



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
**BOARD OF ELECTIONS**  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2745



**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS REGULAR MEETING**  
**June 30, 2017**

The District of Columbia Board of Elections (“the Board”) rescheduled its July Regular Monthly Meeting to Friday, June 30, 2017 in the Board’s Hearing Room, located in Suite 280 North, One Judiciary Square, 441 4<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001. The Board’s Chairman, Michael Bennett, was present and Board Member Dionna Lewis was also in attendance. Also present on the dais were Kenneth McGhie, the Board’s General Counsel, Cecily Collier-Montgomery, the Director of the Office of Campaign Finance (“OCF”), and Alice Miller, the Board’s Executive Director.

**Chairman Bennett** called the meeting to order at 10:40 a.m.

The meeting agenda was approved and adopted.

The minutes of the last regular meeting on June 7, 2017 were moved for approval and adopted without objection.

**Mr. Michael Sindram raised public matters before the Board:**

- Mr. Sindram recommended OCF be placed under the auspices of the Board of Ethics and Government Accountability (BEGA) during a Council hearing on campaign reform. Mr. Sindram raised his perceived disparate treatment between the campaign violations of Mayor Bowser and Councilmember Todd. Moreover, Mr. Sindram lamented the issuance of the OCF order after the primary. “If we had known during the primary, the -- albeit the election, Brandon Todd would not have been elected, you know.”
- “As reported in the Express on June 16th, a report released Wednesday by D.C. Council Committee found that City Administrator Rashad Young tried to appease a top campaign donor to Mayor Muriel Bowser by urging city attorneys to quickly settle contract disputes between a district and the donor's company -- pay to play, alive and well. This ought not be. So, if you -- if you all really, truly endeavor to restore the public trust, adding BEGA in the arsenal can only help, can only help.”
- Ms. Terrica Jennings, the ADA coordinator, is doing a splendid job, excellent job, keeping on top of things. Keep up the good work, Ms. Jennings.

**Ms. Miller gave the Executive Director’s report.**

- For the month of June, the staff participated in a number of events, including the annual Truck Touch, sponsored by the Department of Public Works, on Saturday, June 10th; a naturalization ceremony on June the 13th; the sixth annual D.C. Office on Aging Senior Symposium on June 20th; and D.C. Public Schools New Heights youth program on June 21st; the MPD Beat the Streets, Kennedy Recreation Center, on June 28th.

- We did get the \$3 million to begin the procurement for the new voter registration system. We are still in the beginning stages of that procurement as it relates to the government processes.
- We'd ideally like to have the new system in place before next year's election, but we won't do it until we are confident and sure that what we have in place will definitely, you know, meet what we need to ensure that the integrity of the process is not compromised as we move forward.
- We'll be implementing electronic signature that pursuant to the new law. We've been working with the city of Denver, which has successfully implemented the electronic petition process over the last few years. Our petitions become available late January, so with this schedule, we are sure we'll be able to implement the eSign before the January petitioning process for the June primary.

**Mr. McGhie** presented the General Counsel's report.

**Mr. McGhie** gave a litigation status report: as being numerically insufficient. The proponents of the One Fair Wage DC initiative filed an appeal in D.C. Superior Court on May 15th. The board has until July 14th to answer the complaint. The remaining matters are pending in court and we are awaiting a hearing schedule on the merits. The other two cases are D.C. Board of Elections versus Carter I & II, and D.C. Board of Elections versus Worthy are petitions for enforcement of campaign finance fines, and those are still just pending.

**Ms. Collier Montgomery** announced the statistics for OCF as follows:

- Ms. Collier-Montgomery did appear before the Committee on the Judiciary and Public Safety to give testimony on Bill 22-0192, the Fair Elections Act of 2017. And the purpose of this act is to provide public financing for candidates for the office of mayor, council, and council chairman, as well as for the attorney general and for the state board of education. It will be an optional program for candidates.
- OCF held an entrance conference on June 14, 2017. The participants were Nicole Marsh, who is the treasurer for Carly for Ward 5 Council.
- OCF Audit Branch conducted 4 desk reviews.
- OCF has an ongoing field audits of the following committee: Vince Gray, 2016.
- OCF has 1 periodic random audit, which has been initiated on the April 1st, 2017 report: the Citizen's Outreach Fund.

**Mr. William SanFord** presented the General Counsel Report

- The Office of the General Counsel conducted 3 informal hearing and issued 17 orders including the following: 4 orders were issued for ANCs, which vacated prior, previously issued hearing notices; 7 for failure to timely file reports were issued in which no fines were imposed; 6 orders for failure to timely file reports were issued in which a total of \$10,200 in fines were imposed; and one order based upon a noncompliance order in which a fine of \$5,100 was imposed was also issued during the month of May 2017.
- The Office of the General Counsel imposed fines against the following respondents: \$1,700 was imposed against the D.C. Chamber of Commerce for failing to timely file a report. A fine of \$2,250 was imposed against Joshua Johnson, who was a candidate for ANC in the last election. A fine of \$1,450 was imposed against Davina Callahan, also a

candidate for ANC in the last election. A fine of \$2,250 was imposed against Inez Johnson, who was a candidate for ANC in the last election. And a fine of \$2,250 was imposed against Sean Wieland, a candidate for ANC in the last election. The fines against the ANCs' candidates were imposed for failing to file their summary financial statements. And, finally, a fine of \$300 was imposed against the Brandon Todd for Ward 4 Committee for failing to file the January 31 -- failing to timely file the January 31, 2017, Report of Receipts and Expenditures.

- During the month of June 2017, the Office of Campaign Finance collected \$5,400 in fines, which included a fine of \$5,100, pursuant to a fine for a non-compliant audit against the Brandon Todd for Ward 4 Principal Campaign Committee and a fine of \$300 against the Brandon Todd for Ward 4 Principal Campaign Committee for failing to timely file their January 31, 2017, report of receipts and expenditures.
- During the month of June 2017, the Office of the General Counsel maintained 4 open investigations, and they include the following: OCF full investigation 2013-013 into Lee Calhoun. OCF full investigation 2013-014. The Respondent was Stanley Straughter. OCF full investigation 2013-015, internally generated. The Respondent in this matter was Jeffrey Thompson. Finally, OCF full investigation 2017-101. The Complainant in this matter was Aquene Freechild. It was filed on March 7, 2017. The Respondent was Muriel Bowser for Mayor, Principal Campaign Committee, and the infraction was alleged excessive contributions. The order in that particular case was issued on June 6, 2017 imposing a fine of \$13,000.
- The Office of the General Counsel completed 1 show-cause proceeding, and that was in the matter of Brandon Todd for Ward 4, which was referred to the Office of the General Counsel pursuant to a non-compliance audit. The fine that was imposed against the Todd Committee was \$5,100, and it was issued on May 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Mr. Sindram raised his public matters:**

- Mr. Sindram reiterated his request for all recently issued audit reports be delivered to his home.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 11:01 a.m.