



APPROVED JULY 13, 2022

**MINUTES OF AN OPEN MEETING
OF THE
FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
THURSDAY, MAY 12, 2022¹**

PRESENT:

Allen Dickerson, Chairman

Steven T. Walther, Vice Chair²

Shana M. Broussard, Commissioner

Sean J. Cooksey, Commissioner

James E. "Trey" Trainor III, Commissioner

Ellen L. Weintraub, Commissioner

Alec Palmer, Staff Director³

Lisa Stevenson, Acting General Counsel

Laura E. Sinram, Acting Secretary and Clerk

Vicktoria J. Allen, Acting Deputy Secretary⁴

Maureen Benitz, Management and Program Analyst⁵

¹ This meeting was conducted as a hybrid meeting with virtual and in-person participants.

² Vice Chair Walther joined the meeting during the discussion of Item II.

³ Director of Congressional, Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs Duane Pugh, Jr. represented Staff Director Palmer.

⁴ Acting Deputy Secretary Vicktoria Allen was the recording secretary for the meeting.

⁵ Management and Program Analyst Maureen Benitz moderated the meeting.

Chairman Allen Dickerson called the Federal Election Commission to order in an open meeting at 11:02 A.M. on Thursday, May 12, 2022 with a quorum present.

Chairman Dickerson acknowledged that this is the first Open Meeting with members of the public in attendance within the hearing room since the Covid-19 pandemic began.

I. INITIAL DETERMINATION ON ELIGIBILITY TO RECEIVE PRIMARY ELECTION PUBLIC FUNDS – HOWIE HAWKINS, HOWIE HAWKINS 2020 (LRA 1132)

Memorandum to the Commission dated March 9, 2022

Agenda Document No. 22-14-A

Chairman Dickerson stated that this matter will be held over to the next Open Meeting.

II. AUDIT DIVISION RECOMMENDATION MEMORANDUM ON THE ASSOCIATION FOR EMERGENCY RESPONDERS AND FIREFIGHTERS, PAC (A19-21)

Memorandum from the Chief Compliance Officer and the Audit Division dated March 2, 2022

Agenda Document No. 22-15-A

Chairman Dickerson recognized Ms. Zuzana Pacious of the Audit Division. Ms. Pacious highlighted the two (2) findings within the Memorandum: 1)

Increased Activity (Corrected) and 2) Recordkeeping for Disbursements and Use of Designated Depository.

Chairman Dickerson stated for the record that “Vice Chair [Walther] is unavoidably absent today but will be permitted to enter votes today on any matters in which we reach votes.”

II. AUDIT DIVISION RECOMMENDATION MEMORANDUM ON THE ASSOCIATION FOR EMERGENCY RESPONDERS AND FIREFIGHTERS, PAC (A19-21) (continued)

Ms. Pacious of the Audit Division participated in the discussion that followed.

Chairman Dickerson recognized Commissioner Weintraub who

MOVED to approve the Audit Division Recommendation Memorandum on the Association for Emergency Responders and Firefighters, PAC (A19-21), as recommended in the Memorandum from the Chief Compliance Officer and the Audit Division dated March 2, 2022.

The motion failed by a vote of 2-3 with Commissioners Broussard and Weintraub voting affirmatively for the motion. Commissioners Cooksey, Dickerson, and Trainor dissented. Commissioner Walther was not present and did not vote.

Chairman Dickerson recognized Commissioner Trainor who

MOVED to approve Finding 1 (Increased Activity – Corrected) of the Audit Division Recommendation Memorandum on the Association for Emergency Responders and Firefighters, PAC, as recommended in Memorandum from the Chief Compliance Officer and the Audit division dated March 2, 2022.

Ms. Pacious participated in the discussion that followed.

Chairman Dickerson called the vote. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0 with Commissioners Broussard, Cooksey, Dickerson, Trainor, Walther, and Weintraub voting affirmatively for the decision.

III. AUDIT DIVISION RECOMMENDATION MEMORANDUM ON THE US VETERANS ASSISTANCE FOUNDATION, PAC (A19-06)

Memorandum from the Chief Compliance Officer and the Audit Division dated March 23, 2022

Agenda Document No. 22-16-A

Chairman Dickerson recognized Ms. Michelle Grant of the Audit Division.

Ms. Grant highlighted the six (6) findings within the Memorandum: 1) Misstatement of Financial Activity; 2) Increased Activity; 3) Disclosure of Occupation and Name of Employer; 4) Disclosure of Disbursements; 5) Recordkeeping for Disbursements and Use of Depository; and 6) Failure to File 24/48-Hour Reports.

Ms. Grant, Ms. Pacious, and Ms. Dayna Brown of the Audit Division participated in the discussion that followed.

Chairman Dickerson recognized Commissioner Weintraub who

MOVED to approve all the recommended findings in the Audit Division Recommendation Memorandum on the US Veterans Assistance Foundation, PAC (A19-06), as recommended in the Memorandum from the Chief Compliance Officer and the Audit Division dated March 23, 2022.

The motion failed by a vote of 3-3 with Commissioners Broussard, Walther, and Weintraub voting affirmatively for the motion. Commissioners Cooksey, Dickerson, and Trainor dissented.

Chairman Dickerson recognized Commissioner Trainor who

MOVED to approve Audit Division Recommendation Memorandum on the US Veterans Assistance Foundation, PAC (A19-06) as to Findings 1 (Misstatement of Financial Activity), 2 (Increased Activity), 3 (Disclosure of Occupation and Name of Employer), and 6 (Failure to File 24/48-Hour Reports), as recommended in the Memorandum from the Chief Compliance Officer and the Audit Division dated March 23, 2022.

The motion carried by a vote of 6-0 with Commissioners Broussard, Cooksey, Dickerson, Trainor, Walther, and Weintraub voting affirmatively for the decision.

IV. MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 11:33 A.M.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Allen Dickerson", written over a horizontal line.

**Allen Dickerson
Chairman of the Commission (2022)**

Attest:

**Laura E. Sinram
Secretary and Clerk of the Commission**