



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

MINUTES
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION
REGULAR TELEPHONIC MEETING

Via Webex
September 8, 2022
3:30 P.M.

I. Call to Order

Commissioner Penny was present via Webex and called the meeting to order at 3:37 P.M. Commissioners Michael Ajello, Shannon Berquist and Andrew Cascudo were present via Webex. Agency staff was also present and present via Webex.

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 Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo at 3:37 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 by a vote of 5-0-0.

Commissioners Stephen Penny, Michael Ajello, Shannon Bergquist and Andrew Cascudo were present via Webex. Staff members present via Webex were Michael J. Brandi, William B. Smith, Joshua Foley, Paul Brady, Lisa Drew, Salman Munir, Shannon Kief, Stephen Palmer and Sheri-Lyn Lagueux.

The Commission returned to public session at 3:41 P.M.

Returning to public session the Commission took the following action:

Commissioner Penny added to the agenda in section. #2 "*Dyer for House,*" *Matt Dyer.*

1. In the Matter of a Complaint by John F. Malsbenden, Colchester
File No. 2021-178

Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney:

Legal Investigator

James Talbert-Slagle

Ronald Perry

Attorney William B. Smith summarized the above referenced complaint in File No. 2021-178. He recommended the authorization of the issuance of a Subpoena Duces Tecum.

“Pursuant to General Statutes § 9-7b and § 9-7b-28 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, a motion to authorize investigatory subpoena duces tecum to Ihor Rudko. The subpoena would seek testimony from Rudko as well as documentation related to the following items: All bank records, online payment receipts, contribution documentation, cancelled checks, statements, and other materials related to services provided related to expenditures made by Connecticut Conservative Foundation PAC from January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021.”

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to authorize the issuance of a Subpoena Duces Tecum in File No. 2021-178. So voted by a vote of 3-0-2 with Commissioners Bergquist and Picuch abstaining.

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

No action was taken.

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

A. New Applications

1. *“Butler 2022,” Larry Butler*

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

2. *“Jack Fazzino for CT,” Jonathan Fazzino*

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

3. *“Vargas 2022,” Edwin Vargas*

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

4. *“Christine Maine for 51st,” Christine Maine*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to approve the grant application for *“Christine Maine for 51st,” Christine Maine*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

5. *“Cooley for Connecticut,” Francis Cooley*

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

6. *“Edwards for CT 24,” Paul Edwards*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to approve the grant application for *“Edwards for CT 24,” Paul Edwards*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

7. *“Elect Jesy Fernandez 109,” Jesy Fernandez*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to continue without prejudice the grant application for *“Elect Jesy Fernandez 109,” Jesy Fernandez*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

8. *“Fonfara 2022,” John Fonfara*

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

9. *“JessicaDemmoForCT,” Jessica Demmo*

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

10. *“Josh for State Representative,” Josh Elliott*

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

11. *“McCrory for Senate,” Douglas McCrory*

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

12. *“Rocky for CT 19,” Pietro Camardella*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to continue without prejudice the grant application for *“Rocky for CT 19,” Pietro Camardella*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

13. *"Vollano for Senate 2022," Joseph Vollano*

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

14. *"Vote Vail," Kurt Vail*

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

15. *"Acri2022," Anthony Acri*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to continue without prejudice the grant application for *"Acri2022," Anthony Acri*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

16. *"Alex in 22," Alexander Burns*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to continue without prejudice the grant application for *"Alex in 22," Alexander Burns*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

17. *"Alexandra Thomas for State Rep.," Alexandra Thomas*

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

18. *"Brian 45," Brian Lanoue*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to approve the grant application for *"Brian 45," Brian Lanoue*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

19. *"Burnes for 121," Gregory Burnes*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to approve the grant application for *"Burnes for 121," Gregory Burnes*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

20. *"Chafee 2022," Brandon Chafee*

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

21. *"Currey 2022," Jeff Currey*

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

22. *"Dafoe4District52," Gregg Dafoe*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to approve the grant application for *"Dafoe4District52," Gregg Dafoe*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

23. *"Elect Brandon Goff 2022," Brandon Goff*

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

24. *"Elect Cynthia Mangini," Cynthia Mangini*

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

25. *"Elect Mae Flexer," Mae Flexer*

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

26. *"Felipe 2022," Antonio Felipe*

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

27. *"Friends of Quinn," Michael Quinn*

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

28. *“Gary 2022,” Gary Winfield*

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

Commissioner Piecuch joined the meeting at 4:00 PM

29. *“Genga 2022,” Henry Genga*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to continue without prejudice the grant application for *“Genga 2022,” Henry Genga*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

30. *“Greg Hahn for State Senate,” Gregory Hahn*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to continue without prejudice the grant application for *“Greg Hahn for State Senate,” Gregory Hahn*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

31. *“Lemar 2022,” Roland Lemar*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to approve the grant application for *“Lemar 2022,” Roland Lemar*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

32. *“Lopes 2022,” Rick Lopes*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to continue without prejudice the grant application for *“Lopes 2022,” Rick Lopes*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

33. *“Manny 2022,” Manny Sanchez*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to continue without prejudice the grant application for *“Manny 2022,” Manny Sanchez*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

34. *“Mark Adams for CT,” Mark Adams*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to continue without prejudice the grant application for *“Mark Adams for CT,” Mark Adams*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

35. *"Matt Lesser for the 9th State Senate," Matt Lesser*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to continue without prejudice the grant application for *"Matt Lesser for the 9th State Senate," Matt Lesser*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

36. *"McCarty for State Rep 2022," Kathleen McCarty*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to approve the grant application for *"McCarty for State Rep 2022," Kathleen McCarty*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

37. *"McGorty 2022," Ben McGorty*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to approve the grant application for *"McGorty 2022," Ben McGorty*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

38. *"Orosco22," Steven Orosco*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to continue without prejudice the grant application for *"Orosco22," Steven Orosco*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

39. *"Perillo 2022," Jason Perillo*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to approve the grant application for *"Perillo 2022," Jason Perillo*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

40. *"Robertson for State Senate," Christopher Robertson*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to continue without prejudice the grant application for *"Robertson for State Senate," Christopher Robertson*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

41. *"Rosario 22," Christopher Rosario*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to continue without prejudice the grant application for *"Rosario 22," Christopher Rosario*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

42. *"Sanchez 2022," Bobby Sanchez*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to continue without prejudice the grant application for *"Rosario 22," Christopher Rosario*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

43. *“Steinberg for State Rep,” Jonathan Steinberg*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to continue without prejudice the grant application for *“Steinberg for State Rep,” Jonathan Steinberg*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

44. *“Susanne Witkowski for State Senate District 29,” Susanne Witkowski*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to continue without prejudice the grant application for *“Susanne Witkowski for State Senate District 29,” Susanne Witkowski*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

45. *“Tercyak 2022,” Peter Tercyak*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to continue without prejudice the grant application for *“Tercyak 2022,” Peter Tercyak*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

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

1. *“Abigail for the 73rd 2022,” Abigail Pizarro*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to approve the grant application for *“Abigail for the 73rd 2022,” Abigail Pizarro*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

2. *“Dyer for House,” Matt Dyer*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to approve the grant application for *“Dyer for House,” Matt Dyer*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

IV. Consideration of Matters Discussed in Executive Session

V. *Adjournment*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist at 4:14 P.M. to adjourn the meeting. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0. Unless otherwise noted, all votes of the Commission are unanimous.

Respectfully submitted by,



Sheri-Lyn Lagueux
Clerk of the State Elections Enforcement Commission

September 21, 2022

Date approved

(By the State Elections Enforcement Commission)

The next regular scheduled meeting is September 14, 2022 at 3:30 P.M. via Webex.