



State of New Jersey

ELECTION LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

ERIC H. JASO
Chairman

STEPHEN M. HOLDEN
Commissioner

MARGUERITE T. SIMON
Commissioner

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Compliance Director

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PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES

July 20, 2021

Chairman Eric Jaso, Commissioner Stephen Holden, Commissioner Marguerite Simon, 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, and IT Specialist Lou Solimeo were present. Director of Review and Investigation Shreve Marshall, IT Specialist Elias Amaya, and IT Specialist Ken Colandrea 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 June 15, 2021

On a motion by Commissioner Simon, seconded by Commissioner Holden, and passed by a vote of 3-0, the Commission approved the Public Session Minutes of June 15, 2021.

3. Executive Director's Report

The Executive Director presented the Executive Director's Report.

Future Meetings Schedule

- August 17 at 11:00 am in Trenton, if needed;
- September 21 at 11:00 am in Trenton; and
- October 19, at 11:00 a.m. in Trenton.

4. Gubernatorial Public Financing Program

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

5. Selection of 2021 General Election Gubernatorial Debate Sponsors

The Commission welcomed five applications to sponsor the 2021 general election debates for governor and lieutenant governor:

- New Jersey Globe/News 12 New Jersey/The Rebovich Institute of New Jersey Politics at Rider University/Project Ready;
- New Jersey Performing Arts Center/WABC-TV New York/WPVI, 6-ABC, Philadelphia/Univision/Twitter/WBGO-FM, Newark/NJ Advance Media (nj.com)/Rutgers Eagleton Institute of Politics/Rutgers School of Public Affairs and Administration;
- William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy/Stockton University/WJLP-TV, New Jersey News Network, PMCM TV LLC (north-central NJ, NY)/WACP-TV (southern NJ, Philadelphia)/WPG Radio, Townsquare Media/Gannett New Jersey Newspapers (Bergen Record, Courier News, Asbury Park Press, Home News and Tribune, Bridgewater Courier News, New Jersey Herald, Burlington County Times, Daily Journal, Daily Record);
- Public Media NJ, Inc. (NJ PBS)/NJ Spotlight News/Rowan University, Rowan Institute for Public Policy & Citizenship/New York Public Radio, WNYC & The Gothamist; and,
- William Paterson University/CBS-TV, WCBS, WLNY, KYW, NewsRadio 880, 1010WINS Radio, CBSN NY streaming service, CBSNY.com/The USA Today Network (NorthJersey.com, The Record, New Jersey Herald, MyCentralJersey.com, The Courier News, Home News Tribune, Asbury Park Press, Courier Post, Burlington County Times, The Vineland Daily Journal)/The Statewide Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of NJ/The African American Chamber of Commerce of NJ/The League of Women Voters.

On a motion by Commissioner Holden, seconded by Commissioner Simon, and passed by a vote of 3-0, the Commission selected New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark to conduct the first gubernatorial debate and Public Media New Jersey, Inc. (NJ PBS) to conduct the second gubernatorial debate. The lieutenant governor's debate will be conducted by New Jersey Globe, and in the event that they do not accept it, then the Commission selects Stockton College University and its group as an alternative.

6. Public Comments

Ms. Mary Melfi, Hunterdon County Clerk's Office
Mr. David Longbean

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 June 15, 2021;
- Final Decision Recommendations for Non-Filer Complaints; and,
- Final Decision 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 Simon, seconded by Commissioner Holden, 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. 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 June 15, 2021

On a motion by Commissioner Simon, seconded by Commissioner Holden, and passed by a vote of 3-0, the Commission approved the Executive Session Minutes of June 15, 2021.

9. 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 19.

10. Final Decision Recommendation

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

11. 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 2:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted as true
and correct,

Jeffrey M. Brindle
Executive Director

JMB/elz