



Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission

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Minutes of Commission Meeting

Regular Meeting | Thursday, September 30, 2021 at 10:00 AM

LOCATION:

Georgia State Capitol Building
206 Washington St., SW
Room, 403
Atlanta, Ga. 30334

PRESENT:

Commission Members:

James D. Kreyenbuhl, Chairman
Eric L. Barnum, Vice Chairman
Robert A. Watts, Commission Member
Rick Thompson, Commission Member
Darryl A. Hicks, Commission Member

Office of the Attorney General:

Elizabeth Young, Assistant Attorney General

Commission Staff:

David Emadi, Executive Secretary
Robert Lane, Deputy Executive Secretary
Joseph Cusack, Staff Attorney
Rachel Goldberg, Staff Attorney
Chris Phelps, Paralegal
Haley Brown, Press Secretary
Erwin Yap, Office Administrator
Joel Perkins, IT
Cathy Cox, Court Reporter

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Acting Chair/ Vice Chair Kreyenbuhl.

ELECTION OF NEW COMMISSION CHAIR:

A motion was made to nominate Vice Chair Kreyenbuhl as new commission chair.

Motioned by: Commissioner Barnum

Seconded by: Commissioner Watts

Vote: 5 to 0 carried as approved

A motion was made to nominate Commissioner Barnum as new Vice Chair.

Motioned by: Commissioner Thompson

Seconded by: Commissioner Watts

Vote: 5 to 0 carried as approved

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MEETING MINTUES:

After reviewing the proposed minutes, a motion was made to approve the minutes from the June 24, 2021 Regular Commission meeting.

*Motioned by: Chair Kreyenbuhl
Seconded by: Commissioner Watts
Vote: 4 to 0 carried as approved*

INCREASE OF MAXIMUM CONTRIBUTION LIMITS PUSUANT TO O.C.G.A. § 21-5-41

A motion was made to consider an increase in the maximum contribution limits.

*Motioned by: Chair Kreyenbuhl
Seconded by: Commissioner Barnum
Vote: 5 to 0 carried as approved*

A motion was made to approve the increase the maximum contribution limits, changing the state-wide candidate run-off limits from \$4,400 to \$4,500.

*Motioned by: Commissioner Thompson
Seconded by: Chair Kreyenbuhl*

An amended motion was made that pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 21-5-41(a) that an increase be made to the state-wide contribution limits for state-wide candidates in the general election to \$7,600 and the state-wide run-off election to \$4,500, for all other candidates pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 21-5-41(b) increase the general campaign contribution limits to \$3,000 and the run-off campaign contributions to \$1,600.

Commissioner Thompson withdrew his motion and seconded Commissioner Barnum's amended motion.

*Motioned by: Commissioner Barnum
Seconded by: Commissioner Thompson*

An amended motion was made to state that the state-wide candidates limits, and all other candidates' limits include the primary and the general elections pursuant to the numbers recommended by the staff.

*Motioned by: Commissioner Barnum
Seconded by: Commissioner Thompson
Vote: 5 to 0 carried as approved*

ADVISORY OPINION FOR CONSIDERATION:

a) Advisory Opinion No. 2021-01

After discussion, with the consent of the requester, a motion was made to table Advisory Opinion 2021-01 until the December 9, 2021 commission meeting to amend a discussed.

*Motioned by: Commissioner Watts
Seconded by: Chair Kreyenbuhl
Vote: 5 to 0 carried as approved*

CONSENT ORDERS:

After having been presented to the Commission the following Consent Orders were adopted:

- a) 21-0009-C In the Matter of Eshe Collins

*Motioned by: Chair Kreyenbuhl
Seconded by: Commissioner Watts
Vote: 5 to 0 carried as approved*

- b) 21-0010-C In the Matter of Jason Esteves

*Motioned by: Chair Kreyenbuhl
Seconded by: Commissioner Watts
Vote: 5 to 0 carried as approved*

- c) 21-0019-C In the Matter of Priscilla G. Smith

*Motioned by: Chair Kreyenbuhl
Seconded by: Commissioner Watts
Vote: 5 to 0 carried as approved*

ADMINISTRATIVE DISMISSALS:

- a) 2018-0031 In the Matter of Brian Tam
- b) 2015-0059 In the Matter of Mack Taylor
- c) 2015-0063 In the Matter of John Garst
- d) 21-0014-C In the Matter of Caroline Holko

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:

Executive Secretary David Emadi presented to the Commission a report on the following items:

- a) New Commission Staffers
- b) Budget Update
- c) Legislative Update

REPORT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Elizabeth Young of the Attorney General's office gave updates on the following matters.

- a) 2019-0050 In the Matter of New Georgia Project Inc. & New Georgia Project Action Fund – Court of Appeals decision is favorable to the Commission, dismissing appeal filed by NGP; Motion to Set Aside Orders Lacking Jurisdiction is before Judge Davis, Gwinnett Superior Court – decision is pending.
- b) 2016-0046 In the Matter of No More Pat and Cathy - School Reform – Judge Fry issued an order in favor of Commission; Frank Meyers seeking reconsideration – decision pending.
- c) 2009-0007;2017-0169PC: In the Matter of John Oxendine – Oxendine seeking dismissal; Cross motion filed seeking limited summary determination – decision pending.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- a) Pending Litigation pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b).

A motion was made to enter Executive session.

*Motioned by: Commissioner Watts
Seconded by: Commissioner Barnum
Vote: 5 to 0 carried as approved*

A motion was made to exit Executive session and return to regular session.

*Motioned by: Chair Kreyenbuhl
Seconded by: Commissioner Watts
Vote: 5 to 0 carried as approved*

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no comment from the public.

MEETING ADJOURNED:

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

*Motioned by: Chair Kreyenbuhl
Seconded by: Commissioner Barnum
Vote: 5 to 0 carried as approved*

The meeting was adjourned at 12:45p.m.

Official Minutes Statement

The foregoing Minutes for the September 30, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission were approved and adopted by the Commission at the Commission's meeting on December 9, 2021.



James D. Kreyenbuhl, Chair



Date