

NEW JERSEY ELECTION LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES

April 19, 1978 Meeting

PRESENT

Frank P. Reiche, Chairman
Sidney Goldmann, Vice-Chairman

*Archibald S. Alexander, Member
Josephine S. Margetts, Member
Lewis B. Thurston, III, Executive Director
Gregory E. Nagy, Staff Counsel
**Neil Upmeyer, Director of Public Financing

*Commissioner Alexander attended from 11:40 a.m. until conclusion of the meeting.

**Mr. Upmeyer attended for the discussion of election law revision only.

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. Reports by Executive Director

Executive director reported that the Legislative Joint Appropriations Committee had passed a resolution increasing the Commission's budget by \$40,000 as had been requested by the Commission. Mr. Thurston indicated that the Commission staff will conduct 4 public information sessions for candidates, campaign treasurers and others involved in campaigns for the 1978 primary elections at various locations around the State from May 1 through 4. The executive director also indicated that the microfilming of Commission records project had begun and indicated that he was optimistic that the program would be a very successful one.

2. Litigation

Pursuant to C.10:4-12 of the Open Public Meetings Act, the Commission went into executive session on a motion by Chairman Reiche, seconded by Vice-Chairman Goldmann and voted 3-0, with Commissioner Alexander absent, to discuss matters relating to current litigation in the case of New Jersey Chamber of Commerce et al vs. E.L.E.C. et al. At the conclusion of the discussion, the Commission remained in executive session to discuss the next 2 items on the agenda.

3. Approval of Minutes of Executive Session of April 12, 1978
Commission Meeting

On a motion by Chairman Reiche, seconded by Vice-Chairman Goldmann and a vote of 2-0 with Commissioner Alexander absent and Commissioner Margetts abstaining because she was not present at the April 12 meeting, the Commission approved the Minutes of the executive session of that meeting.

4. 1976 General Election Late Filing Cases

The Commission discussed the determination of 48 such cases as listed on the sheets attached to these minutes. At the conclusion of the discussion, the Commission returned to public session. On a motion by Vice-Chairman Goldmann, seconded by Commissioner Margetts, the Commission agreed on the determinations listed in each of the c-ses in which Commissioner Alexander participated and shown on the sheets attached by the vote indicated. The vote on the motion was 4-0. On a motion by Vice-Chairman Goldmann, seconded by Commissioner Margetts, the Commission agreed on the determinations listed on the attached sheets by the votes shown for each in all other cases in which Commissioner Alexander was absent. The vote was 3-0 with Commissioner Alexander abstaining because he was absent.

5. Minutes of April 12, 1978 Commission Meeting, Public Session

The Commission discussed the draft of the Commission minutes and agreed to redraft paragraph number 1 regarding public financing policy questions to add additional information. The minutes were held for approval at the next Commission meeting.

6. Proposed Provision of Title 19 (New Jersey Election Code)

The Commission discussed at length the proposed revision of Title 19 as embodied in Assembly Bill 744 of 1978. The Commission reviewed a policy memorandum it had prepared relative to the 1975 bill on the subject which was a predecessor of Assembly Bill 744 of 1978. The Commission and staff discussed the general principles that might be embodied in any revision of Title 19 and the advantages and disadvantages of certain aspects of the proposed revisions. It is anticipated that the Commission will have further discussion of this subject at future meetings.

7. Adjournment - The Commission adjourned the meeting at 3:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



LEWIS B. THURSTON, III
Executive Director