State of Washington PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

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MINUTES – Regular Meeting 9:30 a.m. |June 23, 2022 711 Capitol Way S. #206 Olympia, Washington

Commission Members Present

Fred Jarrett, Chair; Nancy Isserlis, Vice Chair; Allen Hayward, Member.

Commission Members Present (Participated via Microsoft Teams)

Jocelyn Cooney, Member.

Commission Member Absent

Bill Downing, Member

Staff Present

Peter Frey Lavallee, Executive Director; Kim Bradford, Deputy Director; Sean Flynn, General Counsel; Jana Greer, Administrative Officer; James Gutholm, Chief Information Officer; Matthew Kernutt, Assistant Attorney General representing the Commission; Chad Standifer, Assistant Attorney General representing PDC staff.

Staff Present (Participated via Microsoft Teams)

Kendra Hodgson, Communications and Outreach Director; Tabitha Townsend, Compliance Coordinator; Tabatha Blacksmith, Compliance Coordinator; Jordan Campbell, Compliance Coordinator; Kurt Young, Compliance Officer; Jennifer Hansen, Compliance Officer; Bret Skipworth, DES Senior Financial Consultant; and Susie Giles-Klein, Assistant Attorney General representing PDC staff.

The regular meeting of the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) was called to order by Commission Chair Jarrett at 9:30 a.m.

PDC Meeting Video

COVID-19 update: The June 23, 2022, Public Disclosure Commission Meeting was streamed live via TVW at <u>WAPDC.6.23.22</u>

Chair Opening Comments | PDC Meeting Video

Chair Jarrett welcomed all attendees and viewers to the June 23, 2022, Regular Commission meeting.

Election of Commission Chair and Vice Chair per WAC 390-05-100 | PDC Meeting Video

Per WAC 390-05-100 requiring the Commission to elect a Chair and Vice Chair.

Chair Jarrett asked the Commission members for nominations of 2022-2023 officers.

MOTION 21-0187

Nominated by Commissioner Hayward that the Commission elect Commissioner Jarrett as Chair of the Public Disclosure Commission for 2022 -2023.

The motion passed 4 - 0.

MOTION 21-0188

Nominated by Commissioner Hayward that the Commission elect Commissioner Isserlis as Vice Chair of the Public Disclosure Commission for 2022 - 2023.

The motion passed 4 - 0

Consideration and Possible Approval of Meeting Minutes | PDC Meeting Video

Meeting minutes were presented to the Commission for consideration and possible approval:

• May 26, 2022, Regular Meeting

MOTION 21-0189

Moved by Commissioner Isserlis and seconded by Commissioner Hayward that the Commission approve the meeting minutes for the May 26, 2022, regular meeting.

The motion passed 4 - 0.

Public Comment | PDC Meeting Video

As was noticed and announced, a Teams video and conference line was provided for public comment during this time.

The following person(s) provided public comment:

• Conner Edwards, campaign treasurer, commented on proposed stakeholder advisory committee.

Budget Update | PDC Meeting Video

Executive Director Peter Frey Lavallee and Bret Skipworth, DES Senior Financial Consultant, provided the budget update to the Commission.

Rulemaking | PDC Meeting Video

General Counsel Sean Flynn presented the <u>APA petition</u> concerning a proposed stakeholder advisory committee. General Counsel Flynn concluded with the information regarding stakeholder advisory groups established by campaign-finance regulatory agencies in other states.

The Commission discussed holding additional meetings for discussions and outreach with stakeholders, as well as the potential to hold Commission meetings in other parts of Washington state. General Counsel Flynn noted the Commission's decision would be reduced to writing in a response to the APA petitioner summarizing the reasoning and intent of the Commission.

MOTION 21-0190

Moved by Commissioner Hayward and seconded by Commissioner Isserlis that the Commission deny the APA petition concerning a proposed stakeholder advisory committee.

The motion passed 4 - 0.

General Counsel Flynn presented the <u>six-month rulemaking agenda</u> for August 2022 through January 2023 for consideration and possible approval. Staff recommended the adoption of the six-month rulemaking agenda for July 2022 publication.

MOTION 21-0191

Moved by Commissioner Hayward and seconded by Commissioner Isserlis that the Commission adopt the six-month rulemaking agenda.

The motion passed 4 - 0.

General Counsel Flynn presented the <u>proposed rule</u> for inflationary adjustments to the last-minute contribution threshold for consideration and possible approval. Staff recommended the adoption of the proposed rule.

MOTION 21-0192

Moved by Commissioner Isserlis and seconded by Commissioner Hayward that the Commission adopt inflationary adjustments to the last-minute contribution threshold and expedite the effective date to June 30th, 2022.

The motion passed 4 - 0.

Next Steps/Follow-up: The discussion of stakeholder communications & outreach to be added to the agenda for the Commission's July 27, 2022, retreat.

Enforcement Hearings | PDC Meeting Video

10:28 a.m. The Commission conducted a remote hearing for alleged violations of <u>RCW 42.17A.700</u> by failing to file a Personal Financial Affairs Statement (F-1 report) disclosing financial information. Compliance Coordinators Tabitha Townsend, Tabatha Blacksmith and Jordan Campbell presented the cases to the Commission for possible action.

PDC Case <u>108753</u> – <u>Warren Small</u>, a former School Director for Royal School District 160. PDC staff
is alleging that the Respondent violated <u>RCW 42.17A.700</u> by failing to file Personal Financial
Affairs Statements (F-1 reports), due no later than April 15, 2022, disclosing financial information
for calendar year 2021.

MOTION 21-0193

Moved by Commissioner Isserlis and seconded by Commissioner Hayward that the Commission find the respondent in violation of <u>RCW 42.17A</u> and impose a civil penalty of \$2,000 with \$500 suspended contingent on filing the missing report and payment of all penalties within 30 days.

The motion passed 4 - 0.

PDC Case 108754 – Ronnie Little, a former Fire Commissioner for King Fire Protection District 40.
 PDC staff is alleging that the Respondent violated RCW 42.17A.700 by failing to file Personal Financial Affairs Statements (F-1 reports), due no later than April 15, 2022, disclosing financial information for calendar year 2021.

MOTION 21-0194

Moved by Commissioner Isserlis and seconded by Commissioner Hayward that the Commission find the respondent in violation of RCW 42.17A and impose a civil penalty of \$10,000 with \$5,000 suspended contingent on filing the report for the current violation, all outstanding reports filed, and all prior penalties paid within 30 days.

The motion passed 4 - 0.

PDC Case <u>108755</u> – <u>Jonathon Rodeback</u> a School Director for Toutle Lake School District 130. PDC staff is alleging that the Respondent violated <u>RCW 42.17A.700</u> by failing to file Personal Financial Affairs Statements (F-1 reports), due no later than April 15, 2022, disclosing financial information for calendar year 2021.

MOTION 21-0195

Moved by Commissioner Isserlis and seconded by Commissioner Hayward that the Commission find the respondent in violation of RCW 42.17A and impose a civil penalty of \$3,000 with \$500 suspended contingent on filing the report for the current violation, all outstanding reports filed, and all prior penalties paid within 30 days.

The motion passed 4 - 0.

Reporting Modifications | PDC Meeting Video

11:00 a.m. The Commission conducted a remote hearing concerning requests for reporting modifications. Jennifer Hansen, Compliance Officer, presented the requests to the Commission for consideration and possible approval.

NEW

• Michael L. Morrison – Candidate for Sheriff, Chelan County WAC 390-28-100(1)(d).

MOTION 21-0196

Moved by Commissioner Cooney and seconded by Commissioner Hayward that the Commission grant the partial reporting modification on the basis that literal application of the law would cause a manifestly unreasonable hardship on the applicant and that the limited modification would not frustrate the purposes of the Act.

The motion <u>passed</u> 3 - 1. Commissioner Isserlis opposed the motion. <u>Final</u> <u>Order</u>

• Holly Stanton – Candidate for State Representative, Legislative District 31 WAC 390-28-100(1)(e)(i).

MOTION 21-0197

Moved by Commissioner Isserlis and seconded by Commissioner Hayward that the Commission deny the partial reporting modification as requested, on the basis that the requestor has not met the burden of proof of establishing a manifest hardship and/or that granting the modification would frustrate the purposes of the Act.

The motion passed 4 – 0. Final Order

• <u>Ian S. Birk</u> – Judge, Court of Appeals Division <u>WAC 390-28-100(1)(b)</u> & <u>WAC 390-28-100(1)(e)(ii)</u>.

MOTION 21-0198

Moved by Commissioner Isserlis and seconded by Commissioner Hayward that the Commission grant the partial reporting modification, on the basis that literal application of the law would cause a manifestly unreasonable hardship on the applicant and that the limited modification would not frustrate the purposes of the Act.

The motion passed 4 – 0. Final Order

Enforcement Updates | PDC Meeting Video

Kurt Young, Compliance Officer, presented the enforcement update report as of June 15, 2022.

Management Team Updates | PDC Meeting Video

- Executive Director Update.
- Deputy Director Update.
- <u>Customer Service and Filer Assistance Update</u>.
- IT Activity Report.

Strategic Plan Update and Discussion | PDC Meeting Video

Chair Jarrett explained that the Commission would be discussing the strategic plans at the upcoming July 27, 2022, Commission retreat. He suggested that audits could be removed from the strategic plan due to becoming an ongoing process; and that the Commission would be discussing the possible addition of new strategic goals, including public outreach.

Break/Executive Session & Closed Session

The Commission went into Executive Session at 12:03 p.m. to discuss matters allowed in Executive Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110, including but not limited to discussion of enforcement matters and pending and potential litigation with legal counsel, and review of performance of public employees. Possible action regarding litigation, or other matters properly discussed during executive session, will be taken following the executive session.

Returned to public meeting at 12:44 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 12:44 p.m.

Approved July 28, 2022.