



STATE OF MAINE
COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENTAL ETHICS
AND ELECTION PRACTICES
135 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0135

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July 11th, 2001

Minutes of the July 11th, 2001, meeting of the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices held in the Commission Hearing Room, 242 State Street, Augusta, Maine.

Present: Chair Peter B. Webster; Member Hon. Michael Carpenter, Dr. Linda Cronkhite, and Hon. Harriet P. Henry; Executive Director William C. Hain, III; Counsel Phyllis Gardiner, Esq.; and Commission Assistant Judy Parker.

Chair Webster called the meeting to order at 9:09 a.m.

The Commission considered items on the published agenda as follows:

Agenda Item #5A: Edward I. Johnston; Late Lobbyist Disclosure

The Commission considered the circumstances presented by Mr. Hain. Judge Henry moved, Ms. Cronkhite seconded, and Members voted unanimously to waive the penalty in full due to unexplained postal delays.

Agenda Item #1: Ratification of June Minutes

Ms. Cronkhite moved, Judge Henry seconded, and Members voted unanimously to ratify the minutes of the June 13th, 2001 meeting as submitted.

Agenda Item #2: Review of Status of Cases Referred to Attorney General

Mr. Hain and Counsel Gardiner reviewed the status of both cases. The case involving Mr. Loren Bailey has been returned to the Commission staff for action. That matter will be included on the agenda for the August meeting. The matter involving Mr. David Ireland remains under review by the Attorney General.

Agenda Item #3: Maine Clean Election Act Penalty Issue

Mr. Hain reviewed the status of this matter following which further consideration was tabled until the August 2001 meeting.

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Agenda Item #4: Legislative Status Update

Chair Webster provided a summary of the provisions of Public Law Chapter 470 (LD1809) and the impact upon future Commission operations. Commission Members expressed their public policy concerns about the implications of the process by which LD1809 was enacted.

Agenda Item #5B: Christopher C. Hamilton; Late Lobbyist Disclosure

The Commission considered the circumstances presented by Mr. Hain. Judge Henry moved, Mr. Carpenter seconded, and Members voted unanimously to assess a \$50.00 penalty for the first time late submission of a monthly disclosure report this biennium.

Agenda Item #6: Commission Member Resignation

Commission members acknowledged the letter of resignation submitted by the Honorable Virginia Constantine to Governor King. Judge Henry moved, Mr. Carpenter seconded, and Members unanimously adopted a resolution thanking former Member Constantine for her services to the Commission. Mr. Hain will prepare a formal Resolution to be sent to Ms. Constantine.

Judge Henry reminded Members that she would not be present at the August Commission meeting. The August meeting will be held at 9:30 a.m., August 8th, 2001, in the Commission's offices.

Agenda Item #7: Executive Session

At 10:30 a.m. Judge Henry moved, Mr. Carpenter seconded, and Members voted unanimously to go into executive session to discuss personnel matters. At 10:50 by motion of Judge Henry, seconded by Mr. Carpenter, the Commission returned to regular session having taken no action in executive session that required ratification.

Agenda Item #8: Other

Mr. Hain reviewed a letter from Representative Marilyn Canavan (former Commission Director) requesting an advisory opinion regarding potential conflict of interest issues resulting from two invitations to accept travel, accommodations, and meals to participate in conferences related to her participation in the 2000 elections as a Clean Election Act candidate. Commission members agreed that the facts as presented by Representative Canavan did not appear to give rise to a conflict of interest.

There being no further business, on motion and unanimous vote, the Commission adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
William C. Hain, III
Director

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