



**AGENDA DOCUMENT NO. 18-35-A**  
**APPROVED AUGUST 2, 2018**

**MINUTES OF AN OPEN MEETING**  
**OF THE**  
**FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION**  
**THURSDAY, JUNE 28, 2018**

**PRESENT:**

**Caroline C. Hunter, Chair, presiding**

**Ellen L. Weintraub, Vice Chair**

**Matthew S. Petersen, Commissioner**

**Steven T. Walther, Commissioner**

**Alec Palmer, Staff Director**

**Lisa Stevenson, Acting General Counsel**

**Laura E. Sinram, Deputy Secretary**

**Chair Caroline C. Hunter called the Federal Election Commission to order in an open meeting at 2:07 P.M. on Thursday, June 28, 2018 with a quorum present.**

**I. CORRECTION AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Minutes for May 24, 2018  
Agenda Document No. 18-32-A**

**Minutes for June 7, 2018  
Agenda Document No. 18-33-A**

**Chair Hunter recognized Vice Chair Weintraub who**

**MOVED to approve the minutes of the meeting of May 24, 2018 as set forth in Agenda Document No. 18-32-A and the minutes for the meeting of June 7, 2018 as set forth in Agenda Document No. 18-33-A.**

**The motion carried by a vote of 4-0 with Commissioners Hunter, Petersen, Walther, and Weintraub voting affirmatively for the decision.**

**II. DRAFT ADVISORY OPINION 2018-09**

**Clements by Paul Clements, Candidate**

**Agenda Document No. 18-34-A (Draft A)**

**Chair Hunter recognized the requestor, Mr. Paul Clements, who was available by phone to answer Commissioners' questions. The Chair then recognized Mr. Joseph Wenzinger of the Office of General Counsel who presented the draft advisory opinion request from Mr. Clements on behalf of his congressional campaign committee. The requestor asks whether the**

**committee may use campaign funds to pay certain legal expenses incurred in seeking to gain access to the ballot in an upcoming primary election. The draft concludes that the committee may use campaign funds to pay for the legal expenses because those expenses would not exist irrespective of the campaign. Therefore, the use of campaign funds for that purpose would not constitute an impermissible conversion of campaign funds to personal use. No discussion followed.**

**Chair Hunter recognized Vice Chair Weintraub who stated that it was an excellent draft but that footnote 3 was unnecessary. Therefore, Vice Chair Weintraub**

**MOVED to approve Advisory Opinion 2018-09, as set forth in Agenda Document No. 18-34-A, with the deletion of footnote 3.**

**The motion carried by a vote of 4-0 with Commissioners Hunter, Petersen, Walther, and Weintraub voting affirmatively for the decision.**

**III. DISPOSITION OF OPEN 2014 AUDITS**

**Chair Hunter introduced the matter and stated that she wanted to let the public know that the Commission had been discussing these audits in executive session and believed that they have come up with a creative solution to speed these matters to completion. Chair Hunter further stated that the matters were confidential but that the Commission would be in contact with the committees very shortly to discuss these issues further. Because they are confidential**

**under the statute, Chair Hunter stated that she was not able to get into the details. She wanted to let people know that they were able to work something out that would be beneficial to both the FEC and the audited committees.**

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

**Chair Hunter stated that it was mentioned on Wednesday, June 27, 2018 at the Internet Disclaimer Rulemaking Hearing that the Commission thanked Ms. Erin Chlopak of the General Counsel's Office for all of her hard work and service to the Commission, and wanted to do so again. Ms. Chlopak confirmed that today was her last full day at the Commission.**

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

**IV. MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

**There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 2:11 P.M.**

**Signed:**



**Caroline C. Hunter  
Chair of the Commission**

**Attest:**



**Dayna C. Brown  
Secretary and Clerk of the Commission**

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Laura E. Sinram". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "L".

**Laura E. Sinram  
Deputy Secretary of the Commission**