

OCTOBER 19, 2023 MEETING MINUTES REGISTRY OF ELECTION FINANCE

The Registry of Election Finance (“the Registry” or “the Board”) of the Bureau of Ethics and Campaign Finance (“the Bureau”) met at 9:30 AM on Thursday, October 19, 2023 in the Tennessee Room 2 of the WR Snodgrass Tennessee Tower, 312 Rosa L. Parks Ave., Nashville, TN 37243.

Presiding over the meeting was Vice Chairman Hank Fincher. Attending the meeting were Board Members Tom Lawless, Paige Burcham-Dennis, David Golden, and Paz Haynes. Executive Director Bill Young, Assistant Director Lance Frizzell, General Counsel Lauren Topping, Chief of Staff Janet Williams and Director of Audit Jay Moeck also were in attendance. The meeting was open to the public. This meeting was recorded via video and audio recording.

Director Young opened the meeting by noting that a physical quorum of the Registry members was present.

At the outset of the meeting, Member Lawless moved to suspend the usual rules to allow the Registry to proceed out of order so that those present in the room with matters before the Registry could be heard first. Member Golden seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved. *Nonetheless, the minutes will reflect the matters in the order they were placed on the Registry’s published agenda.*

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Member Lawless moved to approve the meeting minutes of the Registry’s previous August 17, 2023, meeting as presented. Member Golden seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by voice vote (5-0).

Update of Humble Audit

Director Young advised the Registry members that the Staff was not yet prepared to address this matter, but that it would be on the Registry’s next meeting agenda. No action was taken.

Show Cause Hearings

Hamilton County Fund for Children & Public Educ., Case No. 23-78 (Appointment of Treasurer); Hamilton County Fund for Children & Public Educ. (Annual Mid-Year

Supplemental): Attorney Rick Colbert appeared on behalf of the organization and addressed the Registry members. At the outset of this discussion, Counsel waived additional notice concerning the Annual Mid-Year Supplemental report in order to consolidate these matters and resolve both matters together. Counsel presented a statement to the Registry members. After a discussion, Member Lawless moved to assess a total civil penalty of \$250. Member Dennis seconded the motion. However, the motion failed (3-2). After additional discussion, Member Lawless renewed his motion, which was again seconded by Member Dennis; however, the motion again failed. Member Lawless then moved to roll further consideration of these matters to the Registry's next scheduled meeting. The motion was seconded by Member Dennis and approved.

Legacy PAC, Case No. 23-82: Andre Dean appeared on behalf of the PAC and presented a statement to the Registry. After a discussion, Member Lawless moved to assess a civil penalty of \$250. Member Dennis seconded the motion, which was approved by roll call vote (4-1, Member Haynes opposed).

Statements Submitted

Juliette Eskridge, Case No. 23-41 (Pre-Primary): Director Young presented a short summary of the facts and circumstances of this matter. After a short discussion, Member Lawless moved to assess a civil penalty of \$500. Member Haynes seconded the motion, which was approved by roll call vote (5-0).

Brandon Ogles: After a short discussion, Member Lawless moved to take no action. Member Haynes seconded the motion, which was approved by voice vote (5-0).

American Academy of Emergency Medicine PAC, Case No. 23-73: This matter was continued at the request of the organization to allow the organization to personally appear at the Registry's next scheduled meeting.

Dickson Co. Democratic Party, Case No. 23-75: Director Young presented a short summary of the facts and circumstances of this matter. After a short discussion, Member Haynes moved to assess a civil penalty of \$250. Member Lawless seconded the motion, which was approved by roll call vote (5-0).

Home Builders Assn of Chattanooga PAC, Case No. 23-79: Director Young presented a short summary of the facts and circumstances of this matter. After a short discussion, Member Golden moved to assess a civil penalty of \$250. Member Fincher seconded the motion, which was approved by roll call vote (5-0).

JB Moss Voice of the Electorate, Case No. 23-80: Director Young presented a short summary of the facts and circumstances of this matter. After a discussion, Member Golden moved to assess a civil penalty of \$750. Member Haynes seconded the motion, which was approved by roll call vote (4-1, Member Fincher opposed).

Our Children, Our Choice TN, Case No. 23-84: Director Young presented a short summary of the facts and circumstances of this matter. After a short discussion, Member Lawless moved to take no action. Member Golden seconded the motion, which was approved by voice vote (5-0).

TNBCTC PAC, Case No. 23-86: Director Young presented a short summary of the facts and circumstances of this matter. After a short discussion, Member Lawless moved to assess a civil penalty of \$250. Member Golden seconded the motion, which was approved by roll call vote (5-0).

Consideration of Civil Penalty Orders

Juliette Eskridge, Case No. 23-70 (Contribution Audit): The Registry's Director of Audit summarized the audit findings and the history of this matter. After a discussion, Member Fincher moved to assess a civil penalty of \$1,000. Member Lawless seconded the motion, which was approved by roll call vote (5-0).

Clifford Lewis, Case No. 23-71 (1st Quarter): Director Young presented a short summary of the facts and circumstances of this matter. After a short discussion, Member Lawless moved to assess a civil penalty of \$10,000. Member Haynes seconded the motion, which was approved by roll call vote (5-0).

P. Danielle Nellis, Case No. 23-13 (2nd Quarter): This matter was continued to the Registry's next scheduled meeting.

1st TN-PAC, Case No. 23-72: This matter was continued to the Registry's next scheduled meeting.

Beat Bill Lee PAC, Case No. 23-74: Director Young presented a short summary of the facts and circumstances of this matter. After a short discussion, Member Lawless moved to assess a civil penalty of \$10,000. Member Haynes seconded the motion, which was approved by roll call vote (5-0).

Envision Tennessee, Case No. 23-76: This matter was continued at the request of the organization to allow the organization to personally appear at the Registry's next scheduled meeting.

Faison's Freedom, Case No. 23-77: Leader Faison was present at the Registry's meeting and addressed the Registry. Director Young presented a short summary of the facts and circumstances of this matter. After a short discussion, Member Lawless moved to assess a civil penalty of \$250. Member Haynes seconded the motion, which was approved by roll call vote (5-0).

Justice Nashville PAC, Inc., Case No. 23-81: Director Young presented a short summary of the facts and circumstances of this matter. After a short discussion, Member Golden moved to assess a civil penalty of \$250. Member Lawless seconded the motion, which was approved by roll call vote (5-0).

Nashville Citizens for Fair & Transparent Govt., Case No. 23-83: Director Young presented a short summary of the facts and circumstances of this matter. After a short discussion, Member Haynes moved to assess a civil penalty of \$250. Member Golden seconded the motion, which was approved by roll call vote (4-1, Member Lawless opposed).

Tennessee College Republican Committee, Case No. 23-85: Arthur Hahn appeared on behalf of the organization and presented a statement. Director Young presented a short summary of the facts and circumstances of this matter. After a discussion, Member Dennis moved to assess a civil penalty of \$500. Member Lawless seconded the motion, however, the motion failed. After further discussion, Member Lawless moved to assess a civil penalty of \$250. Member Dennis seconded the motion, which was approved by roll call vote (5-0).

We Are Ready Nashville PAC, Case No. 23-87: Director Young presented a short summary of the facts and circumstances of this matter. After a short discussion, Member Lawless moved to assess a civil penalty of \$10,000. Member Haynes seconded the motion, which was approved by roll call vote (5-0).

Persons Subject to Possible Issuance of Show Cause Notice

G.A. Hardaway (House of Representatives, District 93): Representative Hardaway appeared at the Registry's scheduled meeting and waived notice of a hearing in order to resolve this matter at this meeting. Director Young presented a short summary of the facts and circumstances of this matter. After a short discussion, Member Golden moved

to assess a civil penalty of \$100. Member Haynes seconded the motion, which was approved by roll call vote (5-0).

Member Lawless moved to issue a show cause notice in each of the following matters:

Chris Biven	Ross A. Sampson
Keith Britt	Mitchell Skelton
Kenya Brooks	Lemichael D. Wilson
Curtis Carney	Cheryl Womack Uselton
Tom Cook	Morgan Woodberry
Denny Darnell	AMG-PAC
Donnie Hall	Clarksville Firefighters PAC
Toniko S. Harris	CSX Transportation*
Torrey Harris	(*Member Haynes recused)
Thomas Jefferson	Friends of Police PAC
Clifford Lewis (2 nd Quarter)	Henderson County Republican Party
Jameson Lee Manor	Knox County Democratic Women's Club
Jason Martin	Nashville PAC
P. Danielle Nellis (3 rd Quarter)	Our Values PAC
P. Danielle Nellis (4 th Quarter)	Vote No on 1 (SMC)
P. Danielle Nellis (Annual MY Supp.)	We Are Ready Nashville PAC
Will Richardson	

Member Golden seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by roll call vote. Member Lawless then moved to take no action on the remaining matters:

Brenda Dotson	Jason Gilliam
Barbara Farmer-Tolbert	Sanjeev Memula

Member Golden seconded the motion, which was approved by voice vote (5-0).

Set 2024 Registry meeting dates. The Registry agreed that its next meeting would be scheduled for January 23, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. (Location to be determined based on availability.) The Registry also determined that for the calendar year 2024, it would meet on the 4th Tuesday of every other month, beginning in January, subject to adjustments as needed.

Executive Session. *At this time, the Registry entered an Executive Session, after which the meeting was adjourned.*