



**APPROVED DECEMBER 11, 2017**

**MINUTES OF AN OPEN MEETING  
OF THE  
FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION  
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25, 2017**

**PRESENT:**                    **Steven T. Walther, Chairman, presiding**  
  
                                 **Caroline C. Hunter, Vice Chair**  
  
                                 **Lee E. Goodman, Commissioner**  
  
                                 **Matthew S. Petersen, Commissioner**  
  
                                 **Ann M. Ravel, Commissioner<sup>1</sup>**  
  
                                 **Ellen L. Weintraub, Commissioner**  
  
                                 **Alec Palmer, Staff Director<sup>2</sup>**  
  
                                 **Lisa Stevenson, Acting General Counsel**  
  
                                 **Dayna C. Brown, Acting Secretary and Clerk**

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<sup>1</sup> Commissioner Ravel participated by telephone.

<sup>2</sup> Ms. Patricia Orrock, Chief Compliance Officer, represented Staff Director Palmer

**Chairman Steven T. Walther called the Federal Election Commission to order in an open meeting at 11:14 A.M. on Wednesday, January 25, 2017 with a quorum present.**

**\*\*\*\*\***

**Chairman Walther recognized Vice Chair Hunter who**

**MOVED that the Commission add to the agenda consideration of the Memorandum on Approval for Payment of Travel Expenses, and the Commission determine, pursuant to 11 C.F.R. § 2.7(d) that business so requires and no earlier public announcement was possible; and**

**FURTHER MOVED to suspend the rules on the timely submission of agenda documents in order to consider the late submission of the following document: Memorandum on Approval for Payment of Travel Expenses, Agenda Document No. 17-07-A.**

**The motion carried by a vote of 6-0 with Commissioners Goodman, Hunter, Petersen, Ravel, Walther, and Weintraub voting affirmatively for the decision.**

**Chairman Walther stated that this matter would be discussed after two of the other matters on the agenda. Commissioner Ravel concurred and asked that the matter be discussed in its entirety after receiving information from the State Department.**

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**I. CORRECTION AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Minutes for December 1, 2016  
Agenda Document No. 17-05-A**

**Vice Chair Hunter**

**MOVED to approve the minutes for the meeting of  
December 1, 2016, Agenda Document No. 17-05-A.**

**The motion carried by a vote of 6-0 with Commissioners Goodman, Hunter,  
Petersen, Ravel, Walther, and Weintraub voting affirmatively for the decision.**

**II. DRAFT ADVISORY OPINION 2016-26**

**Green Party of Florida by Harry Patterson**

**Agenda Document No. 17-04-A (Draft A)**

**Chairman Walther recognized Ms. Esther Gyory of the General Counsel's  
Office who presented the draft advisory opinion concerning the application of the  
Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended, and the Commission  
regulations to Green Party of Florida's request. The requestor seeks a  
determination from the Commission that the requestor qualifies as the state  
party committee of a national political party under the Act and Commission  
regulations. The Draft concludes that the requestor qualifies as the state  
committee of a national political party because the Green Party of the United  
States qualifies as a political party, the requestor is part of the official structure  
of the Green Party of the United States, and the requestor is responsible for the  
day-to-day operation of the Green Party of the United States at the state level.**

**Chairman Walther called for a motion. Vice Chair Hunter**

**MOVED to approve Agenda Document No. 17-04-A.**

**The motion carried by a vote of 6-0 with Commissioners Goodman, Hunter, Petersen, Ravel, Walther, and Weintraub voting affirmatively for the decision.**

**III. DRAFT ADVISORY OPINION 2016-25**

**Mike Pence for Indiana by Matthew E. Morgan, Esq.**

**Agenda Document No. 17-03-A (Draft A)**

**Chairman Walther recognized Mr. Joseph Wenzinger of the General Counsel's Office who presented the draft advisory opinion concerning the application of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended, and the Commission regulations to Mike Pence for Indiana's request. The requestor asks whether under the Act and Commission regulations, it may spend nonfederal funds in its campaign account for certain expenses related to winding down the campaign. The Draft concludes that the requestor may use nonfederal funds in its campaign account to pay for the storage of campaign assets, legal or accounting expenses necessary to comply with state disclosure requirements, and legal or accounting expenses for winding down the state campaign, provided that such spending is consistent with state law. Mr. Wenzinger stated that Mr. Joe Chapelle, counsel for the requestor, was participating in the meeting via telephone.**

**Mr. Chapelle expressed his agreement with the draft advisory opinion.**

**Chairman Walther called for a motion. Vice Chair Hunter**

**MOVED to approve Agenda Document No. 17-03-A.**

**The motion carried by a vote of 6-0 with Commissioners Goodman, Hunter, Petersen, Ravel, Walther, and Weintraub voting affirmatively for the decision.**

**IV. PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO DIRECTIVE 17**

**Memorandum from the Acting General Counsel dated  
December 8, 2016**

**Agenda Document No. 17-06-A**

**This matter was held over to a future meeting.**

**V. APPROVAL OF PAYMENT FOR TRAVEL EXPENSES**

**Memorandum from the Assistant Staff Director, Information Division  
dated January 23, 2017**

**Agenda Document No. 17-07-A  
(Submitted Late)**

**Chairman Walther recognized Commissioner Ravel who asked that the matter be held until after the executive session also scheduled that day, because State Department had not yet approved this travel. She requested the matter be discussed with full information, including that of the State Department's determination.**

**Chairman Walther stated that the open meeting would recess until 1:30 P.M.**

**\*\*\*\*\***

**The meeting recessed at 11:25 A.M. and reconvened at 1:41 P.M. with a quorum present.**

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**V. APPROVAL OF PAYMENT FOR TRAVEL EXPENSES (continued)**

**Chairman Walther recognized Commissioner Ravel who stated the she just received information from Amy Pike, of the FEC's Congressional Affairs Office, that the State Department was having a fuller discussion with the Ambassador to Ecuador with respect to the matter, and that it may take two to three days for a decision to be made. She asked that the matter be discussed in an open meeting the following Thursday or Friday, unless the State Department approves and her colleagues wish to vote on tally. She further stated that should the State Department not approve the travel, she will withdraw her request.**

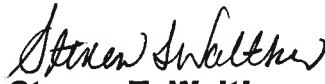
**Discussion continued.**

**Chairman Walther stated that the matter would be held over to the next open meeting on February 9, 2017 and asked that Commissioner Ravel inform the Commission if the travel is not authorized such that the matter would no longer require discussion.**

**V. MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

**There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 1:48 P.M.**

**Signed:**



**Steven T. Walther**

**Chairman of the Commission**

**Attest:**



**Dayna C. Brown**

**Secretary and Clerk of the Commission**