



STATE OF MAINE
COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENTAL ETHICS
AND ELECTION PRACTICES
135 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0135

Agenda
August 11, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

Note: the meeting will be conducted through Zoom video conferencing and streamed to YouTube for the public to access. Please visit www.maine.gov/ethics for the link to access the YouTube channel. Due to COVID-19 precautions, the Commission's office will not be open to the public.

1. Ratification of Minutes of the May 27, June 17, and July 13, 2020 Meetings

2. Request for Waiver of Late-Filing Penalty – Women's Leadership Fund PAC

On July 3, 2020, the Women's Leadership Fund paid \$2,500 for the production of a video communication that was subsequently circulated by Facebook. The PAC's treasurer filed a 24-Hour Report on July 4. On July 6, the Commission staff advised the treasurer the video would be presumed to be an independent expenditure (IE) because the video contained footage of a legislative candidate. The treasurer filed an IE Report later that day, which was two days after the filing deadline. The PAC seeks a waiver of the \$100 preliminary penalty because its treasurer attempted to comply with reporting requirements but was unaware of the IE presumption.

Staff recommendation: the Commission staff recommends assessing the preliminary penalty of \$100.

3. Request for Waiver of Late-Filing Penalty – Stan Gerzofsky

Stan Gerzofsky was a candidate in the July 14, 2020 Democratic primary election for State Senate, District 24. The Commission has determined that he was four days late filing a pre-primary campaign finance report due on July 6, 2020. The preliminary penalty is \$390.50. Mr. Gerzofsky requests a waiver of the preliminary penalty based on mitigating circumstances involving his health.

4. Updated Guidance on Reporting as a Ballot Question Committee

The Commission staff proposes updating the Commission's guidance on registering and reporting as a ballot question committee.

5. Guidance on Paid Communications Relating to the New England Clean Energy Connect (NECEC) Transmission Project

The Commission staff proposes additional guidance relating to paid communications to influence the November 3, 2020 citizen initiative to reject NECEC.

Other Business

Executive Session (if necessary)

ADJOURNMENT

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