



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



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS REGULAR MEETING
September 6, 2017

The District of Columbia Board of Elections (“the Board”) held its Regular Monthly Meeting on Wednesday September 6, 2017 in the Board’s Hearing Room, located in Suite 280 North, One Judiciary Square, 441 4th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001. The Board’s Chairman, Michael Bennett, was present and Board Members Dionna Lewis and Michael Gill were 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 August 2, 2017 were moved for approval and adopted without objection.

Mr. Michael Sindram raised public matters before the Board:

- Mr. Sindram was not pleased with the written response he received from OCF regarding his inquiries. Mr. Sindram appended his original correspondence dated July 9, 2016 and submitted it for the record. He asserts that there are five items articulated with specificity and particularity which remain pending and un-acted upon. He is requesting a full panoply hearing before the board.
 - Chairman Bennett responded that Ms. Montgomery has properly responded to your concerns and your requests, and so we consider the matter closed at this point. And we don't intend to hear anything associated with it. Chairman Bennett reiterated that Mr. Sindram’s request is denied and inappropriate.

Mr. Paul Trantham raised public matters before the Board:

- In March of 2016, Mr. Trantham spoke to Ms. Karen Brooks, and said, "Ms. Karen Brooks, I'm going to bring attention to this board that you have some ANC commissioners who do not live in their single member district."
 - The Commissioners raised include: India Blocker, Mr. Trantham alleges she does not reside at her given address, which is her mother’s address; Mr. Kendall Simmons does not live at 1313 Congress Street as evidenced by giving a different address when he was recently arrested in Prince George’s County, Md.; Mikale Baskin; Lorenzo Green when investigated, Mr. Trantham asserts that the management office of his claimed apartment residence said he didn’t live at that address; and Jacques Patterson whom Mr. Trantham claimed amassed 500 illegitimate petition signatures. In all Mr. Trantham raised seven ANCs in his written comments that he claims do not reside where they claim.

- Chairman Bennett made a commitment to Mr. Trantham to revisit these issues.

Ms. Miller gave the Executive Director's report.

- Agency relocation-- last month, the Department of General Services confirmed that they had entered into a 10-year lease on behalf of the Board to relocate the agency to 1015 Half Street, Southeast. The board will physically relocate its offices sometime around the first week in January 2018. We will also try to host an open house to give members of the public an opportunity to come see the space.
- National Voter Registration Month is September. Our Voter Education Outreach Division has several events planned for the month of September, cumulating with a voter registration drive here at this location on September 26th, which is National Voter Registration Day.
- We did meet with representatives from the Denver office last month, and we are very comfortable and confident that that e-sign project is well underway and ready to go.
- We met with our contracting officer 2 weeks ago regarding the procurement of the VRS system. The goal is to submit the documents to the Office of the Attorney General by September 08th, and then to have the solicitation posted by the 15th of September for a 30-day bid process.

Mr. McGhie presented the General Counsel's report.

- Final rulemaking to amend three DCMR chapters: 30, 34, 38, and 41-- The board adopted that as proposed rulemaking on April 12th, and it was published in the D.C. Register on April 21, 2017. The board received no comments on the proposed rulemaking, and we're requesting that the Board at this time adopt it as a final rulemaking.
 - **BOARD ACTION:** The Board adopted the proposed regulations as final.
- **Mr. McGhie** gave a litigation status report: The proponents of the One Fair Wage DC initiative filed an appeal in D.C. Superior Court on May 15th. The other two cases are D.C. Board of Elections versus Carter, and D.C. Board of Elections versus Worthy are petitions for enforcement of campaign finance fines of \$1,750 and \$2,000 respectively, and the Court granted both petitions, and the judgments will be recorded with the recorder of deeds.

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

- The Office of Campaign Finance is also scheduled to relocate to 1015 Half Street, Southeast, Washington, D.C., during the summer of 2018.
- July 31st filing deadline, which is for the reports of receipts and expenditures by our Independent Expenditure Committee, as well as our Principal Campaign Committee and Political Action Committee. 126 required filers (67 PCCs, 59 PACs); 109 timely filed; 4 requests for extensions; 17 failures to file. The parties that failed to file are listed in the transcript of the meeting.
- New candidate committees who registered with the agency to participate in the 2018 election cycle include: Greg Boyd, City Council, Ward 1, registered on August 02, 2017; Sheika Nikole Reid, Reid 4 Ward 1 2018, City Council, Ward 1, registered on August 09, 2017; James Butler, Committee to Elect James Butler for Mayor, registered on August 18, 2017.

- OCF held an entrance conference on August 16, 2017. The participants were Sheika Nikole Reid, Candidate, Reid 4 Ward 1 2018; Margaret Ntambi, Treasurer, Reid 4 Ward 1 2018; Latisha Atkins, Treasurer, Ward 7 Democrats.
- OCF Audit Branch conducted 114 desk reviews.
- OCF has an ongoing field audit of the following committee: Vince Gray, 2016.
- OCF initiated the following periodic random audits for campaigns and PACs include: Brianne for DC 2018; Carley for Ward 5, 2017 Council; and Committee to Elect Lori Parker for DC Council. The PACs are: the Metropolitan Political Action Committee, the Republican Committee DC, and DC Legal.
- OCF issued one audit during the month of August: the Citizen's Outreach Fund, and the audit report issued on August 31, 2017.

Mr. William SanFord presented the General Counsel Report

- During the month of August, the Office of General Counsel received 17 referrals. There were no informal hearings conducted, and no fines were imposed, and no fines were collected.
- During the month of August 2017, the Office of the General Counsel maintained 3 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.
- During the month of August 2017, the Office of the General Counsel issued 1 interpretive opinion issued on August 15, 2017. The requester was Beverly Perry, Executive Assistant to the Mayor of the District of Columbia. It was submitted on August 4th, and the issue was regarding the creation of a D.C. Statehood portal.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 12:13 p.m.