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 – Regular Meeting 9:30 a.m. | March 27, 2025 711 Capitol Way S. #206 Olympia, Washington

Commission Members

J. Leach, Chair; Douglass North, Vice Chair; Nancy Isserlis, Member; James Oswald, Member.

Staff Present

Peter Frey Lavallee, Executive Director; Kim Bradford, Deputy Director; James Gutholm, Chief Information Officer; Sean Flynn, General Counsel; Jana Greer, Administrative Officer; BG Sandahl, Compliance Officer; Jennifer Hansen, Compliance Officer; Tabitha Townsend, Compliance Officer; John Meader, Assistant Attorney General representing the Commission; Chad Standifer, Assistant Attorney General representing the Staff.

Staff Present (Participated via Microsoft Teams)

Nate Meyer, Customer Service and Outreach Manager; Alice Fiman, Compliance Manager; Christina Shearer, DES Senior Financial Consultant.

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

The March 27, 2025, Public Disclosure Commission meeting streamed live via TVW at <u>WAPDC.3.27.25</u>. Public attended in person or remote via a MS Teams Link.

Chair Opening Comments | PDC Meeting Video

Chair Leach welcomed all attendees and viewers to the March 27, 2025, Regular Commission meeting.

Consideration and Possible Approval of Meeting Minutes | PDC Meeting Video

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

- February 27, 2025, Regular Meeting
- **MOTION 25-011** Moved by Commissioner Oswald and seconded by Commissioner Isserlis that the Commission approve the meeting minutes as submitted for February 27, 2025, regular meeting.

The motion <u>passed</u> 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 in-person:

• Dan Brady, representing Let's Go Washington, commented on agency enforcement.

Written comment(s) submitted:

March 27, 2025 Regular Commission Meeting P a g e | **2**

- Edwards
- <u>Brady</u>
- <u>Kunzler</u>

Legislative Update PDC Meeting Video

General Counsel Flynn presented the legislative update to the Commission.

Budget Update | PDC Meeting Video

Executive Director Frey Lavallee and Deputy Director Bradford provided the budget update to the Commission.

Management Team Updates | PDC Meeting Video

- Executive Director Update.
- <u>Deputy Director Update</u>.
- Information Technology Update.
 - Discussion of Search Engine Indexing of PDC Data (GOOGLE, BING)
- Customer Service and Filer Assistance Update.

Engagement Session Debrief and Next Steps | PDC Meeting Video

Deputy Director Bradford provided an update to the Commission on the engagement session regarding campaign expenditure reporting dates and possible next steps.

Request for Reporting Modification | PDC Meeting Video

10:27 a.m. | The Commission conducted a hearing concerning a request for reporting modification. Compliance Officer Jennifer Hansen presented the request to the Commission for consideration and possible approval.

<u>Renewal</u>

- <u>WA State Republican Party</u> Bonafide State Party Committee <u>RCW 42.17A.120</u> & <u>WAC 390-28-100</u>
 Modification Request Cover Sheet
- **MOTION 25-012** Moved by Commissioner Isserlis and seconded by Commissioner Oswald 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> 4 - 0.

WA State Democratic Party – Bonafide State Party Committee <u>RCW 42.17A.120</u> & <u>WAC 390-28-100</u>
 Modification Request Cover Sheet

MOTION 25-013 Moved by Commissioner Isserlis and seconded by Commissioner Oswald 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> 4 - 0.

BREAK: 10:37 a.m. RETURNED: 10:50 a.m.

Request for Review | PDC Meeting Video

10:50 a.m. | The Commission conducted a hearing concerning a request for review for <u>PDC Case</u> <u>151224</u> Nickolas Green. At the January 30, 2025, Brief Adjudicative Proceeding the respondent was found to have violated <u>RCW 42.17A.235</u> and <u>.240</u> for failure to timely and accurately disclose contributions and expenditures on reports and was issued a \$150 penalty. The Respondent now requests that the penalty be reviewed. Compliance Officer Tabitha Townsend presented the request to the Commission for consideration and possible approval.

Nickolas Green <u>participated</u> via phone on Microsoft Teams.

Chair Leach <u>recused</u> himself from the matter of PDC Case 151224, Nickolas Green.

MOTION 25-014Moved by Commissioner Oswald that the Commission find a violation of RCW
42.17A.235 and .240 for failure to timely and accurately disclose contributions
and expenditures on reports with a \$150 penalty with \$150 suspended
contingent on no further violations for 3 years.

The motion <u>failed</u> for lack of a second.

MOTION 25-015 Moved by Commissioner North and seconded by Commissioner Isserlis that the Commission affirm the violation found of <u>RCW 42.17A.235</u> and <u>.240</u> for failure to timely and accurately disclose contributions and expenditures on reports and maintain the \$150 penalty.

The motion passed 2 - 1.

Public Comment Continued | 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 remotely:

- <u>Conner Edwards</u>, campaign treasurer, commented on reporting schedules.
- <u>Robert Parker</u> commented on agency enforcement.

Enforcement Update | PDC Meeting Video

Alice Fiman, Compliance Manager, presented the enforcement update for March 2025.

• Enforcement Report – Categorization and Status of Open Complaints.

Campaign Reporting Compliance Project Further Discussion | PDC Meeting Video

Deputy Director Kim Bradford provided an update on the campaign reporting compliance project.

- 2023 GE Dates
- <u>C-4 GE presentation</u>

March 27, 2025 Regular Commission Meeting P a g e | 4

Break/Executive Session

<u>11:59 a.m.</u> Discussion of matters allowed in executive session pursuant to <u>RCW 42.30.110</u>, regarding enforcement matters, review of performance of public employees, and discussion with legal counsel of litigation or potential litigation when public knowledge regarding the discussion is likely to result in an adverse legal or financial consequence. Final action regarding these matters, or other matters properly discussed during the executive session, will be taken following the executive session.

Executive session ended <u>12:48 p.m.</u>

Adjourned at <u>12:49 p.m.</u>

Approved April 4, 2025.