

NEW JERSEY ELECTION LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

MINUTES - November 4, 1977 Meeting

PRESENT

Frank P. Reiche, Chairman
Sidney Goldmann, Vice-Chairman
Josephine S. Margetts, Member
Archibald S. Alexander, Member
Lewis B. Thurston, III, Executive Director
Edward J. Farrell, Legal Counsel
Herbert Alexander, Consultant
Neil Upmeyer, Director of Public Financing

Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Law, P. L. 1975, c.231, annual notice of the meetings of the Commission, as amended, was filed with the Secretary of State's office, copies were posted in the State House Annex, copies were mailed to the Newark Star Ledger and the Philadelphia Bulletin and the entire State House Press Corps.

The meeting convened at 10:15 a.m.

1. Certification of Public Matching Funds to Gubernatorial Candidates Bateman and Byrne

The Commission reviewed the staff's summary and recommendations from the latest submission. The Commission rejected several contributions because they felt additional information was necessary. On a motion by Vice-Chairman Goldmann, seconded by Chairman Reiche, the Commission certified \$18,660 in public matching funds to Senator Bateman, subject to full compliance with the Commission-ordered adjustments for shared expense items with the Republican State Committee. The vote was 4-0. On a motion by Vice-Chairman Goldmann, seconded by Commissioner Margetts, the Commission certified \$45,888 in public matching funds to Governor Byrne subject to full compliance with the Commission-ordered adjustments for certain shared expenses with the Democratic State Committee. The vote was 4-0. Commissioner Alexander indicated that he would have preferred that an additional \$1200 in public funds be certified for Governor Byrne for two contributions that were temporarily rejected. The Commission agreed that all resubmissions of contributions by the gubernatorial candidates should be received by the Commission by December 31, 1977.

2. Investigative Matters

Pursuant to C.10:4-12 of the Open Public Meetings Act, the Commission went into executive session to discuss current investigative matters on a motion by Vice-Chairman Goldmann, seconded by Commissioner Alexander, and by a vote of 4-0. After a very extensive discussion, the Commission returned to public session.

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3. Bateman Television Allocation

On a motion by Chairman Reiche, seconded by Commissioner Margetts, the Commission voted 4-0 that the allocation of certain expenditures for television advertising to the Bateman-Governor/77 Campaign was unreasonable and that a proper allocation would be %, resulting in approximately \$5,000 additional expenditures charged against the Bateman Campaign. The Bateman Campaign was ordered to pay this amount to the Republican State Committee by the close of business on Monday, November 7, 1977.

4. Allocation for Republican Publication "N. J. Blues"

On a motion by Chairman Reiche, seconded by Commissioner Margetts, the Commission found that the allocation for the publication "N. J. Blues" by the Republican State Committee (Republican Legislative Campaign Committee) to the Bateman Campaign was unreasonable and that a proper allocation would be 80% of the cost to the Bateman Campaign. The vote was 3-1 with Commissioner Alexander in the negative because he believed that a higher allocation to the Bateman Campaign was more appropriate. The motion included an order to the Bateman-Governor/77 Campaign to pay the difference necessary by the close of business on Monday, November 7, 1977.

5. Litigation

Pursuant to C:10:4-12 of the Open Public Meetings Act, the Commission went into executive session to discuss a matter of litigation. At the conclusion of the discussion, the Commission returned to public session.

6. Adjournment - The Commission adjourned the meeting at 4:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

LEWIS B. THURSTON, III
Executive Director