



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

Agenda

February 28, 2024, 9:00 a.m.

Note: this meeting will be conducted in person and streamed on the Commission's YouTube channel. A link to the channel may be found at www.maine.gov/ethics.

1. Ratification of the Minutes of the January 31, 2024 Meeting

2. Public Hearing for Rulemaking – Election Spending by Foreign Governments

The Commission will hold a public hearing to receive comments on proposed amendments to the Ethics Commission Rules. The amendments would implement a new law approved by Maine voters that would prohibit foreign governments from making contributions or expenditures to influence Maine elections.

3. Late Notices by Our Power to Two Major Contributors

In August and October 2023, the Our Power ballot question committee was required to send written notices to two of its contributors, 128 Collective Initiatives and the Institute for Local Self-Reliance, advising them that they must file Major Contributor Reports with the Commission. The notices were required because the organizations had made contributions of more than \$100,000 to Our Power to support Question 3. Our Power was late in sending the notices to the two contributors and copies to the Commission. The preliminary penalties against Our Power for the late notices total \$28,155.08. Our Power requests a waiver.

4. Complaint about 2022 Flyer in House District 52

The Commission will consider whether a flyer mailed in October 2022 that was critical of a candidate for State Representative contained the required disclaimer and whether the people responsible should have filed an independent expenditure report.

5. Balance Adjustment – Senate Democratic Campaign Committee

In early 2023, the Commission staff requested the 110 political action committees registered with the Commission verify that the cash balance shown in the summary section of their campaign finance reports accurately stated the balance in their bank accounts as of December 31, 2022. The Senate Democratic Campaign Committee undertook an internal audit, corrected some financial reporting errors by former staff, and is requesting a balance adjustment be made for the remaining balance discrepancy.

Executive Session (if necessary)

Other Business

ADJOURNMENT

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