathan Pelto was present. He invited Mr. Pelto to come forward and introduce himself to the Commission.

Mr. Pelto stated that he was here today as a representative of the "Arlene Avery for State Rep" campaign. He addressed the Commission outlining the campaign's position on why it feels entitled to the supplemental grant they have requested. The campaign's request relates to columns published by Representative Bacchiochi in a local newspaper. Mr. Pelto thanked the Commission for the opportunity to explain the campaign's request.

Commissioner Cashman stated that staff has had to opportunity to review the documents submitted by the campaign. Ms. Rotman briefly summarized the staff recommendation that the printed columns in question do not constitute campaign expenditures because they fall within an exception from the definition of expenditure for commentary. They do not contain express advocacy concerning Rep. Bacchiochi's reelection and did not mention her candidacy. Following the discussion, the Commission agreed that, the printed columns in question do not constitute expenditures; and thus issuance of a supplemental grant to "Arlene Avery for State Representative" was not warranted.

It was moved by Commissioner Bozzuto and seconded by Commissioner Dolan that the supplemental grant be denied based on the findings that the columns in question do not constitute an expenditure under the statute, and therefore does not entitle the Avery campaign to a supplemental grant. So voted. The supplemental grant request is denied.

Ms. Rotman discussed with the Commissioners the possibility that there may be a need for another emergency meeting this weekend. The Commissioners and staff will all be available all weekend, if there is a need.

Chairman Cashman thanked all the Commissioners and staff for their hard work and efforts during this election cycle.

Before adjournment, Mr. Garfield announced that tomorrow will be Attorney Lindsey Leibenhaut's last day with the agency. She has taken a clerkship with Judge Winter of the Second Circuit Court. It is a great opportunity for her and hopefully when she has finished her clerkship, she will be able to return. The Commissioner thanked Lindsey for her many contributions to the program and the agency.

III. Adjournment

It was moved by Commissioner Bozzuto and seconded by Commissioner Dolan at 4:40 P.M. to adjourn the meeting. So voted. Unless otherwise indicated, all votes of the Commission were unanimous.

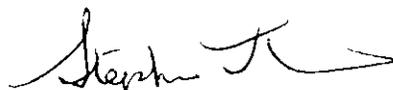
The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 19, 2008 at 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Lois Blackburn
Clerk of the Commission

Adopted this 19th day of November, 2008, at Hartford, Connecticut.



Stephen F. Cashman, Chairman
By Order of the Commission