

ELECTION LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

David Linett Commissioner

OWEN V. McNANY, III

CHAIRMAN

William.H. Eldridge Commissioner NATIONAL STATE BANK BLDG., 12th FLOOR 28 W. STATE STREET, CN 185 TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625-0185 (609) 292-8700 FREDERICK M. HERRMANN, PH.D. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

JEFFREY M. BRINDLE DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES

TELEPHONE CONFERENCE

APRIL 6, 1993

Chairman McNany, Commissioner Linett, Commissioner Eldridge, senior staff, and Director of Public Financing Nedda Massar participated in the telephone conference. Counsel Farrell also participated.

Chairman McNany called the meeting to order and announced that pursuant to the "Open Public Meetings Act," $\underline{\text{N.J.S.A.}}$ 10:4-6 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 meeting convened by telephone at 10:07 a.m. at the Commission offices, Trenton, New Jersey.

Executive Director Herrmann welcomed newly-appointed Commissioner William Eldridge to the Commission.

Similarly, Chairman McNany welcomed Commissioner Eldridge. He said that he was delighted that the Commission had a new Republican member but that a Republican vacancy still existed. Chairman McNany said that he hoped that this situation would soon be remedied and that the Commission would again have a full complement of members.

Executive Director Herrmann reported that New Jersey Network, (NJN), using footage from the last meeting, might be doing a feature story on the new Campaign Act, which takes effect April 7, 1993, and ELEC, on Wednesday evening. He said that it would probably run during the news hour, from 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. and be re-broadcast between 10:00 - 11:00 p.m.

1. Approval of Public Financing Funds

Public Financing Director Nedda Massar reviewed an application for public matching funds received from gubernatorial candidate Christine Todd Whitman. Copies of a printout which indicated that Ms. Whitman submitted \$859,343 for match had been distributed to Chairman McNany and Commissioner Linett and discussed with Commissioner Eldridge.

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A complete review of all items submitted for match resulted in the ineligibility of 164 contribution items, which represented \$76,881. Thus, after subtraction of the \$59,000 of contributions which is not matched, it was determined that \$723,462 was eligible to be matched. Thus, it was recommended by Director Massar that the Commission certify a total of \$1,446,924 in public matching funds.

The \$1,446,924 figure was arrived at by subtracting \$59,000 from \$782,462 (\$859,343 minus \$76,881) and multiplying the resulting figure of \$723,462 by two, which is the number of public dollars distributed for every one dollar submitted.

Director Massar added that the error rate was 6.2 percent, which is well within the guidelines set forth by the Commission.

Commissioner Linett asked about the type of items rejected for match

Director Massar said that some corporate affiliate issues might exist, and it was unclear whether some contributors were partnerships or corporations. Staff has therefore asked for further clarification on certain contribution items.

Chairman McNany asked how staff identified such problems.

Director Massar said that corporate contribution items are compared, checking source documents for similar signatures and addresses. She said that if the same address appeared for two corporations, for instance, staff might ask for clarification.

On a motion by Commissioner Linett, seconded by Commissioner Eldridge and passed by a vote of 3-0, the Commission certified \$1,446,924 in public funds to candidate Christine Todd Whitman.

3. Adjournment

On a motion by Commissioner Linett, seconded by Commissioner Eldridge and passed by a vote of 3-0, the Commission voted to adjourn at 10:12 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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