

MARCH 26, 2024 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 Tuesday, March 26, 2024, in the Nashville Room of the WRS Tennessee Tower, 312 Rosa L. Parks Ave., Nashville, TN 37243.

Chairman Henry Fincher presided over the meeting. Attending the meeting were Board Members Tom Lawless, Paige Burcham-Dennis, David Golden, Tom Morton, 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 were also 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. Director Young also requested continuances for the following matters:

- Clifford Lewis, Case No. 24-03 (3Q)
- Clifford Lewis, (4Q) (Possible Show Cause)
- Jason Martin (Possible Show Cause)
- We Are Ready Nashville PAC (Possible Show Cause)

These continuances were approved by the Registry.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Member Lawless moved to approve the meeting minutes of the Registry’s previous January 23, 2024, meeting as presented. Member Golden seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by voice vote (6-0).

Humble Audit

Chairman Fincher opened the floor for discussion of this matter and questions to the Registry’s staff. Larry Crain, Counsel for Mr. Humble, was in attendance. After a discussion, Member Lawless moved to accept the preliminary report as presented and to take no further action on this matter. Member Burcham-Dennis seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Sworn Complaint

Case No. C24-01, Sumner County Constitutional Republicans (SCCR) and Tennessee Constitutional Republicans (TNCR): Director Young advised the Members that the Attorney General's Office had advised that it had not yet completed its investigation into this matter but anticipates that the investigation will be complete prior to the Registry's scheduled May meeting. Therefore, this matter was continued.

Settlement Offer

Kristy Sullivan, Case No. 21-50: Counsel for the Registry presented a short summary of the procedural history of this matter and the proposed settlement. After a short discussion, Member Burcham-Dennis moved to take no action on the proposal. Member Haynes seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved. Member Haynes asked that the Registry's staff advise Ms. Sullivan the Registry would accept a payment plan for the \$1500 penalty amount.

Show Cause Hearings

Vote No on 1 (SMC), Case No. 23-116: Respondent was represented by Counsel Ben Gastel, who was present at the hearing. Counsel for the Registry presented a summary of the procedural history and posture of each case. Member Haynes moved to consolidate this matter with Case Nos. 23-24, 23-25, and 23-63 (Requests for Reconsideration). Member Lawless seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved. Mr. Gastel made a statement to the Board and answered questions. Member Golden moved to reconsider Case Nos. 23-24, 23-25, and 23-63. Member Burcham-Dennis seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved. Member Haynes moved to reduce the civil penalties assessed in Case Nos. 23-24, 23-25, and 23-63 to \$3,000; however, the motion failed for lack of a second. Member Burcham-Dennis moved to reduce the civil penalties assessed in Case Nos. 23-24, 23-25, and 23-63 to \$5,000. Member Golden seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved (5-0; Member Lawless did not participate in this vote.) Member Haynes moved to take no action on Case No. 23-116. Member Fincher seconded the motion, which failed. Member Haynes then moved to assess a civil penalty of \$750 in Case No. 23-116. Member Golden seconded the motion, which was approved (5-1, Member Morton opposed).

Reconsiderations

Donnie Hall, Case Nos. 23-08, 23-09, 23-10, 23-43, 23-95: Mr. Hall personally appeared at the Registry's meeting. Counsel for the Registry presented a summary of the

procedural history and posture of each case. Mr. Hall presented a short statement to the Board. After a short discussion, it was determined that these matters should be continued to the Registry's next meeting to allow Mr. Hall to correct all outstanding matters. The Registry members also agreed to allow Mr. Hall to participate in the May meeting via telephone due to his impending relocation to another state.

Toniko S. Harris, Case No. 23-96: Counsel for the Registry presented a summary of the procedural history and posture of this case. Member Morton moved to reconsider the previously assessed penalty. Member Golden seconded the motion, which was approved. Member Morton moved to reduce the assessed penalty to \$250. Member Lawless seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Henderson County Republican Party, Case No. 23-112: Counsel for the Registry presented a summary of the procedural history and posture of this case. Mr. Eddie Akins personally appeared on behalf of the Respondent and addressed the Board. Member Morton moved to reconsider the previously assessed penalty. Member Lawless seconded the motion, which was approved. Member Morton moved to reduce the assessed penalty to \$250. Member Lawless seconded the motion, which was approved by roll call vote (5-1, Member Burcham Dennis opposed).

Statements Submitted

Scott Crammond, Case No. 24-01: Director Young presented a short summary of this matter. Member Morton moved to assess a civil penalty of \$250. Member Lawless seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Knox County Democratic Women's Club, Case No. 23-113: Director Young presented a short summary of the facts of this matter. Ms. Kathy Manning appeared on behalf of the Respondent. After a short discussion, Member Lawless moved to assess a civil penalty of \$250. Member Morton seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Consideration of Civil Penalty Orders

Chris Bivens, Case No. 24-02: Director Young presented a short summary of this matter. Member Lawless moved to assess a civil penalty of \$10,000. Member Morton seconded the motion, which was approved by roll call vote (5-1, Member Fincher opposed).

Lemichael D. Wilson, Cas No. 24-04: Director Young presented a short summary of this matter. Member Lawless moved to assess a civil penalty of \$10,000. Member Morton seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Persons Subject to Possible Issuance of Show Cause Notice

Member Morton moved to take no action in each of the following matters. Member Burcham Dennis seconded the motion, which was approved (5-1, Member Lawless opposed).

G.A. Hardaway	Hamblen County GOP
Eric Stewart	Timothy Hill
Anthony Cappiello	Rising Phoenix Holding Corp.
Lee Frank	MWB PAC
Casey Hood	Amber Riddle

Member Morton moved to issue a show cause notice in each of the following matters. Member Fincher seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Anthony Davis (Member Lawless abstains).	Kimberly G. Turner
Tennessee Coalition of Independent Voters PAC	Jameson Lee Manor

Member Morton moved to issue a show cause notice in each of the following matters. Member Lawless seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Kenya Brooks	Mitchell Skelton
Curtis Carney	Lemichael D. Wilson
Demetrus Coonrod	Clarksville Firefighters PAC
Brenda Dotson	GenNext PAC
Donnie Hall	Nashville PAC
Angela Redden	People Power PAC
Katrina Robinson	Volunteer Republican Women’s Club
Ross A. Sampson	

Discussion of Outstanding Civil Penalties. Director Young and Counsel for the Registry presented the Registry with prepared lists of 1) outstanding civil penalties to be pursued for collection and 2) outstanding civil penalties to be marked as “unable to be collected”, pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 4-55-104(b). After a short discussion, the Registry members approved the lists as presented.

Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting set for May 28, 2024. Director Young confirmed with the Registry that Member Golden is permitted to participate by telephone at the next meeting.

Other Business. None.

Executive Session. None.

Meeting Adjourned.