

**Regular Meeting of the Cincinnati Elections Commission
Minutes of September 9, 2021**

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

City representatives present: Zach Southwood, Law; Linda Smith, Law; Christopher Liu, Law; and Jill Robb, Law

Old Business:

1. Approval of June 24, 2021, meeting minutes.

Ms. Moore moved for approval of the June 24, 2021, minutes, and Mr. Rath seconded. A vote was taken, and the June 24, 2021, minutes were approved unanimously.

New Business:

1. Discussion of July Election filings.

Mr. Southwood summarized the campaign filings as follows:

- 33 candidates are officially on the ballot for council
- 2 candidates are officially on the ballot for mayor
- potentially 3 council candidates will be challenging the lack of certification with the Secretary of State
- the Law Department is tracking 48 campaigns for council candidates
 - 9 of the 48 have failed to submit any filings, 6 of these 9 are not on the ballot – leaving 3 that haven't submitted any filings

Mr. Southwood points out 2 issues regarding the campaign filings:

- The summary of requirements that went out to the candidates and the Board of Elections as a reminder, had an incorrect filing deadline of July 31, 2021, the correct date is July 30, 2021. 2 campaigns filed on Saturday, July 31, 2021.
- The Campaign Finance Portal was down for part of the day on Friday, July 30, 2021.

Mr. Southwood explained that 9 campaigns filed after July 31, 2021, 3 of the 9 are not on the ballot leaving 6 campaigns on the ballot that did not file by the deadline. He further explained that some campaigns did not file complete reports, possibly because the Board of Elections and the CEC have different requirements. The Law Department still must enter data manually for some of the campaign finance reports.

Mr. Walsh suggested, moving forward, requiring campaigns to file something with the CEC equivalent to a Designation of Treasurer that is filed with the BOE.

Mr. Southwood displayed the campaign finance portal and explained it's functions.

Mr. Walsh asked the CEC about imposing a fine to the campaigns that have submitted their filings late. All members agreed that the CEC should be consistent regarding imposing fines for late filings.

Mr. Walsh made a motion for the Law Department to compile a list of campaigns that are in violation and then have a hearing for the campaigns that filed late, and Ms. Moore seconded. A vote was taken, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Next meeting:

The next meeting is scheduled for October 14, 2021, at 4:00 p.m.

Meeting Adjourned:

The meeting was adjourned at 4:51p.m.