



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

MINUTES OF THE
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
May 29, 2008

I. Call to Order

Chairman Cashman called the meeting to order at 9:05 A.M. Commissioners Jenkins, Gerratana and Bozzuto were present. Agency staff was also present.

II. Approval of the Minutes

Approval of the Minutes of the May 14, 2008 Regular Meeting

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Gerratana to approve the minutes of the May 14, 2008 regular meeting. So voted.

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

Ms. Rotman stated that this is a historic moment for this Commission. Years of hard work has gone into building the Citizens' Election Program. She thanked Management staff and the Legal and Audit Units for their hard work to help the campaigns comply with the new requirements to qualify for the public grants. Staff has worked very hard to ensure the campaigns have all the proper disclosure and documentation for compliance.

Ms. Kulmacz summarized the process and procedures the Audit Unit follows to verify each document in order to reach the point where the Commission staff can make a recommendation on an application for a public grant. Using technology, the documents are reviewed to verify and determine all the data is true and correct before a staff recommendation is given. Ms. Kulmacz referred to four summaries and accompanying recommendations concerning the applications for public grants that were being considered today.

Commissioner Cashman stated that the participants in the program and the taxpayers in the state can be assured that a lot of effort has gone into verifying the data before making a recommendation on the grant applications.

Ms. Rotman stated that there are four committees that have applied for public grants. Today the Commission is being asked to authorize the initial grants from the Citizens' Election Fund and to authorize future grants to those committees as warranted for those committees that meet the eligibility requirements. Additional grants can be issued if the status of their campaigns changes with the addition of an opponent or other circumstances.

1. Alfred C. Adinolfi, "ADINOLFI AGAIN" Candidate Committee
(Republican, Incumbent -103rd A.D.)
It was moved by Commissioner Bozzuto and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to approve the application for the Adinolfi for State Representative Campaign as corrected. So voted.

2. Robert D. Arute, "Bob Arute 2008" Candidate Committee
(Republican, Challenger -53rd A.D.)
Mr. Garfield congratulated Robert Arute for being the first challenger that has submitted an application to the Commission for approval.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Bozzuto to approve the grant application of the Arute 2008 Campaign. So voted.

3. Pamela Z. Sawyer, "Sawyer 2008" Candidate Committee
(Republican, Incumbent -55th A.D.)
It was moved by Commissioner Bozzuto and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to approve the application for the Sawyer 2008 Campaign. So voted.

4. Joe Crisco, "Crisco 2008" Candidate Committee
(Democrat, Incumbent -17th S.D.)
Ms. Rotman recommended that the application of the Crisco 2008 Campaign be continued without prejudice. She stated that there is still some work to be done before the application is ready for the Commission's approval.

It was moved by Commissioner Bozzuto and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to continue this application without prejudice. So voted.

IV. Pending Complaints and Investigations

A. Public Session

1. In the Matter of a Complaint by Willie D. Greene, New Haven
File No. 2007-276
Proposed Findings and Conclusions
Investigator: Atty. William B. Smith
Managing Attorney: Joan M. Andrews

Attorney Andrews summarized the above referenced complaint and the proposed Findings and Conclusions recommending that the matter be dismissed. She noted a correction in the proposed findings and recommended its adoption with those changes.

It was moved by Commissioner Bozzuto and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to adopt the proposed Findings and Conclusions in File No. 2007-276 as amended. 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.

2. In the Matter of a Complaint by Santa Mendoza, New London
File No. 2007-415
Proposed Consent Agreement and Order
Respondents: Gerald Grabarek
Investigator: Attorney Kevin Ahern
Managing Attorney: Joan M. Andrews

Attorney Andrews summarized the above referenced complaint and the proposed Consent Agreement and Order. She stated that Respondent Grabarek has signed the proposed agreement and paid the civil penalty of \$250. She recommended its adoption.

It was moved by Commissioner Bozzuto and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to adopt the proposed Consent Agreement and Order in File No. 2007-415. So voted. A copy of the Consent Agreement and Order is attached and incorporated herein as part of these minutes.

3. In the Matter of a Complaint by Mary Adams, New London
File No. 2008-002
Proposed Consent Agreement and Order
Respondents: Anthony Nolan
Investigator: Attorney Kevin Ahern
Managing Attorney: Joan M. Andrews

Attorney Andrews summarized the above referenced complaint and the proposed Consent Agreement and Order. She stated that Respondent Nolan has signed the proposed agreement and paid the civil penalty of \$100. She recommended its adoption.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Bozzuto to adopt the proposed Consent Agreement and Order in File No. 2008-002. So voted. A copy of the Consent Agreement and Order is attached and incorporated herein as part of these minutes.

4. In the Matter of a Complaint by James Cropsey, Litchfield
File No. 2008-047
Proposed Findings and Conclusions
Investigator: Attorney Shannon Bergquist
Managing Attorney: Joan M. Andrews

Attorney Andrews summarized the above referenced complaint and the proposed Findings and Conclusions recommending that the matter be dismissed. She recommended its adoption.

It was moved by Commissioner Bozzuto and seconded by Commissioner Gerratana to adopt the proposed Findings and Conclusions in File No. 2008-002 dismissing the matter for the reasons stated. So voted. 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 Gerratana at 9:25 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 5 through 8 on the agenda. So voted. Commissioners Cashman, Jenkins, Gerratana and Bozzuto were present. Staff members present were: Mr. Garfield, Mr. Lenge, Ms. Andrews, Mr. Smith, Mr. Crayton, Ms. Bergquist, Mr. Ahern, Mr. Oyola, Ms. Blackburn, Ms. Stratton, Ms. Rotman, Ms. Nicolescu, Ms. Kief, Ms. Sadowski, Mr. Foley, Mr. Talbert-Slagle, Ms. Zaccagnino, Mr. Cascudo, Ms. Kulmacz, Mr. Neumon, Ms. Montgomery and Ms. Leibenhaut.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Gerratana at 9:35 A.M. to return to public session. So voted.

Returning to Public Session, the Commission took the following action:

5. Referral by Secretary of the State: Re: Petition Fraud

File No. 2006-271

Investigators: Attorneys Marc W. Crayton & William B. Smith

Managing Attorney: Joan M. Andrews

Attorney Andrews explained that the above referenced matter was a referral by the Office of the Secretary of the State concerning a series of petitions submitted by John Imre seeking the office of United States Representative in the 4th District. The investigation has found significant evidence that all of the signatures were signed by the same hand, Mr. Imre's. She recommended that the Commission refer this matter to the Chief State's Attorney for criminal prosecution. Commissioner Cashman agreed that it appears that there is substantial evidence that this was petition fraud and this matter should be referred for criminal prosecution.

It was moved by Commissioner Gerratana and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to refer the above referenced matter to the Chief State's Attorney for criminal prosecution. So voted.

6. In the Matter of a Complaint by Ira Johnson, New Haven

File No. 2007-350

Investigator: Gilberto Oyola, Lead Legal Investigator

Managing Attorney: Joan M. Andrews

This matter was continued.

7. In the Matter of a Complaint by Thomas R. Dunn, Darien
File No. 2008-001
Investigator: Attorney Marc W. Crayton
Managing Attorney: Joan M. Andrews

This matter was continued.

8. In the Matter of a Complaint by Charles A. Jaskiewicz, Norwich
File No. 2008-048
Investigator: Attorney William B. Smith
Managing Attorney: Joan M. Andrews

This matter was continued.

IV. Administrative Reports

Mr. Garfield stated that several new staff members have been hired. Ms. Kief introduced Jennifer Montgomery and Lindsey Leibenhaut, two new Staff Attorneys hired for the Legal Compliance Unit. Ms. Nicolescu has developed, with the help of Ms. Zaccagnino, an Elections Public Policy Intern Program. Three legal interns will be working this summer to earn credit and help the agency. Chairman Cashman and the Commission welcomed them.

Mr. Garfield noted that there will be a press conference on Tuesday, June 3rd to celebrate the State Elections Enforcement Commission's Citizen's Election Program for the 2008 General Assembly Elections and to announce the initial recipients of the public campaign grants. Governor M. Jodi Rell will be the keynote speaker. Enactment and implementation of invitation were made of those who have helped, supported and been instrumental to the landmark legislation including statewide constitutional officers, legislative leaders and leaders of the GAE Committee. The Commissioners and participants of the CEP program are invited.

Ms. Rotman and Mr. Garfield said that the training sessions for the CEP program and the electronic campaign filing system continue. The trainings have been well attended and more sessions will be conducted.

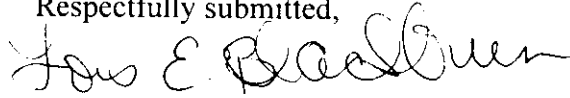
V. *Adjournment*

It was moved by Commissioner Gerratana and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins at 9:50 A.M. to adjourn the meeting. So voted.

Unless otherwise indicated, all votes of the Commission were unanimous.

The next meeting will be a Special Telephonic Meeting held on Wednesday, June 4, 2008 at 4:00 P.M., 5th Floor Conference Room.

Respectfully submitted,



Lois E. Blackburn
Clerk of the Commission

Adopted this 4th day of June, 2008, at Hartford, Connecticut.



Stephen F. Cashman, Chairman
By Order of the Commission