



**State of Washington
PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION**

711 Capitol Way Rm. 206, PO Box 40908 • Olympia, Washington 98504-0908
(360) 753-1111 • FAX (360) 753-1112

Toll Free 1-877-601-2828 • E-mail: pdc@pdc.wa.gov • Website: www.pdc.wa.gov

MINUTES – Special Meeting

Evergreen Plaza Building, Room 206
711 Capitol Way South
Olympia, Washington

8:30 a.m.

January 09, 2015

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT

(Participated via conference call)

Grant Degginger, Chair
Katrina Asay, Vice Chair
Amit Ranade, Member
Anne Levinson, Member

STAFF PRESENT

(Participated in person)

Andrea McNamara Doyle, Executive Director
Tony Perkins, Acting Assistant Director
Phil Stutzman, Director of Compliance
Linda Dalton, Sr. Assistant Attorney General

The special meeting of the Public Disclosure Commission was called to order by Commission Chair Grant Degginger at 8:40 a.m. in the Evergreen Plaza Building, Room 206 Olympia, Washington.

Opening Comments

Commissioner Degginger called the meeting to order.

Enforcement

45-day Citizen Action Complaint

WEA-PAC and Working Together for the 17th PAC, Case No. 15-043, a citizen action complaint involving alleged violations of RCW 42.17A.335(1)(c) for falsely claiming an endorsement for a candidate.

Tony Perkins summarized the staff's findings, conclusions, and recommendations regarding the citizen's action complaint filed by James Abernathy of the Freedom Foundation against WEA-PAC and Working Together for the 17th PAC involving alleged violations of Washington's false political advertising law.

Mr. Perkins noted that the alleged statements at issue in the complaint appeared in direct mail post cards, television advertisements, and website content created by the two committees. The statements concerned the Freedom Foundation and Lynda Wilson, a 2014 advocate for legislature in the 17th and discussed her connection to "support" from the Freedom Foundation.

He stated that the basis for the statements were provided to the PDC staff for review. Mr. Perkins stated that staff's review found no evidence to show that the Freedom Foundation family endorsed Ms. Wilson, only that they give support to her. Staff's

review also found insufficient evidence to establish a violation of wither RCW 42.17A.335(1)(a) or (1)(c).

Staff recommended that the Commission enter an order dismissing the allegations against both respondents. Staff also recommended that the Attorney General take no further action in this matter.

Motion 15-001

Moved by Commissioner Ranade, seconded by Commissioner Asay that:

The Commission accept the Staff recommendations to enter an order dismissing the allegations against both respondents and recommend that the Attorney General take no further action on the citizen action complaint.

The motion passed unanimously.

Executive Session

The Commission went into Executive Session at 8:55 a.m. to discuss pending and potential litigation with legal counsel and returned at 9:10 a.m.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 9:11 a.m.

Approved by the Commission on January 22, 2015.