



**APPROVED AUGUST 3, 2022**

**MINUTES OF AN OPEN MEETING  
OF THE  
FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION  
THURSDAY, MAY 26, 2022<sup>1</sup>**

**PRESENT:**

**Allen Dickerson, Chairman, presiding**

**Steven T. Walther, Vice Chair**

**Shana M. Broussard, Commissioner**

**Sean J. Cooksey, Commissioner**

**James E. "Trey" Trainor III, Commissioner**

**Ellen L. Weintraub, Commissioner**

**Alec Palmer, Staff Director**

**Lisa Stevenson, Acting General Counsel**

**Laura E. Sinram, Acting Secretary and Clerk**

**Vicktoria J. Allen, Acting Deputy Secretary<sup>2</sup>**

**Zainab Smith, Program Management Analyst<sup>3</sup>**

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

<sup>2</sup> Acting Deputy Secretary Vicktoria Allen was the recording secretary for the meeting.

<sup>3</sup> Zainab Smith moderated the meeting.

**Chairman Allen Dickerson called the Federal Election Commission to order in an open meeting at 10:13 A.M. on Thursday, May 26, 2022 with a quorum present.**

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**Chairman Dickerson recognized Vice Chair Walther 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. 22-17-B.**

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

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**I. PROPOSED INTERIM FINAL RULE: INDEPENDENT EXPENDITURE REPORTING**

**Memorandum from Chairman Allen Dickerson and Commissioner Shana M. Broussard dated May 19, 2022**

**Agenda Document No. 22-19-A**

**Chairman Dickerson recognized Mr. Robert Knop of the General Counsel's Office who presented the matter.**

**Commissioner Weintraub requested that the Commission postpone voting on this item until the next meeting to allow a comment to be filed.**

**Mr. Knop and Ms. Joanna Waldstreicher of the General Counsel's Office participated in the discussion that followed.**

**Chairman Dickerson stated that the matter would be held over until the next meeting.**

**II. PROPOSED INTERIM FINAL RULE: REPAYMENT OF CANDIDATE LOANS**

**Memorandum from Commissioner Sean J. Cooksey dated  
May 19, 2022**

**Agenda Document No. 22-17-A**

**Memorandum from Commissioner Sean J. Cooksey dated  
May 23, 2022**

**Agenda Document No. 22-17-B  
(Submitted Late)**

**Chairman Dickerson recognized Commissioner Cooksey who presented the matter.**

**Mr. Joseph Wenzinger of the General Counsel's Office participated in the discussion that followed.**

**Chairman Dickerson recognized Commissioner Cooksey who**

**MOVED to approve Agenda Document No. 22-17-B, as recommended in the Memorandum to the Commission dated May 23, 2022.**

**The motion failed by a vote of 3-0 with Commissioners Cooksey, Dickerson, and Trainor voting affirmatively for the motion. Commissioners Broussard, Walther, and Weintraub abstained.**

**III. DRAFT ADVISORY OPINION 2022-05**

**DSCC**

**Agenda Document No. 22-18-A (Draft A)**

**Chairman Dickerson recognized Ms. Jacquelyn Lopez and Mr. Zachary Morrison on behalf of the requesters.**

**Chairman Dickerson then recognized Ms. Joanna Waldstreicher of the General Counsel's Office who presented the draft advisory opinion request submitted by DSCC, a national party committee. The requestor plans to hire a consultant to write a research book about a sitting Republican U.S. Senator in a particular state which it refers to as State A. DSCC will pay a fee of \$30,000 for the research book and its copyright. After reviewing the research book and using the information contained in it to inform DSCC's own political strategy in State A, DSCC plans to provide the book in full to the authorized committees of two candidates for the Democratic nomination for U.S. Senate in State A. DSCC plans to offer the authorized committees the choice of paying the DSCC for the book, treating the value of the book as an in-kind contribution from DSCC, or treating the value of the book as a coordinated party expenditure by DSCC. DSCC asks whether the value of the research book to each authorized committee is \$10,000, one-third of the amount it will pay the consultant. The Draft concludes that the value of the research book to each authorized committee is the usual and normal charge for the research book and any**

**associated copyright license in the market from which they ordinarily would have been purchased.**

**Ms. Lopez and Ms. Waldstreicher participated in the discussion that followed.**

**Commissioner Trainor requested this matter be held over to the next meeting.**

**Ms. Waldstreicher and Ms. Lopez participated in the continuing discussion.**

**Chairman Dickerson stated that the matter will be revisited at the next open meeting of the Commission.**

**IV. PROPOSED FINAL AUDIT REPORT ON MIKE BRAUN FOR INDIANA (A19-02)**

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

**V. 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**

**(Held over from the meeting of May 12, 2022)**

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

**VI. MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

**There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 11:07 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**