



State of New Jersey

ELECTION LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

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COMMISSIONER

PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES

MAY 4, 1989

TELEPHONE CONFERENCE

All of the Commissioners and senior staff participated.

Commissioner Linett joined the meeting at 2:05 p.m. and did not vote on the Chuck Hardwick submission matter. Commissioner Linett voted on all other matters.

Chairman Bedford called the meeting to order and announced that pursuant to the "Open Public Meetings Act," N.J.S.A. 10:4-8 et seq., special notice of the meeting of the Commission had been filed with the Secretary of State's Office and distributed to the entire State House Press Corps.

The telephone meeting convened at 2:00 p.m. at the Commission offices, at 28 West State Street, Trenton, New Jersey.

1. Certification of Public Funds Submitted on April 24, 1989

1. Candidate Chuck Hardwick

Candidate Hardwick submitted a net amount of \$84,795. The Commission did not certify any public matching funds to Candidate Hardwick because Candidate Hardwick received the maximum in public funds on April 25, 1989. The amount in public funds certified to Candidate Hardwick is \$1,350,000.

On a motion by Vice Chairman McNany, seconded by Commissioner Axtell and passed by a vote of 3-0, the Commission approved the staff's presentation of the facts.

2. Candidate Gerald Cardinale

The net amount submitted by Candidate Cardinale for match was \$16,848. A complete review of all items resulted in temporary refusal of 2 contribution items. A total amount of \$16,498 was determined to be eligible for match at a ratio of 2:1.

Staff therefore recommended that the Commission certify \$32,996 in matching funds. Since this submission is Candidate Cardinale's fifth, the

Commission has now certified a total of \$366,154 in matching funds to this candidate.

On a motion by Commissioner Axtell, seconded by Vice Chairman McNary and passed by a vote of 4-0, the Commission certified \$32,996 in matching funds to Candidate Gerald Cardinale.

3. Candidate Alan Karcher

The net amount submitted by Candidate Karcher for match was \$36,909.99. A complete review of all items resulted in temporary refusal of 2 contribution items. In addition, \$10,500 was resubmitted for match and accepted. A total amount of \$47,304.99 was determined to be eligible for match at a ratio of 2:1.

Staff therefore recommended that the Commission certify \$94,609.98 in matching funds. Since this submission is Candidate Karcher's third, the Commission has now certified a total of \$443,487.98 in matching funds to this candidate.

On a motion by Vice Chairman McNary, seconded by Commissioner Axtell and passed by a vote of 4-0, the Commission certified \$94,609.98 in matching funds to Candidate Alan Karcher.

2. Proposed Meetings Changes

The Commission received three requests to modify the May 1989 meeting calendar to permit certifications of public funds to occur more quickly after submission filing dates.

The Cardinale campaign expressed the view that prompt receipt of public funds becomes even more crucial during May as media commitments must be made and paid for in order to maintain a viable campaign. The Sigmund campaign also stressed the importance of a "cash flow" of public funds during the last week of May as did the Karcher campaign.

Representatives of the Cardinale, Karcher, and Sigmund campaigns were present to respond to questions concerning the request for changes to the schedule.

On the basis of these requests, staff proposed the following revised Commission meeting calendar:

<u>Meeting Date</u>	<u>Submissions to be Certified</u>
Wednesday, May 10 (new date; telephone)	May 1 submission - complete review May 8 submissions - percentage certification
Tuesday, May 16 (scheduled meeting; Trenton)	May 8 - residual certification May 15 - percentage certification
Friday, May 19 - cancelled	
Tuesday, May 23 - (new date; telephone)	May 15 - residual certification May 22 - percentage certification
Friday, May 26 - cancelled	
Wednesday, May 31 - (new date; telephone)	May 22 - residual certification May 30 - percentage certification
Thursday, June 1 - (scheduled meeting; Montclair)	None

Staff requested that the proposed telephone meetings on May 10, 23 and 31 be held at 10:00 a.m. to permit same-day processing of documents with the Department of Treasury.

Mrs. Karcher and Mr. Maffei, representing the Karcher and Cardinale campaigns respectively, expressed appreciation and acceptance of the changes in schedule.

Mr. Maffei asked if 90 percent of the money would be certified at the May 31, 1989 telephone meeting. He said that this date preceded a critical weekend in the campaign.

Chairman Bedford said the Commission plans to certify 90 percent of the submissions at that time, but that it has the flexibility to increase the certification rate at anytime. He said it would certainly consider that possibility as the time approaches.

3. Acknowledgment of League of Women Voters Letter

This letter, dated May 1, 1989, outlines the general ground rules for the League of Women Voters' debates on May 15 and May 17, 1989.

Chairman Bedford said that he would like to see a copy of the "format" referred to in the rules. Executive Director Herrmann suggested that the Commission respond to the League by acknowledging receipt of the rules and by noting that they must consult with the State Chairmen of the Republican and Democratic State Committees about all details.

On a motion by Vice Chairman McNary, seconded by Commissioner Axtell and passed by a vote of 4-0, the Commission acknowledged receipt of the League of Women Voters' letter and directed staff to advise the League that it must consult with the State Chairmen of the Democratic and Republican State Committees.

4. Adjournment

On a motion by Commissioner Axtell, seconded by Commissioner Linett and passed by a vote of 4-0, the Commission voted to adjourn at 2:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



FREDERICK M. HERRMANN, PH.D.

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