



AGENDA DOCUMENT NO. 18-44-A

MINUTES OF AN OPEN MEETING
OF THE
FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2018

PRESENT: Caroline C. Hunter, Chair, presiding
Ellen L. Weintraub, Vice Chair
Matthew S. Petersen, Commissioner
Steven T. Walther, Commissioner¹
Alec Palmer, Staff Director²
Dayna C. Brown, Secretary and Clerk

¹ Commissioner Walther participated in the meeting via telephone.

² Ms. Patricia Orrock, Chief Compliance Officer, represented Staff Director Palmer.

Chair Caroline C. Hunter called the Federal Election Commission to order in an open meeting at 10:12 A.M. on Thursday, October 11, 2018 with a quorum present.

I. CORRECTION AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes for September 6, 2018
Agenda Document No. 18-42-A

Chair Hunter recognized Vice Chair Weintraub who

MOVED to approve the minutes for the meeting
September 6, 2018 as set forth in Agenda Document No.
18-42-A.

Commissioners Hunter, Petersen, and Weintraub voted affirmatively.

Commission Secretary Dayna Brown participated in the discussion the followed to confirm Commissioner Walther continued to participate in the meeting via telephone.

The meeting recessed at 10:14 A.M. due to lack of a quorum and reconvened at 10:17 A.M. with a quorum present.

I. CORRECTION AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES (continued)

Chair Hunter informed Commissioner Walther of the Vice Chair's motion to approve the minutes and the approval of the three Commissioners. Commissioner Walther stated that he voted in favor of the motion.

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 2018-12

Defending Digital Campaigns, Inc. by Marc Elias, Esq. and Michael Toner, Esq.

Agenda Document No. 18-43-A (Draft A)
(Submitted Late)

Chair Hunter recognized Vice Chair Weintraub who

MOVED to suspend the rules on the timely submission of agenda documents in order that the Commission may consider the late submission of Agenda Document No. 18-43-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 2018-12 (continued)

Chair Hunter introduced the matter and recognized Mr. Joseph Wenzinger of the General Counsel's Office who presented the draft advisory opinion request from Defending Digital Campaigns, Inc. The requestor asks whether it may provide or facilitate the provision of certain cybersecurity services, software, and hardware for free or at a reduced cost to federal candidate committees and national political parties on a nonpartisan basis, according to

predetermined objective criteria. The draft concludes that because the proposed activities are not for the purpose of influencing a federal election, or in connection with a federal election, the requestor's proposal is permissible.

Mr. Wenzinger participated in the discussion that followed, including each Commissioner expressing their desire to discuss this matter with the requestor's counsel at the next meeting.

Chair Hunter stated that the matter would be taken up at the next Open Meeting.

III. MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 10:31 A.M.

Signed:

Caroline C. Hunter
Chair of the Commission

Attest:

Dayna C. Brown
Secretary and Clerk of the Commission