



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



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS REGULAR MEETING
November 1, 2017

The District of Columbia Board of Elections (“the Board”) held its Regular Monthly Meeting on Wednesday November 1, 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 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 10:48 a.m.

The meeting agenda was approved and adopted.

The minutes of the last regular meeting on Wednesday, October 4, 2017 were moved for approval and adopted without objection.

Ms. Miller gave the Executive Director’s report.

- The Board will be relocated in early January of 2018, based on the latest information we received from DGS. We intend to be fully operational at the new location by January 26th which is the date of the pickup for candidates running for the primary election. The location is one block away from the Navy Yard on the Green Line Navy Yard Metro Station, on the Green Line.
- The E-petition process that we’ll be instituting beginning in January is for electronic petitions when candidates are being nominated. The Board purchased 100 iPads that we will loan out to circulators. They can also use their own mobile device. And what will happen is that the voter roll will be loaded through an app on those mobile devices. The app will also provide an opportunity for individuals to register if they’re not registered to vote and update their voting registration information.
- The voter registration system procurement will be awarded sometime after the first of the year due to changes made to the Statement of Work, and the Board has made modifications to the Statement of Work based on the Contracting Officer’s recommendations. Once it gets to the Attorney General, and their review is done, it will be out for bid for 30 days.
- Last month, members of the staff attended an Inclusion and Integrity Election Administration Symposium at Auburn. The symposium is for the participants from local, state, and national election professionals who engage with researchers, vendors, and advocates on questions facing election administrators today. Ms. Miller acknowledged Karla Garcia who sat on that panel and did a fantastic and wonderful job with her presentation. It was well received by all of the attendees. She talked about and represented the challenges that Hispanic voters feel and have as they try to deal with the

election process in the United States of America, dealing with the fact that they are intimidated but still entitled to and have the right to vote as citizens.

Mr. McGhie presented the General Counsel's report.

- **Mr. McGhie** gave a litigation status report: the only matter that we have in court is *Paul Cohn v. the D.C. Board of Elections*. That was an appeal by Mr. Cohn to the Board's order that was dated September 19th, in which the Board rejected his challenge to the initial petition, which was Initiative Number 77, which dealt with the minimum wage. Mr. Cohn timely filed a motion for summary reversal, and our motion or our response is due on November 13th.

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

- During the month of October there were three filing deadlines in the Office of Campaign Finance.
 - The Constituent Service Program. Their report of receipts and expenditures was due on October 17: nine required filers, all nine timely filed.
 - The report of receipts and expenditures which was due from the Senator Representative Statehood Fund due on October the 1st: three required filers, all three timely filed.
 - The report of receipts and expenditures was due October 10th from the Independent Expenditure Committee as well as Political Action Committee: There were 55, required filers, 49 PACs, and six independent expenditure committees. Fifty-three timely filed, and those consisted of 47 political action committees and six independent expenditure committees. There were two failures to file, and those failures to file were referred to the Office of the General Counsel. The Better Leadership PAC, Richard Tappan, Treasurer, as well as the Gertrude Stein Democratic Club political account, Jessica Pierce, Treasurer.
- New candidate committees who registered with the agency to participate in the 2018 election cycle include: Lisa Hunter, Lisa Hunter for Ward 6, City Council, registering on October 3rd. Dionne Bussey-Reeder, Dionne for DC, City Council at large, registered on October 5th. Michael Bekesha, Bekesha 2018, City Council, Ward 6, registered on October 11th. Phil Mendelson, Mendelson for Chairman, 2018, City Council, registered on October 17th. Jamie Sycamore, Friends of Jamie Sycamore, City Council, Ward 1, registered on October 24th. Aaron Holmes, Holmes for DC City Council, at large, registered on October the 25th.
- OCF held three entrance conferences on October 11, October 13th, and October 25, 2017. The participants on the 11th were: Lisa Hunter, Candidate Lisa Hunter for Ward 6. Silvia M. Diaz, Treasurer, Lisa Hunter for Ward 6. The participants on the 13th were: Muriel Bowser, Candidate, Re-elect Muriel Bowser Our Mayor, Jodie Ovca, Treasurer, Re-elect Muriel Bowser Our Mayor. Charles Allen, Candidate Re-elect Charles Allen for Ward 6. Kenyan McDuffie, Candidate, Kenyan McDuffie 2018. John Hardage, Treasurer, BB&T PAC. The participants on the 25th were: Karl A. Racine, Candidate, Karl Racine 2018. Michael Bekesha, Candidate, Bekesha 2018, Cassandra Baker, Treasurer, for the Bekesha 2018 Principal Campaign Committee. Jamie Sycamore, Candidate, Friends of Jamie Sycamore, Yauheui Koraneu, Treasurer, Friends of Jamie Sycamore.

- OCF Audit Branch reviewed 85 reports of receipts and expenditures which were filed by our various entities who are registered with the Agency.
- OCF initiated the following periodic random audits for campaigns and PACs include: Brianne for DC 2018 initiated September 27th; and Committee to Elect Lori Parker for DC Council initiated September 8th. The PACs are: the Metropolitan Political Action Committee, the Republican Committee DC, and DC Legal initiated September 12th.
- OCF has three periodic random audits which were initiated for Constituent Service Funds including: the Ward 7 Constituent Service Fund; the Ward 4 Constituent Service Fund; and the Do Something Constituent's Fund for Ward 8.
- OCF issued final audit reports during the month of October including: the full field audit of the Vince Gray, 2016, Principal Campaign Committee issued October 6, 2017; Republican Committee D.C. PAC on October 26th; and also the D.C. Legal PAC on October the 3rd, 2017.

Mr. William SanFord presented the General Counsel Report

- During the month of October, the Office of General Counsel completed seven informal hearings, issued seven orders, which included the following: One order was issued for failure to timely file a report of receipt and expenditures in which no fine was imposed. Six orders were issued for failure to timely file reports of receipts and expenditures in which fines totaling \$7,200 were imposed.
 - In the month of October, the Office of the General Counsel imposed fines against the following respondents: a fine of \$1,700 was imposed against Christian Carter. A fine of \$1,700 was imposed against Jacque Paterson for Ward 8 Committee; a fine of \$1,700 was imposed against Sheila Bunn who was a candidate for Ward 8; a fine of \$1,700 was imposed against the Committee to Recall Mayor Bowser, Victor Honey, Treasurer; a fine of \$200 was imposed against Lannette Woodruff, candidate for school board. And a fine of \$200 was imposed against the Committee to Elect Jacque Paterson, who was a candidate for the school board in the 2016 election.
- During the month of October 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.
- **Chairman Bennett** thanked Staff for their support and condolences over his personal loss: "I always thank folks on the panel, but thank all of you and other members of the Office of Campaign Finance that were incredibly supportive, and continue to be supportive at this time. So thank you. It means far more than I can ever express. But thank you so much for all of your support, whether you showed up, whether you prayed, whether you called, sent a note, it all helps a lot. So thank you for that. And so with that, the meeting is adjourned. Thank you."

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 11:18 a.m.