



State Ethics Commission

200 Piedmont Avenue | Suite 1416, West Tower | Atlanta, Georgia 30334
404-463-1980 | www.ethics.georgia.gov

Minutes of Commission Meeting

Regular Meeting | Friday, December 8, 2023 at 10:00 AM

Location: Chatham County Manager's Office
Board of Commissioners Chamber Room
124 Bull Street
Savannah, Ga. 31401

The Commission meeting was also available via livestream

PRESENT:

Commission Members:

James D. Kreyenbuhl, Chairman
Rick Thompsen, Vice Chairman
Darryl A. Hicks, Commission Member
David J. Burge, Commission Member
Stan Wise, Commission Member

Commission Staff:

David Emadi, Executive Director
Joseph Cusack, Deputy Executive Director
Steve Knittel, Senior Staff Attorney
Tim Baywal, Staff Attorney
Bryce McCarter, Staff Attorney
Haley Barrett, Press Secretary
Erwin Yap, Office Administrator
Coastal Court Reporting

Office of the Attorney-General:

Elizabeth Young, Assistant Attorney-General

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m. by Chair Kreyenbuhl.

After review, a motion was made to adopt the agenda as modified.

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

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES:

A motion was made to adopt the September 6, 2023 commission meeting minutes as presented.

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

PRELIMINARY HEARINGS:

The following Preliminary hearing was presented:

- a) 23-0173-C In the Matter of Davida Huntley

A motion was made to find that reasonable grounds exist that Davida Huntley and the Committee to Elect Davida Huntley failed to file the Supplement CCDR's on December 31, 2020, December 31, 2021, and December 31, 2022 in violation of O.C.G.A. 21-5-34 (i)(2).

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

- b) 22-0173-C In the Matter of Carl Gilliard – *continued*

CONSENT ORDERS:

A motion was made to adopt consent orders 4a-4q with the exception of 4i.:

- a) 2015-0069/2015-0070 In the Matter of William "Chip" Rogers
- b) 22-0094-C In the Matter of William Park Freeman
- c) 2016-0022/2017-0200 In the Matter of Osborne Nesbitt, Sr.
- d) 2018-0051 In the Matter of Concerned Citizens of Richmond County
- e) 22-0110-C In the Matter of Bethsheba Rem
- f) 23-0009-C In the Matter of Maryam Ahmad
- g) 23-0029-C In the Matter of Tommy Dorsey - *continued*
- h) 23-0038-C In the Matter of Devin Ward
- j) 23-0043-C In the Matter of Robert Dawson
- k) 23-0032-C In the Matter of Dexter Sharper
- l) 22-0153-C In the Matter of Davis Poole
- m) 22-0152-C In the Matter of Steve Jessup
- n) 23-0053-C In the Matter of Devon Dabney
- o) 23-0039-C In the Matter of Angel Gaines-Dingle
- p) 23-0045-C In the Matter of Rob Jones
- q) 22-0161-C In the Matter of Ryan Williams

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

* Doug Chalmers, counsel for William "Chip" Rogers was present via Zoom.

* Kyle Paske, counsel for Bethsheba Rem was present via Zoom.

A motion was made to adopt the following consent order as presented:

- i) 23-0038-C In the Matter of Shalena Cook Jones

*Motioned by: Chair Kreyenbuhl
Seconded by: Commissioner Burge
Vote: 4 to 1 carried as approved with Vice Chair Thompson voting in opposition.*

ADMINISTRATIVE DISMISSAL:

The following Administrative Dismissals were presented to the commission.

- a) 2010-0043 In the Matter of Ralph "Pete" Amos
- b) 2018-0119 In the Matter of Brian Whiteside
- c) 2016-0017 In the Matter of Jason Barrett Green
- d) 2016-0019/2016-0021/2016-0024 In the Matter of David Lee Cannon
- e) 23-0055-C In the Matter of Peter Pociask
- f) 2015-0050 In the Matter of Sharon Barnes-Sutton
- g) 23-0031-C In the Matter of Robert Irions
- h) 2010-0048 In the Matter of Ralph T. Hudgens
- i) 2017-0234 In the Matter of Thomasville Citizens for Responsible Management
- j) 2018-0199 In the Matter of Citizens for Working America, Inc.
- k) 2018-0077PC In the Matter of Gregory Williams

OSAH DECISIONS:

The following OSAH decisions were presented to the commission:

- a) 2018-0100 In the Matter of Thomas Cheek
- b) 20-0007-C In the Matter of Keyantwon Stephens

ADVISORY OPINION:

- a) AO 2023-03 Defending Digital Campaigns, Inc.

A motion was made to adopt Advisory Opinion 2023-03 with the correction of the scrivener's error.

Motioned by: Commissioner Burge

Seconded by: Commissioner Hicks

Vote: 5 to 0 carried as approved

RULE FOR CONSIDERATION:

- a) Rule 189-8 Leadership Committees; Rule 189-8-.01 Political Party

A motion was made to adopt Rule 189-8-.01 Political Party as proposed.

Motioned by: Chair Kreyenbuhl

Seconded by: Commission Burge

Vote: 5 to 0 carried as approved

PROPOSED LEGISLATION:

Deputy Executive Director Joseph Cusack gave a presentation on the proposed legislation.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Executive Director Emadi gave a report on the following items.

- a) Lobbyist Registration
- b) Training Updates
- c) State Department of Anti-Corruption and Transparency presentation

REPORT OF ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE:

- a) Hearing scheduled for December 13, 2023 in the Libertarian Party litigation.
- b) Hearing scheduled for some time in March in the New Georgia Project litigation.
- c) Follow up order received from Judge Barwick on the Abrams for Georgia litigation.

CONFIRMATION OF DATES FOR 2024 QUARTERLY MEETINGS:

After discussion, the commission decided on the following dates for the 2024 quarterly meetings:

March 18, 2024; June 17, 2024, September 13, 2024, and December 13, 2024.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Public comment was given by Becky Langston.

MEETING ADJOURNED:

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

*Motioned by: Chair Kreyenbuhl
Seconded by: Vice Chair Thompson
Vote: 5 to 0 carried as approved*

The meeting was adjourned at 12:29 p.m.

Official Minutes Statement

The foregoing Minutes for the December 8, 2023 Regular Meeting of the Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission were approved and adopted by the Commission at the Commission's meeting on March 18, 2024.


James D. Kreyenbuhl, Chair

3/18/24
Date