### **MINUTES OF AN OPEN MEETING**

#### OF THE

#### **FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION**

# **THURSDAY, JULY 29, 2021**1

PRESENT: Shana M. Broussard, Chair, presiding

Allen Dickerson, Vice Chair

Sean J. Cooksey, Commissioner

James E. "Trey" Trainor III, Commissioner

**Steven T. Walther, Commissioner** 

Ellen L. Weintraub, Commissioner

Alec Palmer, Staff Director<sup>2</sup>

**Lisa Stevenson, Acting General Counsel** 

Laura E. Sinram, Acting Secretary and Clerk

Vicktoria J. Allen, Acting Deputy Secretary<sup>3</sup>

Maureen M. Benitz, Program Management Analyst<sup>4</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The meeting was conducted virtually.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Deputy Staff Director for Management and Administration Kate Higginbothom represented Staff Director Palmer.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Acting Deputy Secretary Vicktoria Allen was the recording secretary for the meeting.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Program Management Analyst Maureen Benitz moderated the meeting.

Chair Shana M. Broussard called the Federal Election Commission to order in an open meeting at 10:09 A.M. on Thursday, July 29, 2021 with a quorum present.

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# I. <u>DRAFT ADVISORY OPINION 2021-07</u>

PAC Management Services LLC ("PACMS") by Dan Backer, Esq.

Agenda Document No. 21-31-A (Draft A)

(Held over from the meeting of July 15, 2021)

Chair Broussard recognized Mr. Dan Backer, who is appearing on behalf of the requestor. Chair Broussard then recognized Mr. Joseph Wenzinger and Ms. Amy Rothstein of the General Counsel's Office. Mr. Wenzinger presented the draft advisory opinion request from PAC Management Services LLC ("PACMS").

The requestor is a for-profit, limited liability company that is treated as a partnership for federal tax purposes, with each partner taxed as an Scorporation. It asks several questions regarding whether it may allow individuals to solicit and make contributions to political committees via its online platform. The draft concludes that the Act and Commission regulations would not prohibit PACMS's proposed services, and the proposed services would not cause PACMS to make, facilitate, or be a conduit for contributions, to incur registration or reporting obligations, or to

be a "commercial vendor" under 11 C.F.R. §§ 114.2(f) or 116.1(c). The draft also concludes that PACMS may allow individuals who work for corporations and trade associations, acting in their personal capacities, to solicit contributions via its online platform.

Commissioner Weintraub suggested an edit to the draft to include reference to information conveyed in the Open Meeting on July 15, 2021.

**Chair Broussard recognized Vice Chair Dickerson who** 

MOVED to adopt Draft A, subject to the edits made at the table by Commissioner Weintraub.

The motion carried by a vote of 6-0 with Commissioners Broussard,

Cooksey, Dickerson, Trainor, Walther, and Weintraub voting affirmatively for
the decision.

## II. DRAFT ADVISORY OPINION 2021-08

**Congressman Scott Fitzgerald** 

Agenda Document No. 21-33-A (Draft A)

Agenda Document No. 21-33-B (Draft B)

(Held over to a future meeting)

# III. REG 2021-02 (SUBVENDOR REPORTING) – DRAFT NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY

Memorandum to the Commission dated July 21, 2021

**Agenda Document No. 21-32-A** 

Chair Broussard recognized Ms. Joanna Waldstreicher and Mr. Robert Knop of the General Counsel's Office. Ms. Waldstreicher presented the matter and stated that the Draft Notification of Availability was in response to a Petition for Rulemaking received by the Campaign Legal Center and the Center on Science & Technology Policy at Duke University. The Petition for Rulemaking asks the Commission to amend its regulations regarding reporting political committee expenditures and disbursements for independent expenditures and electioneering communications. The proposed amendments would require political committees and persons who make independent expenditures and electioneering communications to itemize certain payments made by vendors to others on behalf of the reporting entities. If approved, the Draft Notification of Availability will be published in the Federal Register and the Commission will receive public comments on the petition for a period of 60 days.

Chair Broussard stated that she will be supporting this motion and looks forwards to the comments. Vice Chair Dickerson stated that he also looks forward to the comments.

Chair Broussard recognized Vice Chair Dickerson who

MOVED to approve the Draft Notice of Availability as circulated by the Office of General Counsel.

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 10:17 A.M.

Signed:

Shana M. Broussard

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**Chair of the Commission (2021)** 

**Attest:** 

Laura E. Sinram
Secretary and Clerk of the Commission