PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES

April 19, 2022

Chairman Eric Jaso, Commissioner Stephen Holden, Legal Counsel Edwin Matthews, Executive Director Jeffrey Brindle, Deputy Director Joseph Donohue, Legal Director Demery Roberts, Deputy Legal Director Amanda Haines, Compliance Director Stephanie Olivo, Director of Review and Investigation Shreve Marshall, and IT Specialist Lou Solimeo were present. Commissioner Marguerite Simon and IT Specialist Elias Amaya participated via GoToWebinar.

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.

The meeting convened at 11:00 a.m. in Trenton.

1. **Open Public Meetings Statement**

Chairman Jaso called the meeting to order. Executive Director Brindle 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. **Approval of Public Session Minutes for March 15, 2022**

On a motion by Commissioner Holden, seconded by Commissioner Simon, and passed by a vote of 3-0, the Commission approved the Public Session Minutes of March 15, 2022.

3. **Executive Director’s Report**

The Executive Director presented the Executive Director’s Report.
**Future Meetings Schedule**

- May 17 at 11:00 a.m. in Trenton;
- June 21 at 11:00 a.m. in Trenton; and,
- July 19 at 11:00 a.m. in Trenton.

**2021 Annual Report**

The Executive Director presented the 2021 Annual Report.

On a motion by Commissioner Simon, seconded by Commissioner Holden, and passed by a vote of 3-0, the Commission approved the 2021 Annual Report.

**4. Gubernatorial Public Financing Program**

Compliance Director Stephanie Olivo provided an update concerning the Gubernatorial Public Financing Program.

**5. Public Hearing on 2021 Gubernatorial Public Financing Program**

Chairman Jaso announced the public hearing. The following individual provided testimony:

- Micah Rasmussen, The Rebovich Institute for New Jersey Politics, Rider University

**6. Public Comments**

No public comments

**7. 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 March 15, 2022;
- Final Decision Recommendations for Non-Filer Complaints; and,
- Complaint Recommendation.

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 Holden, seconded by Commissioner Simon, and passed by a vote of 3-0, 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. Complaint recommendations discussing potential violations will not become public. However, any complaints approved by the Commission will become public not later than seven business days after mailing the complaint to the named respondents.

C. 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**

8. **Approval of Executive Session Minutes for March 15, 2022**

On a motion by Commissioner Holden, seconded by Commissioner Simon, and passed by a vote of 3-0, the Commission approved the Executive Session Minutes of March 15, 2022.

9. **Complaint Recommendation**

On a motion by Commissioner Simon, seconded by Commissioner Holden, and passed by a vote of 3-0, the Commission approved the Complaint Recommendation, item 1.

10. **Final Decision Recommendations for Non-Filer Complaints**

On a motion by Commissioner Holden, seconded by Commissioner Simon, and passed by a vote of 3-0, the Commission adopted the Final Decision Recommendations for Non-Filer Complaints, items 1 through 10 and 12. Item number 11 was withdrawn.

11. **Public Comments**

No public comments
12. **Adjournment**

On a motion by Commissioner Simon, seconded by Commissioner Holden and passed by a vote of 3-0, the Commission resolved to adjourn at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted as true and correct,

Jeffrey M. Brindle
Executive Director

JMB/elz