State of Washington PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

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MINUTES – Regular Meeting 9:30 a.m. | September 25, 2025 711 Capitol Way S. #206 Olympia, Washington

Commission Members Present

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

Staff Present

Peter Frey Lavallee, Executive Director; Kim Bradford, Deputy Director; Sean Flynn, General Counsel; Jana Greer, Administrative Officer; Nate Meyer, Customer Service and Outreach Manager; Alice Fiman, Compliance Manager; BG Sandahl, Compliance Officer; Jordan Campbell, Compliance Coordinator; Shelley Warnock, Compliance Coordinator; John Meader, Assistant Attorney General representing the Commission; Susie Giles-Klein, Assistant Attorney General representing the Staff.

Staff Present (Participated via Microsoft Teams)

James Gutholm, Chief Information Officer; Tabatha Blacksmith, Compliance Officer; Natalie Johnson, Communications Specialist; Chad Standifer, Assistant Attorney General representing the Staff.

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

The September 25, 2025, Public Disclosure Commission meeting streamed live via TVW at PDC.09.25.2025. Public attended remote via a MS Teams Link.

Chair Opening Comments | PDC Meeting Video

Chair Leach welcomed all attendees and viewers to the September 25, 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:

• August 28, 2025, Regular Meeting

MOTION 25-056

Moved by Commissioner Oswald and seconded by Commissioner Leach that the Commission approve the meeting minutes for the August 28, 2025, regular meeting as presented.

The motion passed 2 - 0. (Leach and Oswald)

Commissioner North abstained due to not being in attendance for the August 28, 2025, meeting and Commissioner Isserlis, who attended the August meeting, is no longer on the Commission.

Enforcement Reconsiderations | PDC Meeting Video

9:31 a.m. | The Commission conducted a hearing concerning requests for reconsideration. Compliance Manager Alice Fiman and Compliance Coordinators Jordan Campbell and Shelley Warnock presented the requests to the Commission for consideration and possible approval.

PDC Case <u>175154</u> – <u>Ezequiel Morfin</u>: At the August 07, 2025, Brief Adjudicative Proceeding (BAP Hearing), the Respondent was found in violation of <u>RCW 42.17A.700</u> for failure to file the Personal Financial Affairs Statement (F-1 report) no later than April 15, 2025. The Respondent was assessed with a penalty of \$500, with \$200 suspended, which they now ask the Commission to reconsider.

Ezequiel Morfin participated via phone on Microsoft Teams

MOTION 25-057 Moved by Commissioner Oswald and seconded by Commissioner North that

the Commission reconsider PDC Case <u>175154</u>, Ezequiel Morfin.

The motion passed 3 - 0.

MOTION 25-058 Moved by Commissioner Oswald and seconded by Commissioner North that

the Commission modify the presiding officer's Order, affirming a violation of RCW 42.17A.700 and assessing a civil penalty of \$500 with \$500 suspended

contingent on no violations for four years.

The motion passed 3 - 0.

PDC Case 175241 – Tarlochan Mann: At the August 07, 2025, Brief Adjudicative Proceeding (BAP Hearing), the Respondent was found in violation of RCW 42.17A.700 for failure to file the Personal Financial Affairs Statement (F-1 report) within two weeks of becoming a candidate or no later than April 15, 2025. The Respondent was assessed with a penalty of \$150, with \$25 suspended, which they now ask the Commission to reconsider.

Tarlochan Mann <u>participated</u> via Microsoft Teams

MOTION 25-059 Moved by Commissioner North that the Commission deny the reconsideration

of PDC Case 175241, Tarlochan Mann.

The motion <u>failed</u>, after the Commission chair clarified that the Commission had an obligation to reconsider due to the timing of the request and hearing.

MOTION 25-060 Moved by Commissioner Oswald and seconded by Commissioner North that

the Commission reconsider PDC Case 175241, Tarlochan Mann.

The motion passed 3 - 0.

MOTION 25-061 Moved by Commissioner North and seconded by Commissioner Oswald that

the Commission affirmed the presiding officer's Order from the August 07,

2025, Brief Adjudicative Proceeding (BAP Hearing).

The motion passed 3 - 0.

• PDC Case <u>173262</u> – <u>Andrew Davis</u>: At the June 25, 2025, Brief Adjudicative Proceeding (BAP Hearing), the Respondent was found in violation of <u>RCW 42.17A.700</u> for failure to file the Personal Financial Affairs Statement (F-1 report) within two weeks of becoming a candidate or no later than May 23, 2025. The Respondent was assessed with a penalty of \$150, with \$25 suspended, which they now ask the Commission to reconsider.

Andrew Davis participated via Microsoft Teams

MOTION 25-062 Moved by Commissioner Oswald and seconded by Commissioner North that

the Commission reconsider PDC Case <u>173262</u>, Andrew Davis.

The motion passed 3 - 0.

MOTION 25-063 Moved by Commissioner North and seconded by Commissioner Oswald that

the Commission modify the presiding officer's order, affirming a violation of RCW 42.17A.700 and assessing a civil penalty of \$150 with \$150 suspended

contingent on no further violation for four years.

The motion passed 3 - 0.

Stipulation – Tobacco-Free Action Fund | PDC Meeting Video

10:22 a.m. | The Commission conducted an enforcement hearing for <u>PDC Case 166185</u>, Tobacco-Free Action Fund.

Susie-Giles Klein, Assistant Attorney General representing PDC Staff, and Alice Fiman, Compliance Manager, <u>presented</u> the stipulation for PDC Case 166185, Tobacco-Free Action Fund, for alleged violations of <u>RCW 42.17A.640</u> by failing to timely report a grassroots lobbying campaign to the public, a substantial portion of which was intended, designed, or calculated primarily to solicit, urge, or encourage the public to influence legislation, and <u>WAC 390-20-125</u> by failing to timely file an L-6 report.

Jason Bennett, professional treasurer representing Tobacco-Free Action Fund, <u>participated</u> via Microsoft Teams

MOTION 25-064

Moved by Commissioner North and seconded by Commissioner Oswald that the Commission find a violation of <u>RCW 42.17A.640</u> and <u>WAC 390-20-125</u> and assess a civil penalty of \$5,000 with \$2,500 suspended contingent on the non-suspended portion of the penalty paid within 30 days of the Final Order, and no further violations for four years.

The motion passed 3 - 0.

2025 Candidate Enforcement Hearings | PDC Meeting Video

10:43 a.m. | The Commission conducted a hearing for multiple PDC cases with alleged violations of RCW 42.17A.205 and .700. Compliance Coordinators Jordan Campbell and Shelley Warnock presented the cases to the Commission for consideration and possible action.

 PDC Case <u>173183</u> – <u>Ellen Elizabeth Branch</u>: Alleged violation of <u>RCW 42.17A.205</u> for failure to submit a Campaign Registration (C-1 report) within two weeks of becoming a candidate for EY25.

MOTION 25-065

Moved by Commissioner North and seconded by Commissioner Oswald that the Commission find a violation of <u>RCW 42.17A.205</u> and assess a civil penalty of \$800 with \$400 suspended contingent on all missing reports filed, the non-

suspended portion of the penalty paid, and all prior penalties paid within 30 days of the Final Order, and no further violations for four years. The motion passed 3-0.

PDC Case <u>173084</u> – <u>Robert K Amenn</u>: Alleged violations of <u>RCW 42.17A.205</u> and <u>.700</u> for failure to submit a Campaign Registration (C-1 report) and failure to disclose Personal Financial Affairs Statement (F-1 report) within two weeks of becoming a candidate for EY25.

MOTION 25-066

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Moved by Commissioner North and seconded by Commissioner Oswald that the Commission find a violation of <u>RCW 42.17A.205</u> and <u>.700</u> and assess a civil penalty of \$800 with \$400 suspended contingent on all missing reports filed, the non-suspended portion of the penalty paid, and all prior penalties paid within 30 days of the Final Order, and no further violations for four years.

The motion passed 3 - 0.

PDC Case <u>173085</u> – <u>Robert W Scott</u>: Alleged violations of <u>RCW 42.17A.205</u> and <u>.700</u> for failure to submit a Campaign Registration (C-1 report) and failure to disclose Personal Financial Affairs Statement (F-1 report) within two weeks of becoming a candidate for EY25.

MOTION 25-067

Moved by Commissioner North and seconded by Commissioner Oswald that the Commission find a violation of <u>RCW 42.17A.205</u> and <u>.700</u> and assess a civil penalty of \$800 with \$400 suspended contingent on all missing reports filed, the non-suspended portion of the penalty paid, and all prior penalties paid within 30 days of the Final Order, and no further violations for four years.

The motion passed 3 - 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.

- Joe Kunzler, commented on agency enforcement.
- Conner Edwards, campaign treasurer, commented on C-4 reporting.

Written comment(s) submitted:

- Yancey
- Kunzler
- Edwards
- Anonymous

Discussion of Reporting Schedule Proposal | PDC Meeting Video

General Counsel Sean Flynn presented the draft proposal to amend campaign expenditure reporting.

Budget Update | PDC Meeting Video

Executive Director Frey Lavallee provided the budget update to the Commission.

Management Team Updates | PDC Meeting Video

- Executive Director Update.
- Deputy Director Update.
- Information Technology Update.
- Customer Service and Filer Assistance Update.

Enforcement Update | PDC Meeting Video

Tabatha Blacksmith, Compliance Officer, presented the enforcement update for September 2025.

• Enforcement Report – Categorization and Status of Open Cases.

Executive Session

<u>12:15 p.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 at 1:15 p.m.

Adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Approved October 23, 2025.