Minutes of the Public Campaign Finance Board of the New York State Board of Elections
May 2, 2022

The meeting of the New York State Public Campaign Finance Board was held at the office of the New York State Board of Elections, 40 North Pearl Street, Albany, New York in the 5th Floor Conference Room and was called to order at 12:09 pm.

The meeting was chaired by Commissioner and Chair Ekow Yankah,. Commissioners present were Anthony Casale, Douglas Kellner, Vice Chair Brian Kolb, Peter Kosinski, and Andrew Spano. Staff members present, and online, were Todd Valentine, Kristen Zebrowski Stavisky, Cheryl Couser, Nicholas Cartagena, Brian Connor, Logan Smith, Robert Eckels, Kathryn Orsino, Kevin Murphy, Jennifer Wilson, Brian Quail, and Mike Haber. Michael Johnson of the Division of Election Law Enforcement attended. Public guests, in person and online, included Gregory Soumas, Henry Berger, and Michael Grace.

Minutes from March 4, 2022 – Minutes were approved as written. The motion was approved unanimously (Commissioners Casale, Kellner, Kolb, Kosinski, Spano, and Yankah voting in the affirmative; 6 Yes and 0 No).

The discussion of the Public Campaign Finance Board (PCFB) meeting included:
- Co-Director Couser presented a status update to the board on project management, budget, staffing, space planning, web site development, comparative research, regulations, and interactions with other agencies.
- The Public Campaign Finance budget request was supported in full, receiving $10.5 million in the State Operations Appropriation and $10 million in Aid to Localities in funding to the New York State Campaign Finance account for payments that will begin in 2024.
- PCFB ITU subunit continues to update the electronic filing software for the new committee type which will be created for participating candidates. Updates will be tested internally and with an external user group.
- Coordination continues with other state agencies for payment processes including JCOPE and Statewide Financial Systems.
- The PCFB onboarded a second Enforcement Counsel in April. The Civil Service Commission classified two assistant PIO positions and 12 candidate liaison positions. PIO and 6 candidate liaisons have been calendared for June and July onboarding with the remaining 6 candidate liaisons being onboarded in January of 2023.
- PCFB trainers continue to work on the PCFB website content material, which includes an office handbook, registration form, welcome letter, and application.
- Launch of the PCFB website is slated for early July.
- New business included a resolution for the republication of three sets of regulations (Debate, Enforcement and Regulations Program) that were open for public comment in the fall of 2021. In accordance with the State Administrative Procedure Act, amendments were made to the regulations. The regulations will be republished for another 45 days for public comment.

New Business:
- The next board meeting is TBD
- Motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved unanimously (Commissioners Casale, Kellner, Kolb, Kosinski, Spano and Yankah voting in the affirmative; 6 Yes and 0 No).

The meeting was adjourned at 12:25 p.m.