

NEW JERSEY ELECTION LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES

March 19, 1980

PRESENT

Sidney Goldmann, Chairman  
Josephine S. Margetts, Member  
Andrew Axtell, Member  
Lewis B. Thurston, Executive Director  
Edward J. Farrell, General Legal Counsel  
Herbert Wolfe, Assistant Executive Director  
\*Gregory E. Nagy, Staff Counsel

\*Mr. Nagy did not attend or participate re item No. 1.

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 10:15 a.m.

1. Executive Session

On a motion by Chairman Goldmann, seconded by Commissioner Margetts and a vote of 3-0, the Commission went into executive session to discuss enforcement cases from the 1979 primary and general elections, a 1978 annual report case, and the executive session minutes of the Commission meeting of February 20, 1980. Upon conclusion of the discussion and determination of these matters, the Commission returned to public session on a motion by Commissioner Margetts, seconded by Commissioner Axtell and a vote of 3-0.

2. E.L.E.C. Membership in Council on Governmental Ethics Laws

On a motion by Commissioner Axtell, seconded by Chairman Goldmann and a vote of 3-0, the Commission authorized its membership in 1980 in the national organization known as the Council on Governmental Ethics Laws and the payment of the \$150.00 annual membership fee. This is a national association of state agencies which regulate campaign finance, conflict of interest, lobbyist regulation and public officials' personal disclosure.

3. Report on Legislation and E.L.E.C. 1981 Budget

The executive director reported that Governor Byrne had vetoed Assembly Bill 1698 of the 1978-79 legislative session. This bill provided for public financing and contribution limits, among other things, for gubernatorial primary elections and deleted expenditure limits for gubernatorial general elections.

---

Mr. Thurston also reported on the appearance of Judge Goldmann and himself before the Legislative Joint Appropriations

Committee on March 11 on the subject of the Commission's 1981 fiscal year budget request.

4. Public Indication of Commission Enforcement Determinations in Executive Session

On a motion by Chairman Goldman, seconded by Commissioner Axtell and a vote of 3-0, the Commission indicated that the Commission determinations made in executive session at the Commission meeting of February 20, 1980 (indicated in the news release and summary sheets attached to these minutes) be made public.

5. Minutes of Commission Meeting of February 20, 1980

On a motion by Commissioner Axtell, seconded by Commissioner Margetts and a vote of 3-0, the Commission approved the minutes of the public session of the Commission meeting of February 20, 1980.

6. Lobbyist Regulations

The Commission discussed at length a draft of proposed regulations governing the filing of annual reports by political information organizations. Such regulations are required within 90 days of the February 6 decision of the New Jersey Supreme Court in the case of N.J. Chamber of Commerce, et. al., vs. N.J. Election Law Enforcement Commission, et. al. The Commission made a number of modifications in the staff draft of these regulations. On a motion by Chairman Goldman, seconded by Commissioner Margetts and a vote of 3-0, the Commission adopted the modified version of this draft as proposed regulations for appropriate publication in the New Jersey Register. It is anticipated that these proposed regulations will be published in the April 10 edition of the New Jersey Register. The Commission also formally indicated that it would hold a public hearing on these proposed regulations on April 25, 1980 beginning at 10:00 a.m. in the Assembly chamber.

7. Adjournment - The Commission adjourned the meeting at 3:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



LEWIS B. THURSTON, III  
Executive Director