



Minutes of the June 1, 2026 Meeting of the
Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices
45 Memorial Circle, Augusta, Maine

Present: William Schneider, Esq., Chair; Brooke Bailey, Esq.; Colton Gross, Esq.; and Sarah LeClaire, Esq.

Staff: Jonathan Wayne, Executive Director; and Jonathan R. Bolton, Assistant Attorney General.
Commissioner Schneider convened the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

1. Complaint – Late Candidate Registration and First Campaign Finance Report

The Ethics Commission received a complaint from Oxford County Sheriff Christopher Wainwright, alleging that his opponent in the Republican primary election, Frank Mawson Blauvelt, Jr., was late registering and filing a campaign finance report to the Commission. Mr. Blauvelt purchased signs and other goods to advertise his candidacy on October 27 and December 8, 2025 for a total of about \$6,700.

Mr. Wayne said the staff believed Mr. Blauvelt was required to register before or within 10 days of his October 27, 2025 purchase of signs. He did not register until January 14, 2026. Because the candidate spent more than \$500 to promote his candidacy in 2025, staff also believes Mr. Blauvelt was required to file a campaign finance report by January 15, 2026. Although Mr. Blauvelt may have attempted to enter his 2025 transactions into the Commission's former e-filing system on or around January 14, he did not file a campaign finance report until April 23.

Mr. Blauvelt told the Commission he was unaware of the requirements to register and file reports with the Commission after he made his 2025 purchases. He had entered transactions in the Commission's old eFiling system but had not attempted to file a report.

Mr. Schneider moved to find Mr. Blauvelt violated the statute by registering late and to assess a \$100 penalty. Ms. LeClaire seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

Mr. Schneider moved to find Mr. Blauvelt filed his January Semiannual Report late and reduce the penalty from \$1,000 to \$300. Ms. LeClaire seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

Other Business

Mr. Wayne stated the Commission had received emails concerning political signs supporting Ms. Adrienne Paul, candidate for House of Representatives, District 85, who is in a contested Republican primary. Because Ms. Paul is participating in the Maine Clean Election Act program, she is not allowed to accept any cash or in-kind contributions.

Mr. Phil Pomerleau, a supporter of Ms. Paul, purchased signs to promote her. After receiving the signs, Mr. Pomerleau presented them to Ms. Paul before placing them in the district. Mr. Wayne said Commission staff determined this was an in-kind contribution unless Ms. Paul were to reimburse Mr. Pomerleau, which she agreed to do. Ms. Paul addressed the Commission and confirmed she had no problem reimbursing Mr. Pomerleau.

Mr. Schneider moved to take no further action on the matter, as long as Ms. Paul reimbursed Mr. Pomerleau for the signs he contributed. Ms. LeClaire seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

Adjournment

Ms. LeClaire made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Schneider seconded. The motion passed 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 10:19 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Wayne, Executive Director