

**R. I. STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**July 13, 2010**

The Rhode Island State Board of Elections convened at 4:12 PM, a quorum included Chairman John Daluz, Vice-Chairman Frank Rego, Commissioners Florence Gormley, Richard DuBois and William West. Executive Director Robert Kando and legal counsel Raymond Marcaccio were also in attendance.

First order of business: Motion by Vice-Chairman Rego to approve the minutes of the meeting held on June 22, 2010, seconded by Commissioner West and passed unanimously.

Next order of business: Hearing on an appeal filed by Providence city council ward 13 Democratic Party Candidate Steven Meresi and Joan Badway Chairperson of the Providence Democratic City Committee challenge to the Providence Board of Canvassers administrative directive accepting the endorsement of ward 13 counsel candidate Bryan Principe filed by the Democratic 13<sup>th</sup> ward committee and rejecting the Democratic City Chairperson's endorsement of Steven Meresi. During the statement of agreed upon facts that included the Providence Board of Canvassers Executive Secretary's administrative decision to forgo an evidentiary hearing and administratively accept the ward committee endorsement of candidate Meresi, Vice-Chairman Rego moved to remand the appeal to the Providence Board of Canvassers for a full hearing forthwith. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gormley, and after some discussion was passed unanimously.

Next order of business: Since there were no other appeals related to declarations or endorsements, the agenda item was passed.

Next order of business: Hearing on Rules and Regulations for Matching Public Funds Program – Contribution Exemption and Additional Expenses. Mr. Steven Brown of the American Civil Liberties Union addressed the Board and stated that there were recent court decisions that would impact the validity of the proposed regulation. It was agreed that the item would be passed to the next meeting of the Board and that Mr. Brown would forward any legal authority to the Board's legal counsel, Mr. Marcaccio, for his review.

Next order of business: Hearing on Rules and Regulations for the appealing of Late Fines. No member of the public commented on the proposed regulation, and after a brief discussion, Commissioner West moved to approve the regulation, seconded by Commissioner Gormley and passed unanimously. Commissioner Rego did not participate.

Next order of business: Hearing on Rules and regulation on Reporting Requirements for Coordinated and Independent Expenses. Mr. Brown of the American Civil Liberties

Union addressed the Board and expressed serious concerns that the regulation required reporting beyond what the U.S. Constitution allowed, as well as, requiring reports that were not required under Rhode Island law. The Board's legal counsel responded by citing several legal cases that supported the Constitutional aspects of the regulation. After a period of discussion where several commissioners expressed the need to identify persons who expend funds to support or defeat candidates, Commissioner Gormley moved to approve the regulation, seconded by Commissioners Dubois and West the motion unanimously. Vice-Chairman Rego did not participate.

Next order of business: Hearing on Rules and Regulations relating to Recounts. No member of the public commented on the proposed changes and after a brief discussion, Commissioner Gormley moved to approve the regulation, seconded by Commissioner Dubois and passed unanimously. Vice-Chairman Rego did not participate.

Next order of business: Hearing on Rules and Regulations relating to the Tabulation of Mail Ballots. No member of the public commented on the proposed changes and after a brief discussion, Commissioner Gormley moved to approve the regulation, seconded by Commissioner West and passed unanimously. Vice-Chairman Rego did not participate.

At 5:35pm PM Commissioner Gormley moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Dubois, and passed unanimously. Vice-Chairman Rego did not participate.

Andreza Skipworth