



State of New Jersey

THOMAS H. PROL
Chairman

RYAN PETERS
Commissioner

NORMA R. EVANS
Commissioner

JON-HENRY BARR
Commissioner

ELECTION LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

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AMANDA S. HAINES
Executive Director

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STEPHANIE A. OLIVO
Compliance Director

EDWIN R. MATTHEWS
Legal Counsel

PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES

July 16, 2024

Chairman Thomas H. Prol, Commissioner Ryan Peters, Commissioner Norma R. Evans, Commissioner Jon-Henry Barr, Legal Counsel Edwin R. Matthews, Executive Director Amanda Haines, Deputy Director Joseph Donohue, Compliance Director Stephanie Olivo, Review and Investigation Director Shreve Marshall, Legal Administrator of Review and Investigation Theresa Lelinski, Assistant Legal Counsel Ben Kachuriner, Information Technology (IT) Director Anthony Giancarli, IT Specialist Lou Solimeo, and Executive Secretarial Assistant Elbia Zeppetelli were present. IT Specialist Elias Amaya participated via Zoom.

A court reporter was available to record the proceedings.

The Public Session Minutes will be available online on the Commission's website at: <http://www.elec.state.nj.us>.

Chairman Prol convened the meeting at 11:00 a.m. in Trenton.

1. Open Public Meetings Statement

Chairman Prol called the meeting to order and announced that pursuant to the "Open Public Meetings Act," N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., adequate 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. It was also posted on the Commission's website.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Approval of Public Session Minutes for June 18, 2024

On a motion by Commissioner Barr, seconded by Commissioner Peters, and passed by a vote of 3-0, the Commission approved the Public Session Minutes for June 18, 2024. Commissioner Evans abstained.

4. **Approval of Public Session Minutes for June 28, 2024**

On a motion by Commissioner Barr, seconded by Commissioner Evans, and passed by a vote of 4-0, the Commission approved the Public Session Minutes for June 28, 2024.

5. **Executive Director's Report**

Executive Director Haines presented the Executive Director's Report.

Next Commission Meetings

August 20, 2024 at 11:00 a.m. (if needed); and,
September 17, 2024 at 11:00 a.m.

6. **Public Comments**

On a motion by Commissioner Barr, seconded by Commissioner Evans, and passed by a vote of 4-0, the Commission voted to open the meeting for public comments.

- Althea Ford – New Jersey Business & Industry Association

On a motion by Commissioner Barr, seconded by Commissioner Peters, and passed by a vote of 4-0, the Commission voted to close public comments.

7. **Chairman Prol Read Resolution Authorizing an Executive Session**

Whereas, there exists a need to hold an Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the following matter/matters, which fall within the exceptions to the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 et seq. to wit.

Matter/Matters (OPMA Exception)

- Discussion of Executive Session Minutes for June 18, 2024;
- Discussion of Executive Session Minutes for June 28, 2024;
- Final Decision Recommendations for Non-Filer Complaints;
- Final Decision Recommendation;
- Discussion of Opinion on Amended Order to Show Cause; and,
- Proposed Cost-Index Amendments for Gubernatorial Candidates and Non-Gubernatorial Candidates and Committees, and Proposed New Rules and Amendments for Independent Expenditure Committees.

Whereas, it is unknown at this time when such discussion to take place in Executive Session may be disclosed to the public.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved by the Election Law Enforcement Commission as follows:

1. This Executive Session Meeting of the Election Law Enforcement Commission shall be closed to the public for discussion of the aforesaid referenced matters.

2. The matters discussed during this Executive Session Meeting shall be disclosed to the public at such time when reason for discussing and acting on same in Executive Session shall no longer exist.

On a motion by Commissioner Barr, seconded by Commissioner Evans, and passed by a vote of 4-0, the Commission resolved to enter Executive Session to discuss anticipated litigation and current litigation, which will become public as follows:

- A. Final Decision Recommendations in complaint proceedings which will not become public. However, the Final Decisions resulting from those recommendations will become public not later than seven business days after mailing to the named respondents.
- B. Matters under current litigation, the substance of discussions of which will not become public in order to protect the attorney-client privilege and the deliberative process. However, any litigation in which the Commission is currently a party is a public matter and will become public subject to the above limitations and privileges.

Return to Public Session

Chairman Prol stated that the following items were discussed in Executive Session:

- Discussion of Executive Session Minutes for June 18, 2024;
- Discussion of Executive Session Minutes for June 28, 2024;
- Final Decision Recommendations for Non-Filer Complaints;
- Final Decision Recommendation;
- Discussion of Opinion on Amended Order to Show Cause; and,
- Proposed Cost-Index Amendments for Gubernatorial Candidates and Non-Gubernatorial Candidates and Committees, and Proposed New Rules and Amendments for Independent Expenditure Committees.

8. Approval of Executive Session Minutes for June 18, 2024

On a motion by Commissioner Barr, seconded by Commissioner Peters, and passed by a vote of 3-0, the Commission approved the Executive Session Minutes for June 18, 2024. Commissioner Evans abstained.

9. Approval of Executive Session Minutes for June 28, 2024

On a motion by Commissioner Barr, seconded by Commissioner Evans, and passed by a vote of 4-0, the Commission approved the Executive Session Minutes for June 28, 2024.

10. Final Decision Recommendations for Non-Filer Complaints

On a motion by Commissioner Barr, seconded by Commissioner Evans, and passed by a vote of 4-0, the Commission approved the Final Decision Recommendation for Non-Filer Complaints as follows:

- 2022 Primary Election: 1. Kolani; and,
- 2022 General Election: 2. Gross, 3. Casper, 4. Pierce Jr., 5. Kolani.

11. Final Decision Recommendation

On a motion by Commissioner Barr, seconded by Commissioner Evans, and passed by a vote of 4-0, the Commission approved the Final Decision Recommendation as follows:

Item 1. ELEC v. Gloucester County Republican Executive Committee and Stephen V. Bottiglieri, C-O 0800 0001 22-Q2022

12. Ratification of Opinion on Amended Order to Show Cause

On a motion by Commissioner Barr, seconded by Commissioner Evans, and passed by a vote of 4-0, the Commission ratified the Opinion on Amended Order to Show Cause.

13. Proposed Cost-Index Amendments for Gubernatorial Candidates and Non-Gubernatorial Candidates and Committees, and Proposed New Rules and Amendments for Independent Expenditure Committees

On a motion by Commissioner Barr, seconded by Commissioner Peters, and passed by a vote of 4-0, the Commission approved the Proposed Cost-Index Amendments for Gubernatorial Candidates and Non-Gubernatorial Candidates and Committees, and Proposed New Rules and Amendments for Independent Expenditure Committees.

14. Resolution of Appreciation

The Commission received a notice of resignation by Stephanie Olivo, Compliance Director of the Election Law Enforcement Commission. The Commissioners acknowledged her resignation and presented her with a Resolution of Appreciation.

On a motion by Commissioner Barr, seconded by Commissioner Peters, and passed by a vote of 4-0, the Commission approved the Resolution of Appreciation.

15. Public Comments

On a motion by Commissioner Barr, seconded by Commissioner Evans, and passed by a vote of 4-0, the Commission voted to open the meeting for public comments.

No public comments.

On a motion by Commissioner Evans, seconded by Commissioner Barr, and passed by a vote of 4-0, the Commission voted to close public comments.

16. Adjournment

On a motion by Commissioner Evans, seconded by Commissioner Peters, and passed by a vote of 4-0, the Commission resolved to adjourn the meeting at 11:42 a.m.

Respectfully submitted as true
and correct,

Amanda S. Haines
Executive Director

ASH/elz