

**Special Meeting of the Cincinnati Elections Commission
Minutes of June 24, 2021**

CEC members present: Seth Walsh, Terry Rath, Constance Hill, and Raynal Moore

City representatives present: Christine Zimmer, Law; Zach Southwood, Law; Linda Smith, Law; and Jill Robb, Law

Old Business:

1. Approval of June, 10, 2021 meeting minutes.

Mr. Rath moved for approval of the June 10, 2021 minutes, and Ms. Moore seconded. A vote was taken, and the June 10, 2021 minutes were approved unanimously.

New Business:

1. Discussion of whether a fine will be issued for late filings.

Mr. Walsh led a discussion regarding the late submission of Mr. Mann's campaign filing . Mr. Walsh stated that, pursuant to the Cincinnati Election Commission's discretion, a fine can be imposed for up to \$200 per day for the mayoral election., Because Mr. Mann's report was submitted two days past the report deadline, a fine of up to \$400 could be imposed. Mr. Walsh further explained that a motion was passed at the June 10, 2021 CEC meeting to have a hearing to inform the campaign of the intent to impose a fine. On June 22, 2021, notice was sent to Mr. Mann;s campaign treasurer, Michael Mann, notifying him that a special meeting would be held on this date to consider the imposition of a late filing fee.. Mr. Southwood informed the Commission that Mr. Mann's campaign has delivered a check in the amount of \$400 to the Law Department prior to the meeting and therefore, no one from their campaign would be attending the meeting. The Commission discussed the late filing fee and agreed that moving forward there needs to be consistency with enforcing the rules of the City Charter.

Mr. Walsh made a motion to impose a \$400 fine to Mr. Mann's campaign, Ms. Moore seconded. A vote was taken, and the motion was unanimously approved.

2. Discussion regarding a review of the late filing policies and procedure.

Mr. Walsh led a discussion regarding a review of the late filing policies and procedures asking the Law Department to review the rules for inconsistencies. Mr. Walsh stated that the "grace period" is ambiguous. Mr. Southwood advised that the administration will review the rules for consistency and make recommendations to remedy any ambiguity.

Mr. Rath suggested automatic reminders to alert campaigns when filings are due. Mr. Southwood explained that the Law Department is continuing to work with ETS on improved technical solutions with the intent that the website will work better for the public, as well as the campaigns. Ms. Zimmer suggested that Ms. Robb could notify the campaigns via email about filings that are due.

Next meeting:

The next meeting is scheduled for August 12, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.

Meeting Adjourned:

The meeting was adjourned at 4:19p.m.