

Minutes of Commission Meeting

Regular Meeting | Monday, March 18, 2024 at 10:00 AM

Location: Coverdell Legislative Office Building
Room 515, 18 Capitol Square, SW
Atlanta, Ga. 30334

The Commission meeting was also available via livestream

PRESENT:

Commission Members:

James D. Kreyenbuhl, Chairman
Rick Thompson, Vice Chairman
David J. Burge, Commission Member
Stan Wise, Commission Member

Office of the Attorney-General:

Elizabeth Young, Assistant Attorney-General

Commission Staff:

David Emadi, Executive Director
Joseph Cusack, Deputy Executive Director
Steve Knittel, Deputy General Counsel
Timothy Baywal, Staff Attorney
Bryce McCarter, Staff Attorney
Katie Easterwood, Paralegal
Haley Brown, Press Secretary
Erwin Yap, Office Administrator
Karen Fuhs, Court Reporter
Chandler Perkins, IT

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

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

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

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

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES:

A motion was made to adopt the December 8, 2023 commission meeting minutes as presented.

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

PRELIMINARY HEARINGS:

The following Preliminary hearing was presented:

- a) 22-0023-C In the Matter of Brad Barnes

A motion was made to table this case until after the next preliminary hearing.

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

A motion was made to continue this case to the next regular commission meeting.

*Motioned by: Chair Kreyenbuhl
Seconded by: Vice Chair Thompson
Vote: 4 to 0 carried as approved*

- b) 23-0029-C In the Matter of Tommy Dorsey

A motion was made to find that reasonable grounds exist that the Campaign Finance Act was violated on June 30, 2022 in violation of O.C.G.A. 21-5-34 (c)(1)(B).

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

A motion was made to find that reasonable grounds exist that the Campaign Finance Act was violated on December 31, 2022 in violation of O.C.G.A. 21-5-34 (c)(1)(B).

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

CONSENT ORDERS:

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

- a) 20-0002-C In the Matter of James O. Sells
- b) 23-0019-C In the Matter of Gregory Adams
- c) 24-0025-C In the Matter of Tashe Allen
- d) 21-0034-C In the Matter of Donald Mitchell
- e) 24-0010-C In the Matter of Larry Savage
- f) 24-0022-C In the Matter of Debra Jones-Bazemore
- g) 24-0019-C In the Matter of Julia Hurtado
- h) 24-0012-C In the Matter of Nicholas Simpson
- i) 24-0017-C In the Matter of Ronald Harbin
- j) 23-0046-C In the Matter of Kris Stancil
- k) 23-0049-C In the Matter of Carlotta Harrell
- l) 23-0054-C In the Matter of Awoyunla Dele Lowman
- m) 23-0064-C In the Matter of Sabriya Hakeem Hill
- n) 24-0001-C In the Matter of Ricci Mason

- o) 24-0018-C In the Matter of John Cristadoro
- p) 23-0051-C In the Matter of Jade Terreberry
- q) 23-0063-C In the Matter of Charlie Bibb
- r) 24-0007-C In the Matter of Vickie Benson
- s) 24-0006-C In the Matter of Leroy Hutchins

Motioned by: Commissioner Burge

Seconded by: Chair Kreyenbuhl

Vote: 4 to 0 carried as approved

ADMINISTRATIVE DISMISSAL:

The following Administrative Dismissals were presented to the commission:

- a) 22-0001-C In the Matter of David Perdue
- b) 21-0039-C In the Matter of Kimberly Johnson
- c) 23-0061-C In the Matter of Michael Owens
- d) 24-0011-C In the Matter of Angie Davis
- e) 24-0015-C In the Matter of Bradford Wheeler
- f) 23-0052-C In the Matter of Ollie Clemons
- g) 22-0172-C In the Matter of Mike Glanton
- h) 23-0047-C In the Matter of Jason Miller
- i) 23-0059-C In the Matter of Hoyt Ferguson
- j) 23-0060-C In the Matter of Keisha Jeffcoat

OSAH DECISIONS:

The following OSAH decision was presented to the commission:

- a) 21-0020-C In the Matter of Hardie Davis, Jr

RULE FOR CONSIDERATION:

- a) Rule 189-2-.13 Requirement of Notice Given to Commission Members by Commission Staff of Initial Decision

A motion was made to adopt Rule 189-2-.13 Requirement of Notice Given to Commission Members by Commission Staff of Initial Decision as proposed.

Motioned by: Commissioner Burge

Seconded by: Commission Wise

Vote: 4 to 0 carried as approved

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Executive Director Emadi gave a report on the following item:

a) Legislative Updates:

- HB 986 Artificial Intelligence
- SB 368 Foreign Nationals
- HB 1039 Social Media Influencer Disclaimer
- SB 358 Complaints, reporting requirements, local filers, lobbyist reporting, PAC reporting and threshold, and Personal Financial Disclosure requirements.

REPORT OF ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE:

- a) Oral arguments were held on December 13, 2023 in the Libertarian Party litigation.
b) Oral arguments are scheduled for April 18, 2024 in the New Georgia Project litigation.

A motion was made to amend the agenda to take public comment prior to entering executive session.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

a) Legal Matters

A motion was made to enter the executive session.

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

A motion was made to exit the executive session and re-enter the regular session.

*Motioned by: Chair Kreyenbuhl
Seconded by: Commissioner Burge
Vote: 3 to 0 carried as approved; Commissioner Wise had to leave prior to the vote.*

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

MEETING ADJOURNED:

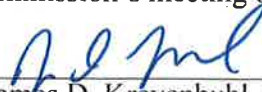
A motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

*Motioned by: Vice Chair Thompson
Seconded by: Chair Kreyenbuhl
Vote: 3 to 0 carried as approved*

The meeting was adjourned at 12:16 p.m.

Official Minutes Statement

The foregoing minutes for the March 18, 2024 regular meeting of the State Ethics Commission were approved and adopted by the Commission at the Commission's meeting on June 17, 2024.



James D. Kreyenbuhl, Chair



Date

County of Fulton,
State of Georgia

Affidavit of Presiding Officer

STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

Personally, appeared before the undersigned officer, duly authorized to administer oaths, James D. Kreyenbuhl, Chair of the State Ethics Commission (the "Commission"), who, being sworn, states the following under oath:

1.

I am the Chair of the Commission. I am giving this Affidavit as required by O.C.G.A. § 50-14-4(b) to explain the closing to the public a part of a meeting of the Commission. I have personal knowledge of the facts stated in this Affidavit.

2.

On March 18, 2024, the Commission met in an open meeting at the Coverdell Legislative Office Building, 18 Capitol Square SW, Room 515, Atlanta, Ga. 30334, and I presided. By a vote of 4 to 0, the Commission closed a portion of its meeting to the public in order to discuss and deliberate upon legal matters. No other topic was discussed during the closed portion, over which I presided. The meeting was closed in accord with the specific exception to open meetings under O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2(1) ("The attorney-client privilege recognized by state law to the extent that a meeting otherwise required to be open to the public under this chapter may be closed in order to consult and meet with legal counsel pertaining to pending or potential litigation, settlement, claims, administrative proceedings, or other judicial actions brought or to be brought by or against the agency or any officer or employee or in which the agency or any officer or employee may be directly involved; provided, however, the meeting may not be closed for advice or consultation on whether to close a meeting...").

Sworn to and subscribed before me this

17 day of June, 2024.

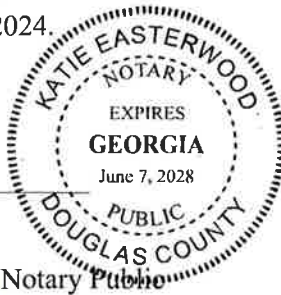


Notary Signature

Katie Easterwood

Notary Print Name

My Commission expires June 7, 2028





James D. Kreyenbuhl, Chair
State Ethics Commission