

NEW JERSEY ELECTION LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES

April 27, 1981

PRESENT

Sidney Goldmann, Chairman
Josephine S. Margetts, Member
M. Robert DeCotiis, Member
Lewis B. Thurston, III, Executive Director
William R. Schmidt, Assistant Executive Director
Edward J. Farrell, General Legal Counsel

ABSENT

Andrew C. Axtell, Member

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 10:10 a.m. The meeting was held at the offices of Farrell, Curtis, Carlin and Davidson, Esqs., Counsel to the Commission at 43 Maple Avenue, Morristown, N. J.

1. Approval of Minutes of the Commission Meeting of April 20, 1981

On a motion by Commissioner DeCotiis, seconded by Commissioner Margetts and a vote of 3-0, the Commission approved the minutes of the public session of the Commission meeting on April 20, 1981.

2. Certification of Public Matching Funds to Gubernatorial Primary Election Candidates

The Commission reviewed the question concerning the independence of certain labor union contributions received from various locals and also reviewed evidence submitted of excess contributions by one candidate. After resolution of these matters, the Commission reviewed the staff review and recommendations for certification of public matching funds to gubernatorial primary election candidates. On a motion by Chairman Goldmann, seconded by Commissioner Margetts and a vote of 3-0, the Commission certified a total of \$720,885.26 in public matching funds to the following candidates in the following amounts:

<u>Candidate</u>	<u>Amount</u>
John Degnan (D)	\$ 97,857.50
Frank Dodd (D)	34,110.88
Kenneth Gibson (D)	32,707.50
William Hamilton (D)	22,951.62
Thomas Kean (R)	356,961.00
Ann Klein (D)	4,527.00
Donald Lan (D)	31,065.00
Barbara McConnell (D)	7,663.50
Richard McGlynn (R)	11,325.50
Joseph Merlino (D)	34,485.50
John Rafferty (R)	35,385.00
Thomas F. X. Smith (D)	24,655.00
James Wallwork (R)	27,190.26
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	\$720,885.26

3. Advisory Opinions

The Commission reviewed the advisory opinion requests listed below and agreed upon an advisory opinion in each case.

0-12-81, Gustavo A. Mellander - Re: Certain questions concerning activity by a group directed to independent voters.

0-13-81, Theodore Bozonelis - for the McGlynn campaign - A number of questions concerning the use of public funds.

0-14-81, Karen Michalchuk - for Garden State Conservative PAC - Re: Contributions from federal political action committees to state political action committees.

4. ELEC Membership in Council on Governmental Ethics Laws

On a motion by Chairman Goldman, seconded by Commissioner Margetts and a vote of 3-0, the Commission approved payment of the \$150 membership fee for 1981 to continue membership in this national organization.

5. Legislation Providing for Personal Financial Disclosure Reports to ELEC by Gubernatorial and Legislative Candidates

The executive director reported that S1286, which so provides, was on the Senate voting list for April 27 for the Senate to concur in Assembly amendments. With such concurrence, the Legislative process would be completed and it would then be appropriate for action by Governor Byrne. After discussion, it was agreed that appropriate officials in the Governor's office should be contacted immediately to elicit whether it was the Governor's intent to sign the legislation and have it be effective for the 1981 primary election.

6. Legislation Requiring Financial Reporting by Lobbyists

The executive director reviewed with the Commission the legislative meeting schedule prior to May 15, the extended date for the filing of lobbyist financial reports under existing law for calendar 1980. He indicated that there was no indication yet that the legislature had calendered the Governor's conditional veto of S1396 and S1397, which modified the existing reporting provisions, for a vote.

7. Public Financing Disclosure Forms

The assistant executive director indicated that these forms had been printed and that meetings were planned for April 29 and 30 with the treasurers of the gubernatorial candidates to assist them in working with the forms.

8. Executive Session

On a motion by Commissioner Margetts, seconded by Commissioner DeCotiis and a vote of 3-0, the Commission went into executive session to discuss the executive session minutes of the Commission meeting of April 20, 1981, enforcement determinations for late and non-filing, and investigative matters for 1980 and 1981 elections. Upon conclusion of the discussion of these matters, the Commission returned to public session on a motion by Commissioner DeCotiis, seconded by Commissioner Margetts and a vote of 3-0.

9. Adjournment - The Commission adjourned the meeting at 12:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



LEWIS B. THURSTON, III
Executive Director