



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

MINUTES
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION
REGULAR TELEPHONIC MEETING
Via Webex
August 17, 2022
9:30 A.M.

I. Call to Order

Commissioner Penny was present via Webex and called the meeting to order at 9:32 A.M. Commissioners Michael Ajello, Shannon Bergquist, and Greg Piecuch were present via Webex. Agency staff was also present and present via Webex.

II. Approval of the Minutes

1. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of August 03, 2022

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to approve the Minutes of the Meeting of August 03, 2022. So voted by a vote of 3-0-1.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of August 10, 2022

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to approve the Minutes of the Meeting of August 10, 2022. So voted by a vote of 3-0-1.

III. Administrative Reports

Executive Director and General Counsel Michael Brandi provided several brief updates. Budget development for the upcoming biennium is underway as reports to OPM are due in September. We have a number of upgrades, especially with respect to the agency's information technology infrastructure that are on track to be completed after the November general election.

As of today, the commission has approved 177 grants, with an additional 45 applications under review; total is 222. The agency expects to see an influx of grant applications as we get closer to the August 29th deadline prior to the Grant Reduction Schedule going into effect. Director Brandi acknowledged the yeoman's work being done by the agency's Compliance and Audit units as grants are coming in. He also welcomed back Catherine Santiago and Krysta Palozie who are returning from maternity leave.

IV. 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)

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

Executive session was not convened.

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

A. New Applications

1. *"Ed Lopez Committee," Ed Lopez*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to approve the grant application for *"Ed Lopez Committee," Ed Lopez*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

2. *"Kelly for Senate," Kevin Kelly*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to continue without prejudice the grant application for *"Kelly for Senate," Kevin Kelly*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

3. *"parkin4milford2022," Jeffrey Parkin*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to continue without prejudice the grant application for *"parkin4milford2022," Jeffrey Parkin*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

4. *"Ashley Gillece For the 43rd," Ashley Gillece*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to continue without prejudice the grant application for *"Ashley Gillece For the 43rd," Ashley Gillece*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

5. *“Committee to Re-Elect Senator John A. Kissel,” John Kissel*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to continue without prejudice the grant application for *“Committee to Re-Elect Senator John A. Kissel,” John Kissel*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

6. *“Kerry Lentz 2022,” Kerry Lentz*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to continue without prejudice the grant application for *“Kerry Lentz 2022,” Kerry Lentz*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

7. *“Mary Ann Hansen for State Representative,” Mary Ann Hansen*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to continue without prejudice the grant application for *“Mary Ann Hansen for State Representative,” Mary Ann Hansen*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

8. *“Mary for Bristol,” Mary Fortier*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to approve the grant application for *“Mary for Bristol,” Mary Fortier*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

9. *“Shuart for State Rep 2022,” Joshua Shuart*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to approve the grant application for *“Shuart for State Rep 2022,” Joshua Shuart*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

10. *“Cabrera for SD17,” Jorge Cabrera*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to continue without prejudice the grant application for *“Cabrera for SD17,” Jorge Cabrera*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

11. *"Veach 2022," Donna Veach*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to continue without prejudice the grant application for *"Veach 2022," Donna Veach*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

12. *"Doug For CT," Doug Dubitsky*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to continue without prejudice the grant application for *"Doug For CT," Doug Dubitsky*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

13. *"Citizens for Mushinsky," Mary Mushinsky*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to continue without prejudice the grant application for *"Citizens for Mushinsky," Mary Mushinsky*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

14. *"Denise McNair for 2022," Denise McNair*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to approve the grant application for *"Denise McNair for 2022," Denise McNair*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

15. *'Farouk Rajab 2022," Farouk Rajab*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to continue without prejudice the grant application for *'Farouk Rajab 2022," Farouk Rajab*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

16. *"Geoff 2022," Geoffrey Luxenberg*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to approve the grant application for *"Geoff 2022," Geoffrey Luxenberg*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

17. *"Mike Pace for State Rep," Michael Pace*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to approve the grant application for *"Mike Pace for State Rep," Michael Pace*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

18. *"Nolan4nl," Anthony Nolan*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to approve the grant application for *"Nolan4nl," Anthony Nolan*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

19. *"Friends of Dave Nowakowski," David Nowakowski*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to continue without prejudice the grant application for *"Friends of Dave Nowakowski," David Nowakowski*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

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

1. *"RiversForCT48," Christopher Rivers*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to approve the grant application for *"RiversForCT48," Christopher Rivers*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

2. *"Kathy Kennedy for the 119th," Kathy Kennedy*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to approve the grant application for *"Kathy Kennedy for the 119th," Kathy Kennedy*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

3. *"Anastasia Yopp for State Representative," Anastasia Yopp*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to approve the grant application for *"Anastasia Yopp for State Representative," Anastasia Yopp*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

4. *“Aniskovich for State Rep,” Christopher Aniskovich*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to approve the grant application for *“Aniskovich for State Rep,” Christopher Aniskovich*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

5. *“Re-Elect Phil Young 2022,” Phil Young*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to approve the grant application for *“Re-Elect Phil Young 2022,” Phil Young*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

VI. Pending Complaints and Investigations

A. Public Session

1. In the Matter of a Complaint by Ryan Condon, Monroe
File No. 2021-125

Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney:

James M. Talbert-Slagle

Legal Investigator:

Stephanie Fish

Attorney James M. Talbert-Slagle summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Consent Order and Agreement in File No. 2021-125. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Findings and Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to adopt the Consent Order and Agreement in File No. 2021-125. So voted by a vote of 3-0-1.

VII. 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 Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist at 10:13 A.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 by a vote of 4-0-0.

Commissioners Penny, Ajello, Bergquist, and Piecuch were present via Webex. Staff members present via Webex were: Michael J. Brandi, Salman Munir, Sheri-Lyn Lagueux, Shannon Clark Kief, Linda Waterman, Geetha Natarajan, William

Smith, James Talbert-Slagle, Alyssa Torres, Joshua Foley, Scott Branfuhr, Ronald Perry, Renata Ryzewski, Paul Brady, and Stephen Palmer.

The Commission returned to public session at 10:32 A.M.

Returning to public session, the Commission took the following action:

1. In the Matter of a Complaint by Arthur J Penna, Patricia Bollettieri,
West Haven
File No. 2021-149
Recommendation of Counsel
Attorney: William B. Smith
Legal Investigator: Ronald Perry

This matter was marked off.

2. *In re. Commission Initiated: Gannon for 3*
File No. 2021-215
Recommendation of Counsel
Attorney: James M. Talbert-Slagle
Legal Investigator: Ronald Perry

This matter was continued.

VIII. Consideration of Matters Discussed in Executive Session

IX. Adjournment

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist at 10:32 A.M. to adjourn the meeting. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0. Unless otherwise noted, all votes of the Commission are unanimous.

Respectfully submitted by,



Sheri-Lyn Lagueux
Clerk of the State Elections Enforcement Commission

September 7, 2022

Date approved
(By the State Elections Enforcement Commission)

The next regular scheduled meeting is August 24, 2022 at 3:30 P.M. via Webex.