

## **AGENDA DOCUMENT NO. 06-38**

## **MINUTES OF AN OPEN MEETING**

#### OF THE

## FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

### THURSDAY, MAY 4, 2006

PRESENT:

Michael E. Toner, Chairman, presiding

Robert D. Lenhard, Vice Chairman

David M. Mason, Commissioner

Hans A. von Spakovsky, Commissioner

Steven T. Walther, Commissioner

Ellen L. Weintraub, Commissioner

Robert J. Costa, Acting Staff Director

Lawrence H. Norton, General Counsel

Mary W. Dove, Secretary

Chairman Michael E. Toner called the Federal Election

Commission to order in an open meeting at 10:20 A.M. on Thursday,

May 4, 2006, with a quorum present.

## I. CORRECTION AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes for April 20, 2006 Agenda Document No. 06-34

Chairman Toner recognized Vice Chairman Lenhard, who

MOVED to approve the minutes for the Open Meeting of Thursday, April 20, 2006, as set forth in Agenda Document No. 06-34.

The motion carried on the vote of 6-0 with Commissioners

Lenhard, Mason, Toner, von Spakovsky, Walther, and Weintraub voting

affirmatively.

## II. ADVISORY OPINIONS

Chairman Toner announced the agenda would be reordered and draft Advisory Opinion 2006-08 would be considered as the last item on the agenda.

B. Advisory Opinion 2006-13
 Dennis Spivack by counsel, Neil Reiff

Agenda Document No. 06-36

#### II. <u>ADVISORY OPINIONS</u> (continued)

B. Advisory Opinion 2006-13 (continued)

Chairman Toner recognized Mr. Jonathan Levin of the General Counsel's Office who presented draft Advisory Opinion 2006-13 concerning the application of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended (the "Act"), and Commission regulations to compensation received in connection with Mr. Spivack's work as an equity partner in a law firm while he is a candidate for Federal office.

The Chairman recognized Vice Chairman Lenhard, who

MOVED to approve draft Advisory Opinion 2006-13, as set forth in Agenda Document No. 06-36.

The motion carried on the vote of 6-0.

## III. REPORT OF THE AUDIT DIVISION ON THE NEW DEMOCRAT NETWORK

(Placed on the agenda pursuant to the filing of objections by Commissioners Lenhard and Toner following circulation on a 72-hour tally vote.)

(Commissioner Weintraub recused herself with respect to this matter.)

Agenda Document No. 06-35

# III. REPORT OF THE AUDIT DIVISION ON THE NEW DEMOCRAT NETWORK (continued)

Chairman Toner recognized Mr. Joseph Stoltz of the Audit

Division who presented an overview of the findings in the audit report.

The Chairman and Vice Chairman raised similar objections which related to Finding 4, <u>Disclosure of Federal Activity Paid from Non-federal Accounts.</u>

A discussion followed.

The meeting recessed at 11:05 A.M. and reconvened at 11:20 A.M.

It was agreed without objection that the Report of the Audit

Division on the New Democrat Network be held over for a future

meeting.

## II. <u>ADVISORY OPINIONS</u> (continued)

A. <u>Advisory Opinion 2006-08</u>

Matthew Brooks by counsel, Craig Engle

The Chairman declared a second recess at 11:20 a.m. in order to consider a late comment received from Mr. Craig Engle, counsel for the requestor. The meeting reconvened at 11:55 A.M. with a quorum present.

## II. <u>ADVISORY OPINIONS</u> (continued)

A. Advisory Opinion 2006-08 (continued)

Agenda Document No. 06-37 (submitted late)

Chairman Toner recognized Vice Chairman Lenhard, who

MOVED to suspend the rules on the timely submission of agenda documents in order to consider Agenda Document No. 06-37.

The motion carried on the vote of 6-0.

Chairman Toner recognized Mr. Daniel Abramson of the General Counsel's Office who presented draft Advisory Opinion 2006-08 concerning the application of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended (the "Act"), and Commission regulations to an as-yet unnamed corporation to be formed by Mr. Brooks.

A discussion followed.

The Chairman recognized Commissioner von Spakovsky, who

MOVED to approve revised draft Advisory
Opinion 2006-08, as submitted in Agenda
Document No. 06-37, as amended on Page 4,
Line 15, to replace the word "create" with the
word "author", with respect to Question No. 4,
which begins on Page 6, Line 17, the answer to
be revised from "no" to "yes" with a rationale to
be circulated for approval on a tally vote basis.

#### II. ADVISORY OPINIONS

(continued)

A. Advisory Opinion 2006-08

(continued)

The motion carried on the vote of 4-2 with Commissioners

Lenhard, Mason, Toner, and von Spakovsky voting affirmatively.

**Commissioners Walther and Weintraub dissented.** 

#### IV. ROUTINE ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

There were no routine administrative matters to come before the Commission.

The meeting adjourned at 12:25 P.M.

Signed:

Michael E. Toner
Chairman of the Commission

**Attest:** 

Mary W. Dove Secretary of the Commission