

NEW JERSEY ELECTION LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES

December 3, 1980

PRESENT

Sidney Goldmann, Chairman
Josephine S. Margetts, Member
Andrew Axtell, Member
M. Robert DeCotiis, Member
Lewis B. Thurston, III, Executive Director
Edward J. Farrell, General Legal Counsel
William R. Schmidt, Assistant Executive Director
Gregory E. Nagy, Staff Counsel

The Chairman called the meeting to order and announced that pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Law, P. L. 1975, c.231, annual notice of the meetings of the Commission, as amended, has been filed with the Secretary of State's office, and that copies have been posted in the State House Annex, and mailed to the Newark Star Ledger, the Philadelphia Bulletin and the entire State House press corps.

The meeting convened at 10:10 a.m.

1. Approval of Minutes of Public Session of Commission Meeting of November 20, 1980

On a motion by Commissioner Margetts, seconded by Commissioner Axtell and a vote of 4-0, the Commission approved the minutes of the public session of the above-cited meeting.

2. Advisory Opinion Requests

The Commission discussed the advisory opinion request 0-47-80 from Henry Ramer on behalf of the Kramer for Governor Committee and agreed upon an advisory opinion in response thereto.

3. Report on Meeting With Gubernatorial Candidates' Representatives re Public Financing Procedures

Assistant Executive Director Schmidt reported on a meeting sponsored by the Commission and conducted by him on December 2nd for the benefit of candidates and their treasurers and other appropriate officials. He indicated there was very good attendance at the meeting and that it was a very active session.

4. Report on Current Legislation

The Executive Director reported on the status of current legislation of concern to the Commission. The principal topic concerned S1433 which would appropriate funds for the public financing of the gubernatorial primary election. Mr. Thurston indicated that despite numerous attempts and substantial effort to have this bill considered by the Assembly Committee on Revenue, Finance and Appropriations, the bill still has not yet been discussed by the Committee. In view of the imminency of the first submission by

candidates on January 5th for public matching funds and the need to shortly thereafter pay out such funds to eligible candidates, the Commission decided to set forth its concern about this matter in a letter to Chairman Richard Van Wagner of that Committee. The Commission directed that the letter, signed by all four Commission members, be forwarded to Chairman Van Wagner as soon as possible.

5. Report on Administration of Lobbying Regulation

The Executive Director reported that the staff was now proceeding to gear up to administer the current statute and recently-adopted regulations of the Commission concerning financial reporting by lobbyists. He indicated that forms were presently being put together for use by the filing entities and that, after printing, they would be forwarded shortly to potential filees. The first report is due March 1st, 1981 for the calendar year 1980.

6. Adoption of Proposed Public Financing Regulations for the 1981 General Election

After discussion of the Commission's proposed regulations, the Commission, on a motion by Chairman Goldmann, seconded by Commissioner Margetts and a vote of 4-0, agreed to adopt proposed public financing regulations for the 1981 gubernatorial general election. The Commission directed that the regulations be immediately transmitted to the Office of Administrative Procedure for publication in the January edition of the New Jersey Register. Additionally, the Commission will hold a public hearing on these regulations in conjunction with its regular scheduled meeting on February 9.

7. Executive Session

On a motion by Chairman Goldmann, seconded by Commissioner Margetts and a vote of 4-0, the Commission went into executive session to discuss the minutes of the executive session of the Commission meeting of November 20, 1980 and various investigative matters. At the conclusion of the executive session the Commission returned to public session on a motion by Chairman Goldmann, seconded by Commissioner Margetts and a vote of 4-0.

8. Adjournment - The Commission adjourned the meeting at 3 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



LEWIS B. THURSTON, III
Executive Director