



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

---

MINUTES  
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
June 10, 2026  
3:30 PM

***I. Call to Order***

Commissioner Penny was present via Teams and called the meeting to order at 3:33 P.M. Commissioners Michael Ajello, Sonia Worrell Asare and Shannon Bergquist were present via Teams. Agency staff were also present and present via Teams.

***II. Executive Session per General Statutes §§ 1-200(6)(B),(E), and 1-210(b)(1), (3),(4),(10) and General Statutes §9-7a  
(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 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 by a vote of 4-0-0.

Commissioners Penny, Ajello, Asare and Bergquist were present via Teams. Staff members present via Teams were: Executive Director and General Counsel Ryan Burns, Senior Counsel, Joshua Foley, Legal Program Director Shannon Clark Kief, Director of Campaign Disclosure & Audit Salman Munir, Staff Attorneys Maryam Bitar, Aaron Charney, Patricia Mwilwa, Elections Officer Kaitlin Flynn, Information Technology Manager Irene Jeremic and Commission Clerks Stephen Palmer and Sheri-Lyn Lagueux.

***III. Consideration of Matters Discussed in the above Executive Session***

At 3:39 P.M., the Commissioners came out of Executive Session and noted that no matters were decided and no vote was taken during Executive Session. The Commissioners then considered the following matters discussed in Executive Session.

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

No action was taken.

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

**A. New Applications**

1. *"Defending Connecticut Values," Ellen Paul*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to approve the grant application for *"Defending Connecticut Values," Ellen Paul*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

2. *"Eric Berthel for Senate," Eric Berthel*

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

Commissioner Penny made the following motion: to initiate an investigation pursuant to General Statutes § 9-7b (a) into possible violations regarding, but not limited to, General Statutes § 9-622 (7) and (10), and the requirements of Chapter 157, General Statutes surrounding the conflicting information contained in the contributor certification information submitted on behalf of "Eric Berthel for Senate" in its grant application to participate in the Citizens' Election Program.

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to initiate an investigation into *"Eric Berthel for Senate," Eric Berthel*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

3. *"Pemberton 2026," Larry Pemberton*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to approve the grant application for *"Pemberton 2026," Larry Pemberton*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

4. *"Polletta for Rep," Joe Polletta*

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

5. *“Ayana for State Senate 2026,” Ayana Taylor*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to continue without prejudice the grant application for *“Ayana for State Senate 2026,” Ayana Taylor*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

6. *“Gresko 2026,” Joe Gresko*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to approve the grant application for *“Gresko 2026,” Joe Gresko*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

7. *“Jason Guidone for Senate,” Jason Guidone*

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

8. *“Mastrofrancesco for CT,” Gale Mastrofrancesco*

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

9. *“Reddington-Hughes for 66<sup>th</sup>,” Karen Reddington-Hughes*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to approve the grant application for *“Reddington-Hughes for 66<sup>th</sup>,” Karen Reddington-Hughes*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

10. *“Reyes 2026,” Geraldo Reyes*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to approve the grant application for *“Reyes 2026,” Geraldo Reyes*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

11. *“Rosario 2026,” Christopher Rosario*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to approve the grant application for *“Rosario 2026,” Christopher Rosario*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

12. *"SHAKE 2026," Kaitlyn Shake*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to approve the grant application for *"SHAKE 2026," Kaitlyn Shake*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

13. *"Stafstrom 2026," Steven Stafstrom*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to approve the grant application for *"Stafstrom 2026," Steven Stafstrom*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

14. *"Anne for State Rep," Anne Weisberg*

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

15. *"CASE2026," Jay Case*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to approve the grant application for *"CASE2026," Jay Case*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

16. *"Doc Foley for State Rep.," John Foley*

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

17. *"Elect Cheryl 79," Cheryl Thibeault*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to approve the grant application for *"Elect Cheryl 79," Cheryl Thibeault*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

18. *"Joe for CT," Joseph de la Cruz*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to approve the grant application for *"Joe for CT," Joseph de la Cruz*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

19. *“Kim Becker for CT,” Kimberly Becker*

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

20. *“Lombardi 2026,” Antonia Lombardi*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to approve the grant application for *“Lombardi 2026,” Antonia Lombardi*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

Commissioner Penny made the following motion: to initiate an investigation pursuant to General Statutes § 9-7b (a) into possible violations regarding, but not limited to, General Statutes § 9-622 (7) and (10), and the requirements of Chapter 157, General Statutes surrounding the conflicting information contained in the credit card ledgers that serve as contributor certification cards submitted on behalf of *“Lombardi 2026”* in its grant application to participate in the Citizens’ Election Program.

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to initiate an investigation into *““Lombardi 2026,” Antonia Lombardi*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

21. *“Nuccio For CT,” Tammy Nuccio*

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

22. *“PC 108,” Patrick Callahan*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to continue without prejudice the grant application for *“PC 108,” Patrick Callahan*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

23. *“Jack Fazzino For CT,” Jack Fazzino*

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

24. *“Elect Tina Courpas 2026,” Tina Courpas*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to approve the grant application for *“Elect Tina Courpas 2026,” Tina Courpas*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

25. *“Friends of Robin Comey,” Robin Comey*

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

26. *“MZ 2026,” Melissa Ziobron*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to approve the grant application for *“MZ 2026,” Melissa Ziobron*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

27. *“Re-Elect Pizzuto 26,” William Pizzuto*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to approve the grant application for *“Re-Elect Pizzuto 26,” William Pizzuto*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

28. *“BUBBA 2026,” Jamie Vaughn*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to approve the grant application for *“BUBBA 2026,” Jamie Vaughn*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

29. *“Collins 2026,” Raymond Collins*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to approve the grant application for *“Collins 2026,” Raymond Collins*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

30. *“Nick Gauthier for CT’26,” Nick Gauthier*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to approve the grant application for *“Nick Gauthier for CT’26,” Nick Gauthier*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

31. *"Friends of Pat Dillon," Patricia Dillon*

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

32. *"Angie for East Hartford," Angie Parkinson*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to approve the grant application for *"Angie for East Hartford," Angie Parkinson*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

33. *"Barbara for Connecticut," Barbara Labriola*

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

34. *"Somers for Senate," Heather Somers*

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

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

No action was taken.

*V. Adjournment*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist at 4:17 P.M. to adjourn the meeting. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

Respectfully submitted by,



Sheri-Lyn Lagueux

Clerk of the State Elections Enforcement Commission

**June 17, 2026**

Date approved

(By the State Elections Enforcement Commission)