



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

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MINUTES  
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION  
REGULAR TELEPHONIC MEETING  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room  
July 1, 2020 3:30 P.M.

***I. Call to Order***

Commissioner Castagno was present via teleconference and called the meeting to order at 3:30 P.M. Commissioner Bramante was present. Commissioners Michael Ajello, Stephen Penny and Andrew Cascudo were present via Webex. Agency staff was also present.

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

*Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of June 17, 2020*

It was moved by Commissioner Penny and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo to approve the Minutes of June 17, 2020. So voted.

*Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of June 24, 2020*

It was moved by Commissioner Penny and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo to approve the Minutes of June 24, 2020. So voted.

***III. Administrative Reports***

No administrative reports provided.

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

***A. New Applications***

*1. "Christine Goupil 2020," Christine Goupil*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo to continue without prejudice the grant application for "*Christine Goupil 2020,*" *Christine Goupil.* So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

*2. "Gale Mastrofrancesco for State Rep," Gale Mastrofrancesco*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo to continue without prejudice the grant application for "*Gale Mastrofrancesco for State Rep,*" *Gale Mastrofrancesco.* So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

3. *“Laura Bush for the 56<sup>th</sup>,” Laura Bush*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo to approve the grant application for *“Laura Bush for the 56<sup>th</sup>,” Laura Bush*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

4. *“Laura Devlin for State Representative,” Laura Devlin*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo to approve the grant application for *“Laura Devlin for State Representative,” Laura Devlin*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

5. *“Scanlon 2020,” Sean Scanlon*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo to approve the grant application for *“Scanlon 2020,” Sean Scanlon*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

6. *“Green for the 55<sup>th</sup>,” Robin Green*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo to approve the grant application for *“Green for the 55<sup>th</sup>,” Robin Green*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

7. *“Shaun2020,” Shaun Mastroianni*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo to approve the grant application for *“Shaun2020,” Shaun Mastroianni*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

8. *“Danielle DW Wong 2020,” Danielle Wong*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo to approve the grant application for *“Danielle DW Wong 2020,” Danielle Wong*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

9. *“Formica for Senate,” Paul Formica*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo to approve the grant application for *“Formica for Senate,” Paul Formica*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

10. *"Hampton 2020," John Hampton*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo to approve the grant application for *"Hampton 2020," John Hampton*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

11. *"JustinforCT," Justin Farmer*

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

12. *"Calnen for the 59<sup>th</sup>," Gerald Calnen*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo to approve the grant application for *"Calnen for the 59<sup>th</sup>," Gerald Calnen*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

13. *"Harrison for the 69<sup>th</sup>," Cindy Harrison*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo to approve the grant application for *"Harrison for the 69<sup>th</sup>," Cindy Harrison*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

14. *"Henry for State Rep," Henry Vasel*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo to continue without prejudice the grant application for *"Henry for State Rep," Henry Vasel*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

15. *"Jennifer Leeper 2020," Jennifer Leeper*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo to continue without prejudice the grant application for *"Jennifer Leeper 2020," Jennifer Leeper*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

16. *"Manny 2020," Emanuel "Manny" Sanchez*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo to continue without prejudice the grant application for *"Manny 2020," Emanuel "Manny" Sanchez*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

17. *"McGorty 2020," Ben McGorty*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo to approve the grant application for *"McGorty 2020," Ben McGorty*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

18. *“Re-elect Moore 4 Senate 2020, Marilyn Moore*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo to approve the grant application for *“Re-elect Moore 4 Senate 2020, Marilyn Moore.* So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

19. *“Rubino 2020,” David Rubino*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo to approve the grant application for *“Rubino 2020,” David Rubino.* So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

**B. *Continuation of Prior Applications Awaiting Additional Information to Qualify for a Grant***

1. *“Cabrera for SD 17,” Jorge Cabrera*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo to approve the grant application for *“Cabrera for SD 17,” Jorge Cabrera.* So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

2. *“Sampson for CT,” Rob Sampson*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo to approve the grant application for *“Sampson for CT,” Rob Sampson.* So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

3. *“April for CT Senate,” April Capone*

4. *“Rojas 2020,” Jason Rojas*

5. *“Baird for 38,” Baird Welch-Collins*

6. *“GB for Senate,” Gennaro Bizarro*

7. *“Hoyt for Hamden 2020,” Kathy Hoyt*

8. *“Re Elect Phil Young,” Phillip Young*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo to approve the grant application for *“Re Elect Phil Young,” Phillip Young.* So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

**V. *Pending Complaints and Investigations***

**A. *Public Session***

1. In the Matter of a Referral by the Secretary of the State  
File No. 2019-016

Proposed Consent Order & Agreement

Respondents:

Linda Grzeika and

Dorothy Mrowka

Ryan M. Burns

Attorney:

Legal Investigator:

Attorney Ryan M. Burns summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2019-016. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement.

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo to adopt the Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2019-016. So voted by a vote 5-0-0. The Consent Order & Agreement will be available on our website under Commission Decisions.

**VI. *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 Cascudo and seconded by Commissioner Ajello at 3:47 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, Penny, Ajello and Cascudo were present via teleconference. Staff members present were Michael Brandi, Scott Branfuhr, James Augustyn, Ryan Burns, William Smith, James Talbert-Slagle, and Subrina Persaud.

The Commission took the following action when returning to Public Session:

1. Recommendation of Counsel: Necessary to Investigate Determination pursuant to General Statutes §9-7a, as amended by Public Act 11-48 §300

Attorney Smith summarized the Recommendation of Counsel dated August 1, 2020 and requested that two (2) matters be moved to investigate.

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo to make a determination that it is necessary to investigate violations relating to two (2) complaints File No.: 2020-030 and 2020-040. So approved by the Commission, 5-0-0. So voted.

2. In re. SEEC Initiated: *Audit of Arce 2016 – Audit Findings*  
Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney:

William B. Smith

Attorney James Talbert-Slagle summarized the above referenced audit finding  
He recommended adoption of the final audit.

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Penny.  
Commissioner Cascudo Abstains. 4-0-1.

3. In re. SEEC Initiated: *Saavedra 2016 – Audit Findings*  
Recommendation of Counsel

Staff Attorney:

James Talbert-Slagle

Attorney James Talbert-Slagle summarized the above referenced audit finding  
He recommended adoption of the final audit.

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Penny.  
Commissioner Cascudo Abstains. 4-0-1.

4. In re. SEEC Initiated: *Re Elect Art Linares – Audit Findings*  
Recommendation of Counsel

Staff Attorney:

James Talbert-Slagle

Attorney James Talbert-Slagle summarized the above referenced audit finding  
He recommended adoption of the final audit.

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Penny.  
Commissioner Cascudo Abstains. 4-0-1.

5. *In re. Commission Initiated – Zupkus 2018 – Audit Findings*  
SEEC File No. 2020-005A

Proposed Consent Order

Staff Attorney:

James Talbert-Slagle

Legal Investigator:

Stephanie Fish

Attorney James Talbert-Slagle summarized the above referenced complaint and  
Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2020-005A. He recommended  
adoption of the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement.

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo  
to adopt the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2020-005A. So  
voted by a vote 5-0-0. The Consent Order & Agreement will be available on our  
website under Commission Decisions.

6. *In re*. Commission Initiated – *Zupkus 2018* – Audit Findings,

SEEC File No. 2020-005B

Proposed Consent Order

Staff Attorney:

James Talbert-Slagle

Legal Investigator:

Stephanie Fish

Attorney James Talbert-Slagle summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2020-005B. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement.

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo to adopt the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2020-005B. So voted by a vote 5-0-0. The Consent Order & Agreement will be available on our website under Commission Decisions.

7. In the Matter of a Complaint by Craig Fishbein

File No. 2020-036

Recommendation of Counsel

Staff Attorney:

James Talbert-Slagle

Legal Investigator:

Scott Branfuhr

Attorney James Talbert-Slagle summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2020-036. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Findings & Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo to adopt the Proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2020-036. So voted by a vote 5-0-0. The Proposed Findings & Conclusions will be available on our website under Commission Decisions.

8. In the Matter of a Complaint by Katherine Camara, Okaville

File No. 2019-155

Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney:

Kevin M. Ahern

Legal Investigator:

Stephanie Fish

Attorney Kevin M. Ahern summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2019-155. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Findings & Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo to adopt the Proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2019-155. So voted by a vote 5-0-0. The Proposed Findings & Conclusions will be available on our website under Commission Decisions.

***VII. Consideration of Matters Discussed in Executive Session***

**VIII. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:12 PM. Unless otherwise notes, all votes of the commission were unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Sheri-Lyn Lagoux  
Clerk of the Commission

Adopted this 15<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2020 at Hartford, Connecticut.

  
Salvatore Bramante, ViceChair  
By Order of the Commission

***The next regular scheduled meeting is July 9, 2020 at 3:30 P.M. in the 5th Floor Conference room.***