

NEW JERSEY ELECTION LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES

September 14, 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
Gregory E. Nagy, Staff Counsel
Edward J. Farrell, General Legal 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 filed 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 10:15 a.m.

1. Approval of Minutes of Public Session of Commission Meeting of September 8, 1981

On a motion by Commissioner Axtell, seconded by Commissioner DeCotiis 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

The Assistant Executive Director reported that James J. Florio for Governor, Inc. had made a third submission of \$93,480.00 on September 14, 1981, and he recommended that the Commission certify that amount in public matching funds, representing one-half of the amount for which the Florio Campaign is eligible.

On a motion by Commissioner DeCotiis, seconded by Commissioner Margetts and a vote of 4-0, the Commission certified \$93,480.00 in public matching funds for the General Election gubernatorial candidate James J. Florio (D).

3. Report on Status of Collection of Outstanding Fines

In response to a request from Commissioner DeCotiis, General Counsel Farrell submitted a preliminary report on the collection of fines for 1979 and 1980. For 1979, there is a total of 57 cases. Payment has been received in 40 cases and partial payment has been received in one case. There are 10 cases where we have been unable to obtain service and the files have been closed. There are another six cases which have been served by the Sheriff and the cases are pending. For 1980, there is a total of 29 cases. General Counsel Farrell said he would have

a complete report for the Commission at its next meeting.

4. Report by Juana M. Schultz, Director of Compliance & Review

Ms. Schultz supervises a staff of eight, with two vacancies, plus two part time college students. She enumerated the responsibilities of the Division of Compliance and Review including: mass mailings; record keeping; review of campaign and annual reports; making recommendations for investigations; preparation of hearing lists; preparation of summaries of reports; preparation of comparative reports, e.g. 1977 and 1981 Primaries; preparation of special reports; and microfilming of old reports. She responded to questions about the extent of late filings and the quality of reports. She mentioned that in the past she attended seminars for county and municipal clerks and for candidates and treasurers.

Ms. Schultz reviewed the file of reports from an Assembly candidate in the 1981 Primary. She explained the identification number coding system and the various reports and internal records kept in the files.

5. Public Indication of Executive Session Actions

The Executive Director presented his recommendations on Commission executive session actions from July 6, July 22, August 3, August 17 and August 31 that should be made public. On a motion by Chairman Goldman, seconded by Commissioner Margetts and a vote of 4-0, the Commission voted to make the following executive session actions public:

See Attached Sheet

July 6, 1981 Meeting

Item No. 4 - Investigative Matters

Item No. 5 - Request by U. S. Attorney for attendance at Grand Jury.

July 22, 1981 Meeting

Item No. 2, paragraph 1 and 2 (except as to Info. 44-81) - pertaining to various enforcement matters.

August 3, 1981 Meeting

Item No. 1 - Commission vs. Luciano and Nassaro

Item No. 2 - pertaining to various enforcement matters arising out of the 1980 General Election

Item No. 3 - pertaining to various enforcement matters arising out of the 1981 Municipal Election

Item No. 5, paragraph 2 - pertaining to Rev. No. 18-80 and Info. No. 07-80.

Item No. 9 - pertaining to the dismissal of complaints in the matter of Degnan '81 Committee, Inc. vs. Wine and Liquor Salesmen of the State of New Jersey, Local 19 and Roe for Governor Committee and in the matter of Gregory Simms, Esq. on behalf of Merlino for Governor Campaign vs. National Rifle Association, Florio for Governor Committee.

August 17, 1981 Meeting

Item No. 7 - pertaining to Independent expenditures made on behalf of gubernatorial candidates.

August 31, 1981 Meeting

Item No. 2 with the exception of Info. No. 78-81.

6. 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 the executive session minutes of the Commission meeting of September 8, 1981, and to discuss investigations and enforcement actions.

7. The Executive Director's Report

The Executive Director reported that a legal intern is starting on a one day a week basis with the office today.

In response to a question by Commissioner Axtell about the status of the Commission's report on the public financing of the gubernatorial Primary, the Executive Director said that any action by the Legislature appears to be unlikely, especially in light of the fact that the Assembly will not be coming back until after the election. He also reported that Commission staff were commencing the follow-up with the candidates and treasurers who had not responded to the questionnaire, that the Assistant Executive Director was beginning to prepare a synopsis of the responses received to date, and that he also would be contacting graduate schools for interns to help us on statistical and research analysis.

The Executive Director reported that the lobbyist regulations had been filed with the Office of Administrative Law and that the mailings to lobbyists and other interested parties were going out this week.

8. Adjournment - The Commission adjourned the meeting at 1:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



SCOTT A. WEINER,
Executive Director