

NEW JERSEY ELECTION LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES

July 22, 1981

PRESENT

Sidney Goldmann, Chairman
Josephine S. Margetts, Member
Andrew C. Axtell, Member
M. Robert DeCotiis, Member
Scott A. Weiner, Executive Director
*William R. Schmidt, Assistant Executive Director
Edward J. Farrell, General Legal Counsel
*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 10:30 a.m.

1. Approval of Minutes of Public Session of Commission Meeting of July 6, 1981
On a motion by Commissioner Axtell, seconded by Commissioner Margetts and a vote of 4-0, the Commission approved the minutes of the public session of the above-cited meeting.
2. Certification of Public Matching Funds to Gubernatorial Primary Election Candidate
The Commission reviewed the staff review and suggestions for certification of public matching funds to a gubernatorial candidate. On a motion by Commissioner Margetts, seconded by Commissioner Axtell and a vote of 4-0, the Commission approved a total of \$8,211.57 to Frank Dodd, candidate for Governor.
3. Review of Questions and Procedures for Gubernatorial General Election
The Commission reviewed a draft, prepared by General Legal Counsel Farrell, of a response to a July 14th, 1981 letter from E. Allen Nickerson, counsel to James J. Florio for Governor, Inc. and a response to a June 26, 1981 letter from Roger Bodman, campaign director for the Tom Kean for Governor Committee. The Commission first reviewed the response to Mr. Bodman's letter, discussed each of the five major sections and focused particular attention on the question of combined advertising on behalf of the gubernatorial candidate and candidates for other offices, e.g. State assembly and State senate. The Commission then reviewed the draft of the response to Mr. Nickerson's letter, reviewed each of the three questions and focused particularly on the question

*Not present for portion of Executive Session.

concerning the treatment of the National Political Party Committees as either the equivalent of "State Committees" or as "Political Committees" and the question of including the expenditures of county and municipal political party committees within the expenditure limit of the gubernatorial candidates.

Following a lengthy discussion, including the participation by representatives of the Democratic and Republican nominees for Governor, the Commission agreed on responses to the two letters and directed General Legal Counsel Farrell to prepare a single letter, addressed to both campaigns, and covering all points raised in both letters.

4. Advisory Opinion

The Commission reviewed the following advisory opinion request and agreed to an advisory opinion in response thereto:

AO-32-1981 - Walter R. Bliss

5. 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 executive session minutes of the Commission meeting of July 6, a personnel matter and investigations and enforcement actions.

6. Commission Meeting Schedule

The Commission agreed to change its meeting schedule by adding a meeting on Monday, August 3, 1981.

7. Revised Procedure for Authorizing Public Matching Funds

The Commission reviewed a memorandum from the Assistant Executive Director setting forth a proposed procedure authorizing expedited certification of public matching funds. On a motion by Commissioner DeCotiis, seconded by Commissioner Margetts and a vote of 4-0, the Commission approved a procedure whereby the Commission will certify 50 percent the day a submission is received, if that submission is received by noon, another 25 percent at its next meeting, if the submission has not been fully reviewed by that meeting date, and certify the remainder at its next meeting.

8. Gubernatorial Primary Election Questionnaire and Audit

The Assistant Executive Director reported that ELEC has received responses to the questionnaire. The Commission directed the Executive Director and Assistant Executive Director to write and telephone those who had not yet responded to insure a high response rate.

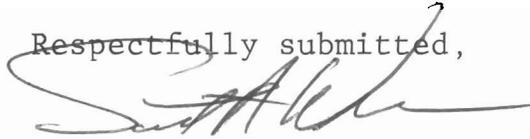
The Assistant Executive Director reported that the Division of Purchase and Property was holding a bidders' conference on Thursday, July 23rd and expected to enter into contract the week of August 3rd.

9. Enforcement Matters - Status Report

The Executive Director reported on the work done to date in reviewing "citizen complaints" and, the process by which those complaints are being handled by the staff and brought to the Commission for its consideration. The Executive Director directed the Commission's attention to the log of Citizen Complaints - Summary, prepared by Staff Counsel Nagy. He reported that a similar log for in-house review was being prepared.

10. Adjournment - The Commission adjourned the meeting at 2:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



SCOTT A. WEINER,
Executive Director

SAW/cn