NEW JERSEY ELECTION LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES

March 23, 1981

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 Meeting of March 9, 1981

   On a motion by Commissioner Axtell, seconded by Commissioner DeCotiis and a vote of 3-0, the Commission approved the minutes of the public session of the above-cited meeting. Commissioner Margetts abstained from voting because she was absent from that meeting.

2. ELEC Meeting Schedule

   The Commission agreed to change its scheduled meeting for June 8, 1981 to June 9, 1981.

3. Certification of Public Matching Funds to Gubernatorial Primary Election Candidates

   The Commission discussed the product of the staff review of the latest submissions by the candidates and, on a motion by Chairman Goldmann, seconded by Commissioner DeCotiis and a vote of 4-0, agreed to certify $405,673.64 to the following candidates:

   - William J. Hamilton (D) $14,799.54
   - Barbara McConnell (D) 6,434.36
   - Richard McGlynn (R) 60,191.74
   - Joseph P. Merlino (D) 119,588.00
   - Barry T. Parker (R) 89,290.00
   - James Wallwork (R) 115,370.00
4. Review of Questions Re Allocation of Expenditures in Gubernatorial Elections

The Commission discussed the basis of allocation of expenditures made jointly by gubernatorial candidates and candidates for other offices, including the various elements which might be used in making an allocation and the possibility of guidelines being developed, in Commission regulations or otherwise. The Commission requested the staff to discuss these matters further with appropriate representatives of the political parties and others concerned about them.

5. Executive Session

On a motion by Commissioner Margetts, seconded by Commissioner DeCotiis and a vote of 4-0, the Commission went into executive session to discuss current litigation. At the conclusion of the discussion the Commission returned to public session on a motion by Commissioner Margetts, seconded by Commissioner Axtell and a vote of 4-0.

6. Disclosure of Contributors to Candidates for Governor Receiving Public Funds

The Commission agreed that the names of persons contributing in excess of $100 to candidates who have received public matching funds will be made public in a Commission computer printout beginning as soon as possible. The Commission reviewed a draft explanatory statement which would be attached to the computer printout and agreed upon its text.

7. Executive Session

On a motion by Chairman Goldmann, seconded by Commissioner Axtell and a vote of 4-0, the Commission went into executive session to discuss the executive session minutes of the Commission meeting of March 9, 1981, personnel matters and an investigative matter. 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.


The Commission reviewed the Governor's conditional veto of S1396, a bill to modify the present statutory provisions regarding financial reporting by lobbyists. The Governor conditionally vetoed this bill on March 23. In view of the Governor's action, the Commission agreed to extend the filing date for 1980 lobbyists' financial reports from March 30, 1981 to May 15, 1981.

9. Public Indication of Executive Session Action from the Commission Meetings of January 5 and 26, February 9 and March 9, 1981

On a motion by Commissioner DeCotiis, seconded by Chairman Goldmann, and a vote of 4-0, the Commission made public its
actions at the executive session of the Commission meetings as above-cited relative to certain enforcement actions.

10. Adjournment - The Commission adjourned the meeting at 2:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

LEWIS B. THURSTON, III
Executive Director

LBT/cm