

Cincinnati Elections Commission

January 8, 2026 @ 4:00 p.m.

Meeting Agenda

Old Business:

1. Approval of minutes from last special meeting on December 18, 2025 (**MOTION REQUIRED**)

New Business:

2. Clean-up: Officially accepting 2025 Post-Election Campaign Finance Reports that did not have any issues (**MOTION REQUIRED**)

Suggested language for motion: “I move that the Commission, having identified no overcontributions or other issues, accept the reports of _____ as complete and accurate.”

3. Discussion of revised 2025 Post-Election Campaign Finance Reports (**MOTIONS REQUIRED**)

↳ Presentation by Ian Doig, City of Cincinnati Law Department

Suggested language for motions: “I move that the Commission, having identified no overcontributions or other issues, accept the revised reports of _____ as complete and accurate.”

Next Meeting: Currently set for Thursday, February 12 @ 4pm

Special Meeting of the Cincinnati Elections Commission
Minutes of December 18, 2025

CEC members present: Sally Krisel, Marucs Bethay, Nick Klingensmith, and Ligaya West.

City representatives present: Ian Doig, Law; Teninnah Ross, Law

Old Business:

1. Approval of the November 13, 2026 meeting minutes

Mr. Bethay moved for approval of the November 13, 2026 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Klingensmith. A vote was taken and the November 13, 2025, minutes were approved.

New Business:

2. Discussion of 2025 Post-Election Campaign Finance Reports

Ian Doig opened the discussion noting the 2025 Post-Election reports were due to the CEC December 12, 2025. Ian also noted the findings contained in the presentation are preliminary and administrative in nature and provided to the CEC for informational purposes.

Ian provided the CEC an overview of their duties and the various determinations available to the CEC once a report is reviewed. The filing period the CEC will be reviewing is July 1, 2025, through December 5, 2025. Ian expressed that the CEC could impose a fine and if a fine is imposed, that amount is set in stone.

Ian began to provide the CEC with a Summary of Findings for all candidates.

Ms. West asked if it was possible that the CEC vote on a group of candidates with all the same findings? Ian answered this action would be possible and if it is done as a group, the individual candidate names should be stated.

Ian began his presentation of the candidates' filings starting with the candidates whose filings were filed after the deadline. However, all the filings were submitted.

Mr. Bethay made a motion to waive any penalties for the late filings of Smitherman, James, Cole, Parks, Prophett, and Walsh. Ms. Krisel seconded the motion. A vote was taken and motion passed. (NOTE: MS. KRISEL WAS DISCONNECTED FROM THE MEETING and no longer present at the meeting.)

Ian continued the report of Mr. Bowman and Mr. Cramerding that both identified overcontributions. Starting with Mr. Cramerding, there was an overcontribution which appeared as two contributions from one individual amounting in an overcontribution of \$1100. Mr. Bethay asked if the administration has reached out to the campaign about the issue. Ian provided an explanation that the administration must wait until directed by the CEC. Mr. Bethay made a motion to conditionally accept the reports and reach out to the campaign asking that they provide clarification and correction within 7 days. Motion was seconded by Ms. West. A vote was taken and motion passed.

Ian began to report the campaign of Cory Bowman. An overcontribution of \$400 from an individual was identified. Mr. Bethay made a motion to also conditionally accept the reports of Mr. Bowman and reach out to the campaign asking that they provide correction and clarification within 7 days. (MS. KRISEL HAS NOW REJOINED THE MEETING) Motion was seconded by Ms. West A vote was taken and motion passed.

Ian noted that we have not received reports from the following campaigns:

- Julian Spivey
- Dawn Johnson
- Brandon Nixon

Partial reports were received from:

- Linda Matthews

Ian asked if the CEC had any questions, concerns or input regarding the process and appreciated the CEC's availability. Ms. West noted that in the future we should revisit the communication process and partnering with the BOE.

3. Discussion of the 2026 CEC Meeting Agenda

Mr. Bethay made a motion to approve the 2026 meeting schedule. Mr. Klingensmith seconded the motion. A vote was taken and motion passed.

Sally thanked the administration for their hard work while Ian also wanted to thank Jacob Smith who works with the City of Cincinnati IT team and has assisted with all the IT needs involving the uploading of reports.

Mr. Klingensmith made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Bethay seconded the motion. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned.

Meeting Adjourned:

The meeting was adjourned at 4:34pm.