

R. I. STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS
MINUTES OF MEETING
June 17, 2014

The Rhode Island State Board of Elections convened at 3:35 PM at the Rhode Island Board of Elections, a quorum included, Chairman Richard Pierce, Vice-Chairman William West, and Commissioners Florence Gormley and Martin Joyce. Executive Director Robert Kando and legal counsel Raymond Marcaccio were also in attendance.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Pierce.

First order of business: Commissioner Gormley moved to approve the minutes for Board of Elections meeting dated 4/16/14, seconded by Commissioner Joyce. Chairman Richard Pierce, Vice-Chairman William West, Commissioners Florence Gormley and Martin Joyce voting in the affirmative, no dissenting votes, and motion passed.

Next order of business: A hearing regarding a possible violation of 17-25-10.1(j) by the Green Party of Rhode Island Political Action Committee, relating to its receipt of a contribution from the federal Green Party of the United States. Campaign Finance Director Richard Thornton stated that the Green Party of the United States is not a Rhode Island registered political action committee, that the campaign finance staff had instructed the Green Party of Rhode Island Political Action Committee to return the \$75.00 check. Green Party of Rhode Island Political Action Committee Treasurer Greg Gerritt argued that although the Green Party of the United States is not a recognized political party in Rhode Island, that the laws act to suppress smaller parties, and that the Board should rule that the donation is legal. Commissioner Gormley suggested that Mr. Gerritt contact his legislators to seek a change in the law. Vice-Chairman West stated that the Board must follow the law. At the close of the discussion, Commissioner Gormley moved to order the Green Party of Rhode Island Political Action Committee to return the \$75.00 check, seconded by Commissioner Joyce. Chairman Richard Pierce, Vice-Chairman William West, Commissioners Florence Gormley and Martin Joyce voting in the affirmative, no dissenting votes, and motion passed.

Next order of business: The Board discussed the many contributions of Commissioner Florence Gormley to the Board. Noting that her service on the Board is ending, Chairman Pierce stated that Florence Gormley will be greatly missed, and that she had provided valued counsel to him and he extended his many, many thanks, wishing her good health and happiness. Vice-Chairman West said that Florence Gormley had helped him immeasurably and he also wished her good luck. Commissioner Joyce thanked her for mentoring Chairman Pierce and himself when they were first appointed to the Board, and stated that the Board will miss her calming affect.

Next order of business: At 4:01 PM, Commissioner Joyce moved to adjourn into executive session pursuant to Rhode Island General Law 42-46-5(a)(4) to discuss and/or hold hearings on a campaign finance matter, seconded by Commissioner West.

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Chairman Richard Pierce, Vice-Chairman William West, Commissioners Florence Gormley and Martin Joyce voting in the affirmative, no dissenting votes, and motion passed.

Next order of business: At 4:07 PM Commissioner Gormley moved to resume the public session, seconded by Vice-Chairman West. Chairman Pierce, Vice-Chairman West, Commissioners Gormley and Joyce voting in the affirmative, no dissenting votes and motion passed.

Upon completion of the Executive Session, Commissioner Gormley motioned that the minutes of the Executive Session be sealed, which was then seconded by Vice-Chairman West. Voting affirmatively were Chairman Pierce, Vice-Chairman West, Commissioners Gormley and Joyce. No dissenting votes, motion passed.

At 4:08 PM, Commissioner Gormley moved to adjourn, seconded by Vice-Chairman West. Chairman Pierce, Vice-Chairman West, Commissioners Gormley and Joyce voting in the affirmative, no dissenting votes and motion passed.

Andreza Skipworth