



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

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**MINUTES**  
**STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**5<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room**  
**August 8, 2018**  
**3:30 P.M.**

**I. Call to Order**

Commissioner Castagno was present via teleconference and called the meeting to order at 3:35 P.M. Commissioner Bramante was present. Commissioners Ajello, Cascudo and Penny were also present via teleconference. Agency staff was also present.

**II. Executive Session per General Statutes §§ 1-200(6)(B) and (E), and 1-210(b)(1),(3),(4),(10) and General Statutes §9-7a, as amended by Public Act 11-48 §300 (Preliminary draft and agency consideration of enforcement action and exempt records relative thereto)**

It was moved by Commissioner Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Penny at 3:35 P.M. to proceed into Executive Session pursuant to General Statutes §§ 1-200(6)(B) and (E), and 1-210(b)(1),(3),(4),(10) to discuss strategy and negotiations with respect to pending claims and exempt records. So voted.

Commissioner Bramante was present. Commissioners Castagno, Cascudo and Penny Ajello were present via teleconference. Staff members present were Linda Waterman, Shannon Kief, Michael J. Brandi and Sheri-Lyn Lagueux.

The Commission returned to public session at 3:54 P.M.

The Commission took the following actions in public session:

1. Recommendation of Counsel: Discussion of Candidate Committee Validation Memoranda

No action taken.

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

#### ***A. New Applications***

1. "Elect Rick Hayes," Ricky Hayes

It was moved by Commissioner Penny and seconded by Commissioner Bramante to continue without prejudice the grant application for "Elect Rick Hayes," Ricky Hayes. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

2. "Matt Pugliese CT," Matthew Pugliese

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bramante to approve the grant application for "Matt Pugliese CT," Matthew Pugliese. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

3. "Osborne 2018," Melissa Osborne

It was moved by Commissioner Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo to approve the grant application for "Osborne 2018," Melissa Osborne. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

4. "Re-Elect Noreen Kokoruda," Noreen Kokoruda

It was moved by Commissioner Penny and seconded by Commissioner Ajello to approve the grant application for "Re-Elect Noreen Kokoruda," Noreen Kokoruda. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

5. "Arnone for Enfield," Thomas Arnone

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Penny to approve the grant application for "Arnone for Enfield," Thomas Arnone. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

6. "Leslee Hill for the 17<sup>th</sup> District," Leslee Hill

It was moved by Commissioner Penny and seconded by Commissioner Bramante to continue without prejudice the grant application for "Leslee Hill for the 17<sup>th</sup> District," Leslee Hill. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

7. "Monica for CT Senate," Monica Brill

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Penny to continue without prejudice the grant application for "Monica for CT Senate," Monica Brill. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

8. "Pearson for CT," Daniel Pearson

It was moved by Commissioner Penny and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo to continue without prejudice the grant application for "Pearson for CT," Daniel Pearson. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

9. "Kate 2018," Kate Donnelly

It was moved by Commissioner Cascudo and seconded by Commissioner Ajello to continue without prejudice the grant application for "Kate 2018," Kate Donnelly. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

10. "DeLucia 2018," Nick DeLucia

It was moved by Commissioner Penny and seconded by Commissioner Bramante to continue without prejudice the grant application for "DeLucia 2018," Nick DeLucia. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

11. "McGorty 2018," Ben McGorty

It was moved by Commissioner Cascudo and seconded by Commissioner Penny to continue without prejudice the grant application for "McGorty 2018," Ben McGorty. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

12. "O'Brien for New Milford," Thomas O'Brien

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Penny to continue without prejudice the grant application for "O'Brien for New Milford," Thomas O'Brien. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

13. "Sharon2018," Sharon Beloin-Saavedra

It was moved by Commissioner Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Penny to continue without prejudice the grant application for "Sharon2018," Sharon Beloin-Saavedra. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

14. "Tanski for 31<sup>st</sup>," Lillian Tanski

It was moved by Commissioner Cascudo and seconded by Commissioner Ajello to continue without prejudice the grant application for "Tanski for 31<sup>st</sup>," Lillian Tanski. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

15. "Tweedie for CT," Mark Tweedie

It was moved by Commissioner Penny and seconded by Commissioner Bramante to continue without prejudice the grant application for "Tweedie for CT," Mark Tweedie. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

16. “Witkos 2018,” Kevin Witkos

It was moved by Commissioner Cascudo and seconded by Commissioner Ajello to continue without prejudice the grant application for “Witkos 2018,” Kevin Witkos. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

***B. Continuation of prior applications awaiting additional information to qualify for a grant***

1. “Lopes for 24<sup>th</sup>,” Rick Lopes

No action taken.

2. “NKD18,” Nicole Klarides Ditria

No action taken

3. “Larry Groh Jr. for 51<sup>st</sup> District,” Larry Groh

It was moved by Commissioner Penny and seconded by Commissioner Ajello to approve the grant application for “Larry Groh Jr. for 51<sup>st</sup> District,” Larry Groh. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

Shannon Kief read the following motion into the record: The Commission pursuant to its authority in General Statutes § 9-7b initiates an investigation, based on facts discovered in the course of a staff validation of a Citizens' Election Program grant application, into potential campaign finance violations pertaining to contributions received by the " Larry Groh Jr. for 51st District " committee. The investigation will be docketed as: *In Re: Commission Initiated Investigation into Contributions Received by the “Larry Groh Jr. for 51st District” Committee.*

It was moved by Commissioner Penny and seconded by Commissioner Bramante to initiate the investigation for “Larry Groh Jr. for 51<sup>st</sup> District,” Larry Groh. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

4. “Team Eleni for CT,” Eleni Kavros DeGraw

No action taken.

5. “Elect Dauphinais,” Anne Dauphinais

No action taken.

6. "Statchen 2018," Robert Statchen  
No action taken.
7. "Will Haskell for CT," William Haskell  
No action taken.
8. "People for Mikutel 2018," Steven Mikutel  
It was moved by Commissioner Cascudo and seconded by Commissioner Ajello to approve the grant application for "People for Mikutel 2018," Steven Mikutel. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.
9. "Hall 2018," Joshua Hall  
No action taken.
10. "McLachlan 2018," Michael McLachlan  
No action taken.
11. "Lucy2018," Lucia "Lucy" Dathan  
No action taken.
12. "Simanski 2018," William Simanski  
No action taken.
13. "Kim Rose 2018," Kim Rose  
It was moved by Commissioner Cascudo and seconded by Commissioner Ajello to approve the grant application for "Kim Rose 2018," Kim Rose. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.
14. "Aimee4Ridgefield," Aimee Berger-Girvalo  
No action taken.
15. "Cassano 4 Senate," Stephen Cassano  
No action taken.

16. "D'Amelio for Senate," Marc D'Amelio  

It was moved by Commissioner Penny and seconded by Commissioner Ajello to approve the grant application for "D'Amelio for Senate," Marc D'Amelio. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.
17. "Beth Bye 2018," Beth Bye  

No action taken.
18. "Merrill 2018," Denise Merrill  

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Penny to approve the grant application for "Merrill 2018," Denise Merrill. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.
19. "Petit 4 CT," William Petit  

No action taken.
20. "Bosak for Senate," Gerald Bosak  

No action taken.
21. "Friends of Robin Comey," Robin Comey  

No action taken.
22. "Friends of Ross Tartell," Ross Tartell  

No action taken.
23. "Mitch for Newtown," Mitch Bolinsky  

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bramante to approve the grant application for "Mitch for Newtown," Mitch Bolinsky. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.
24. "Greenberg for State Senate," Adam Greenberg  

It was moved by Commissioner Penny and seconded by Commissioner Bramante to approve the grant application for "Greenberg for State Senate," Adam Greenberg. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.
25. "Larson for State Senate," Timothy Larson  

No action taken.

26. "Reelect Ryan," Kevin Ryan

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bramante to approve the grant application for "Reelect Ryan," Kevin Ryan. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

27. "Candelora for State Rep," Vincent Candelora

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bramante to approve the grant application for "Candelora for State Rep," Vincent Candelora. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

28. "Cummings for the 74<sup>th</sup>," Stephanie Cummings

No action taken.

29. "Len Suzio for Senate," Len Suzio

It was moved by Commissioner Penny and seconded by Commissioner Ajello to approve the grant application for "Len Suzio for Senate," Len Suzio. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

30. "Alex Larsson 2018," Alex Larsson

It was moved by Commissioner Penny and seconded by Commissioner Bramante to approve the grant application for "Alex Larsson 2018," Alex Larson. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

31. "Connie 2018," Connie Jagodzinski

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bramante to approve the grant application for "Connie 2018," Connie Jagodzinski. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

32. "Elect Wendy," Wendy Tyson-Wood

No action taken.

33. "Honig 2018," Paul Honig

It was moved by Commissioner Penny and seconded by Commissioner Ajello to approve the grant application for "Honig 2018," Paul Honig. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

34. "Hwang4Senate," Anthony Hwang

No action taken.

35. "Lawson 2018," David Lawson

No action taken.

36. "Re-Elect Piscopo 2018," John Piscopo

No action taken.

37. "Labriola 2018," David Labriola

It was moved by Commissioner Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo to approve the grant application for "Labriola 2018," David Labriola. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

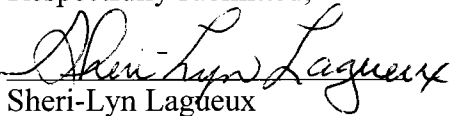
38. "Steve Baleshiski for House Representative," Steven Baleshiski

No action taken.

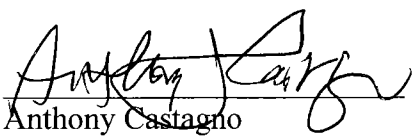
#### ***IV. Adjournment***

It was moved by Commissioner Penny and seconded by Commissioner Bramante at 4:17 P.M. to adjourn the meeting. So voted. Unless otherwise indicated, all votes of the Commission were unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Sheri-Lyn Lagteux  
Clerk of the Commission

Adopted this 15<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2018 at Hartford, Connecticut.

  
Anthony Castagno  
By Order of the Commission

***The next regular scheduled meeting is August 15, 2018 at 9:30 A.M. in the 5th Floor Conference room.***