

**Approved Minutes
May 16, 2023**

Minutes of the New York State Public Campaign Finance Board of the New York State Board of Elections – May 16, 2023

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 called to order at approximately 12:00 p.m.

Commissioners present were Barbara Lifton, Brian Kolb, Keesha Gaskins-Nathan (virtual), Douglas Kellner (virtual), Peter Kosinski (virtual), and Anthony Casale (virtual). Staff members present were Kristen Zebrowski Stavisky, Cheryl Couser, Carl Zeilman, Robert Eckels, Kate Orsino, Nick Cartagena, Brian Connor, Thomas Connolly, Jennifer Wilson, and Mike Haber.

Minutes from March 14, 2023– The motion to accept the meeting minutes was approved unanimously (**Commissioners Lifton, Gaskins-Nathan, Kolb, Kellner, Kosinski, and Casale voting in the affirmative; 6 Yes and 0 No**).

Executive Unit Update: Co-Directors Cheryl Couser and Carl Zeilman provided the unit update on the Public Campaign Finance Program, including information on registration, staffing, space planning, project management, and subunit reports. Of note:

- The Public Campaign Finance Program has 32 candidates registered in the PCFB program. (Including 1 statewide candidate, 10 state senate candidates, and 21 state assembly candidates). 15 have applied to be participating candidates.
- The Public Campaign Finance Program received a \$14.5 M appropriation for SFY 23/24 administration. \$25M was appropriated for the NYS Campaign Finance Fund, which had a balance of approximately \$819,000. The balance is attributed to the program tax check off provision.
- PCFB staff is working with the Office of the State Comptroller to obtain access to the statewide financial system (SFS). SFS is needed to upload candidates to the system and ensure these candidates can receive electronic fund transfers payments of public funds.
- Mandatory treasurer training sessions are underway. The training unit continues to host training sessions and staff continue to attend informational events and conferences. Over 488 people have been trained.
- The PCFB met with the NYC Campaign Finance Board and did a comparative analysis between the two programs.
- The RFP responses for software services were evaluated and scores were provided to the Office of General Services. An award is expected imminently.

Old Business:

- None

New Business:

- None.

Motion to adjourn. The motion was approved unanimously. (**Commissioner Lifton, Kolb, Gaskins-Nathan, Kellner, Kosinski, and Casale voting in the affirmative; 6 Yes and 0 No**).

The next board meeting is to be determined. The meeting was adjourned at 12:36 pm.