

AGENDA DOCUMENT NO. 00-28

MINUTES OF AN OPEN MEETING
OF THE
FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2000

PRESENT: Darryl R. Wold, Chairman, Presiding
Danny L. McDonald, Vice Chairman
David M. Mason, Commissioner
Karl J. Sandstrom, Commissioner
Scott E. Thomas, Commissioner
James A. Pehrkon, Staff Director
Lawrence M. Noble, General Counsel
Mary W. Dove, Acting Secretary

Chairman Darryl R. Wold called the Federal Election Commission to order in an open meeting at 10:05 a.m. on Thursday, February 17, 2000, with a quorum present.

I. CORRECTION AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes for February 3, 2000
Agenda Document No. 00-18

Chairman Wold recognized Vice Chairman McDonald, who

MOVED to approve the minutes for the open meeting of Thursday, February 3, 2000, as set forth in Agenda Document No. 00-18.

The motion carried on the vote of 5-0 with Commissioners Mason, McDonald, Sandstrom, Thomas, and Wold voting affirmatively.

II. DRAFT ADVISORY OPINION 1999-39

WellPoint Health Networks
Political Action Committee
by counsel, James A. Sivesind

Agenda Document No. 00-19

Chairman Wold recognized Mr. Jonathan Levin of the General Counsel's Office who presented draft Advisory Opinion 1999-39, concerning the application of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act") and Commission regulations to the question of its affiliation with Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association PAC.

The following amendments were noted by Mr. Levin:

1. Page 3, Line 17: Delete the word "thirteen" and substitute the word "twelve" in lieu thereof.
2. Page 5, Line 1: Delete the reference to "56" and substitute the numbers "55" in lieu thereof.
3. Page 6, Line 22: Delete the word "purchased" and substitute the word "acquired" in lieu thereof.
4. Page 8, Lines 4 and 5: Delete the words "the relationship of."

II. DRAFT ADVISORY OPINION 1999-39

(continued)

A discussion followed.

Chairman Wold recognized Vice Chairman
McDonald, who

MOVED to approve draft AO 1999-39,
as submitted in Agenda Document
No. 00-19, subject to the amend-
ments noted above.

The motion carried on the vote of 5-0 with
Commissioners Mason, McDonald, Sandstrom, Thomas, and
Wold voting affirmatively.

III. 1996 DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION COMMITTEE,
INC., REVISION TO THE STATEMENT OF REASONS
(LRA#471)

Agenda Document No. 00-20

It was agreed without objection to hold this
matter over to the next open meeting at which time the
revised Statement of Reasons for the 1996 Republican
National Convention Committee will be considered also.

IV. FINAL RULES AND STATEMENT OF BASIS AND
PURPOSE IMPLEMENTING THE ELECTRONIC
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT AMENDMENTS

Agenda Document No. 00-16

Chairman Wold recognized Ms. Rita Reimer of the General Counsel's staff who presented an overview of the subject report and offered the following amendment:

Page 4, Line 18: Change the
FAXLINE to 202-501-3413.

A discussion followed.

Chairman Wold recognized Vice Chairman McDonald,
who

MOVED to approve the final rules
and accompanying Statement of
Basis and Purpose for publication
in the FEDERAL REGISTER, as set
forth in Agenda Document No. 00-16,
as amended.

The motion carried on the vote of 5-0 with
Commissioners Mason, McDonald, Sandstrom, Thomas, and
Wold voting affirmatively.

V. STATUS OF REGULATIONS -- FEBRUARY
MONTHLY UPDATE

Agenda Document No. 00-17

(Placed on the agenda at the
request of Commissioner Mason)

Chairman Wold recognized Ms. Rosemary Smith of the General Counsel's Office who presented a brief update on the status of pending regulations.

Chairman Wold recognized Commissioner Mason who expressed his concerns in going forward prior to the 2000 elections with a petition for rulemaking which addresses Presidential and Vice Presidential debates.

A discussion followed.

Chairman Wold recognized Commissioner Mason,
who

MOVED to instruct the Office of General Counsel to hold in abeyance until after the 2000 general election the Petition for Rulemaking on Candidate Debates (11 CFR 110.13) and to so inform the petitioners.

The motion carried on the vote of 4-1 with Commissioners Mason, McDonald, Sandstrom, and Wold voting affirmatively. Commissioner Thomas dissented.

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Chairman Wold referred to the Commission's oversight responsibility concerning litigation, and it was agreed without objection to authorize the establishment of a Litigation Committee. Commissioners Mason and Thomas were appointed to serve as the two members of the committee.

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VI. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

February Status Report to Congress on
PricewaterhouseCoopers Recommendations

Agenda Document No. 00-21

Chairman Wold recognized Vice Chairman McDonald, who

MOVED to suspend the rules on the timely submission of agenda documents in order to consider Agenda Document No. 00-21.

The motion carried on the vote of 5-0 with Commissioners Mason, McDonald, Sandstrom, Thomas, and Wold voting affirmatively.

VI. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

February Status Report to Congress on
PricewaterhouseCoopers Recommendations

(continued)

Chairman Wold recognized Staff Director Pehrkon who presented the subject report. Following discussion, Chairman Wold recognized Vice Chairman McDonald, who

MOVED to approve the February Status Report to Congress on PricewaterhouseCoopers Recommendations, as submitted in Agenda Document No. 00-21, as amended.

The motion carried on the vote of 5-0 with Commissioners Mason, McDonald, Sandstrom, Thomas, and Wold voting affirmatively.

The meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Signed:

Darryl R. Wold
Chairman

Attest:

Mary W. Dove
Acting Secretary