

1 THE STATE OF ARIZONA CITIZENS CLEAN ELECTIONS COMMISSION REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF VIRTUAL PUBLIC MEETING Phoenix, Arizona August 4, 2026 3:00 p.m. Miller Certified Reporting, LLC 12725 W. Indian School Rd., Suite F100 Avondale, AZ 85392 (P) 623-975-7472 www.MillerCertifiedReporting.com Reported By: Angela Furniss Miller, RPR Certified Reporter (AZ 50127) Miller Certified Reporting, LLC www.MillerCertifiedReporting.com	3 1 P R O C E E D I N G 2 3 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: I'm Mark Kimble, Chair of 4 the Citizens Clean Elections Commission. It's 3:00 p.m. on 5 Tuesday, August 4th, 2026. I call this meeting of the 6 Citizens Clean Elections Commission to order. 7 With that, we will take attendance. Commissioners, 8 please identify yourselves for the record. 9 COMMISSIONER WERTHER: Christina Werther. 10 COMMISSIONER PATON: Galen Paton. 11 COMMISSIONER CRUMP: Samuel Crump. 12 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: I heard Commissioner Crump, 13 Commissioner Paton, Commissioner Werther. We have a quorum. 14 Also present is -- are Tom Collins, Executive 15 Director of the Arizona Citizens Clean Elections Commission, 16 and Craig Morgan from Taft Law acting solely as the 17 Commission's independent legal advisor. 18 Item II, discussion and possible action on request 19 to withdraw from Clean Elections funding program. 20 The purpose of this special meeting is to consider 21 the request we received from Dr. Ralph Heap regarding 22 withdrawing from the Citizens Clean Elections funding 23 program. Our rules provide a tight timeline for considering 24 this question. 25 For those of you joining us in the meeting and the Miller Certified Reporting, LLC www.MillerCertifiedReporting.com
2 1 PUBLIC MEETING, BEFORE THE CITIZENS CLEAN ELECTIONS 2 COMMISSION, convened virtually at 3:00 p.m. on 3 August 4, 2026, in the presence of the following Board 4 Members: 5 Mr. Mark S. Kimble, Chairman 6 Mr. Galen Paton 7 Ms. Christina Werther 8 Mr. Samuel Crump 9 OTHERS PRESENT: 10 Thomas M. Collins, Executive Director 11 Paula Thomas, Executive Officer 12 Mike Becker, Policy Director 13 Gina Roberts, Voter Education Director 14 Alec Shaffer, Web Content Manager 15 Craig Morgan, Taft, Stettinius & Hollister 16 Cathy Herring, KCA 17 MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: 18 Tim LaSota, Timothy LaSota PLC 19 Gina Swoboda 20 Nick Myers 21 Vincent La 22 Tom Ryan 23 Nancy Hawkins 24 Tyler Montague 25 Makenna Trapani Rivko Knox Zach Buchanan, Axios Phoenix Reporter Matt Fioriti Alaina Mencinger Jane Evans Miller Certified Reporting, LLC www.MillerCertifiedReporting.com	4 1 live stream, the order of the -- this item will be as 2 follows: First, we will hear from Tom Collins, Executive 3 Director of the Clean Elections Commission; second, we will 4 hear from Dr. Heap or whomever is appearing on his behalf; 5 next we will take public comments on this item. 6 Please keep your mic or phone on mute until we ask 7 for your comment. We also have some written comments that 8 the Commissioners have received. One member of the 9 Commission has a hard stop at 5:00 p.m., so we will be 10 mindful of that and manage time accordingly. 11 At any point the members of the Commission may vote 12 to go into executive session to seek legal advice from our 13 independent legal advisor Craig Morgan. 14 Depending upon the complexity of the issue, we may 15 go into executive session more than once. Neither the public 16 nor Mr. LaSota nor the Executive Director will be permitted 17 in executive session. 18 I will start now by asking Tom Collins to discuss 19 this matter. 20 Tom? 21 I believe you're on mute. 22 MR. COLLINS: I am. Thank you. 23 Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, I -- I don't have too 24 much. I think the -- the procedural history is, I think, 25 outlined in the materials. We have the request is -- excuse Miller Certified Reporting, LLC www.MillerCertifiedReporting.com

5 1 me, I'm having a computer issue here. I apologize. Bear 2 with me one second while I get my... 3 Sorry. So, I mean, I think the procedural history 4 is outlined in the materials that we provided on Friday. We 5 are -- we have the request from -- that Mr. LaSota filed. 6 Dr. Heap became a participating candidate in March. During 7 the first week of July, Dr. Heap submitted his qualifying 8 contributions for review. 9 On July 20th, the Secretary of State notified both 10 Dr. Heap and the Commission staff that he had qualified for 11 Clean Elections funding, and that day I sent the letter to 12 Mr. LaSota respecting the qualification and the -- and the 13 withholding under Rule R2-20-106(a). 14 At -- at that point -- and then -- and then the 15 July 31st request we -- I received from Mr. LaSota came in. 16 And that's really the -- that's the -- the basic 17 procedural history. I'm happy to answer any questions if you 18 have any. 19 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you, Tom. 20 Do any members of the Commission have any questions 21 for Tom at this time? 22 (No audible response.) 23 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Hearing none, I don't know 24 if Dr. Heap is with us; I see Mr. LaSota, his attorney, is 25 with us. Miller Certified Reporting, LLC www.MillerCertifiedReporting.com	7 1 follow whatever process awaits us. 2 Obviously, this is a -- what -- what Dr. Heap has 3 been accused of is -- is sort of a commonplace in campaigns 4 where sometimes, you know, at least just taking the 5 accusations as if they were true, it's certain parts of the 6 campaign get ahead of themselves. So it's -- it's very much 7 a garden-variety accusation. 8 But, regardless, Dr. Heap has decided it's time to 9 move on from the participating candidate status. That is his 10 right and this Commission should approve his request. 11 Thank you, Mr. Chairman. 12 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you, Mr. LaSota. 13 Just for the record, Dr. Heap is not present; is 14 that correct? 15 MR. LA SOTA: That's correct, Mr. Chairman. 16 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Okay. Thank you. 17 MR. LA SOTA: But I am his counsel. I don't 18 think I said that. So I represent Dr. Heap. 19 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Okay. Thank you, 20 Mr. LaSota. 21 MS. HERRING: Chairman Kimble, you are on 22 mute. 23 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you. 24 At this time we will take public comment on this 25 item. We will ask that speakers identify themselves for the Miller Certified Reporting, LLC www.MillerCertifiedReporting.com
6 1 Mr. LaSota, did you want to speak on Mr. Heap's 2 behalf? 3 MR. LA SOTA: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I would. 4 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Okay. Proceed. 5 MR. LA SOTA: Okay. I'd ask that the 6 Commission approve our request to withdraw. I think it is a 7 simply ministerial act on the part of the Commission. 8 One thing I would take issue with what Mr. Collins 9 said is we've qualified for funding. Actually, what -- what 10 he's told me is that he -- he thinks that we might not be 11 able to participate in the funding program and we might have 12 to -- we might not be funded based on the complaint that was 13 filed. 14 So I don't know where anyone gets that we've 15 qualified for funding. We've not. We've not been provided 16 any funding. We've been told that there's at least some 17 possibility we won't ever get funding. So in the meantime 18 we -- we are here. 19 And Mr. Collins also points out that as a 20 participant in this program, we are not allowed to raise 21 private funds. So that's the position we are here today. 22 Obviously Dr. Heap raised the \$5 contributions. 23 But as circumstances have intervened and with the election 24 very close, early ballots drop in about two months; there's 25 simply not time to -- to kind of hang around and -- and Miller Certified Reporting, LLC www.MillerCertifiedReporting.com	8 1 record and limit their comments to no more than three 2 minutes. If you are a member of the public and wish to make 3 a comment, please use the "raise hand" feature in Zoom and I 4 will call on individuals one at a time. To raise your hand, 5 in Zoom click the "react" icon in the bottom tool bar and 6 select "raise hand." 7 When your name is called, please unmute yourself 8 and state your full name for the record before beginning your 9 comments. 10 Please note that Commissioners may have questions 11 for you. 12 Is there any member of the public who wishes to 13 make a comment? 14 The first person I see on my screen is Gina 15 Swoboda. 16 Ms. Swoboda? 17 MS. SWOBODA: Good afternoon. Thank you, 18 members of the Commission. 19 I'm Gina Swoboda. I was recently a statewide 20 candidate privately funded for Secretary of State. I'm a 21 certified elections officer in Arizona, and I used to serve 22 at the Secretary of State's office certifying Clean Elections 23 candidates. 24 My -- my comment is brief. Traversing the state, 25 as I did as a statewide candidate, I'm a person who purchased Miller Certified Reporting, LLC www.MillerCertifiedReporting.com

9 1 1,100 campaign signs. And everywhere I went I saw Mr. Heap's 2 signs. They went up in tandem with -- with my primary 3 opponent's signs; that's why I paid particular attention to 4 that. So the expenditure was quite large. 5 Having served in the Secretary of State and being 6 an election officer, I think it would be very damaging to the 7 Clean Elections process in the State of Arizona should a 8 candidate who ran as a Clean Elections candidate be permitted 9 to win a primary, fail to comply with the campaign finance 10 regulations as a Clean Elections candidate, and simply walk 11 away and withdraw. 12 At the time I served in the Secretary of State, 13 under R2-20-104(c), candidates needed to file their 14 application for certification in order for us to process 15 their qualifying contribution. I'm not sure if that was done 16 or not. But if that has already happened, then Dr. Heap 17 submitted himself at that point for a second time to the 18 rules and the campaign finance regulations of the Clean 19 Elections program. 20 So my request, such as it is as a member of the 21 public, to the Commission is to not allow Mr. Heap to walk 22 away from the commitment he made running as a Clean Elections 23 candidate, and to subject him to the fines that the program 24 calls for. And in the event that Mr. Heap does not wish to 25 comply with the fines under 942(a), 16-942(a), that the Miller Certified Reporting, LLC www.MillerCertifiedReporting.com	11 1 the outcome would probably -- would plausibly have been 2 different without these illegally purchased or acquired 3 signs. 4 The Clean Elections' law recognizes that serious 5 violations by public finance -- publicly financed candidates 6 warrant serious consequences, including removal from office 7 as this Commission has ruled in comparable cases before. 8 Accordingly, as the candidate who was most impacted 9 by Mr. Heap's conduct, I'm asking the Commission to pursue 10 the full penalty available under law and not set enforcement 11 aside. 12 Given the scale of this violation, I believe 13 Mr. Heap should voluntarily withdraw from the race. That 14 said, I recognize that this decision rests with him, not with 15 me or the Commission. Therefore, I -- should he choose to 16 withdraw in a timely manner so that the process established 17 by statute to identify a replacement may be completed within 18 the allotted time, that's a fact the Commission may 19 reasonably weigh at its own discretion in considering whether 20 any leniency is warranted. But leniency should only be 21 considered if Mr. Heap does the right thing by voluntarily 22 withdrawing from the race. 23 I also want to raise something directly relevant to 24 your assessment. It's widely believed that the individuals 25 who advised this scheme are the same individuals who Miller Certified Reporting, LLC www.MillerCertifiedReporting.com
10 1 candidate be permitted to withdraw from the ballot completely 2 and then have his fines at that point waived. 3 And that's it for me. And I thank you again so 4 much for your time. Thank you. 5 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you. Thank you very 6 much, Ms. Swoboda. 7 Next up I see on my screen, Nick Myers. 8 Mr. Myers? 9 MR. MYERS: Yes. Thank you. Good afternoon, 10 Chairman and Commissioners. My name is Nick Myers. I am 11 currently serving as the Chairman of the Arizona Corporation 12 Commission, and I'm the immediate past candidate in this 13 race. 14 I'm here today to comment on the complaint 15 regarding the unlawful purchase of approximately a thousand 16 campaign signs by Ralph Heap. 17 Campaigns for down-ballot offices like the ACC are 18 decided disproportionately on name recognition. Signage is 19 often the single largest driver of that recognition, 20 especially in the final weeks of the race. An advantage of a 21 thousand illegally funded signs isn't insignificant. In a 22 race of this size, it's substantial and it's likely decisive. 23 I was a direct competitor in this race, which was 24 decided by roughly one-and-a-half percent of the vote. Given 25 a margin that narrow, I believe it's reasonable to conclude Miller Certified Reporting, LLC www.MillerCertifiedReporting.com	12 1 approached me four years ago with a substantially similar, if 2 not identical, proposal. I declined because I understood at 3 the time that it was unlawful. If my belief is accurate, it 4 speaks to a pattern, not an isolated lapse, and I believe it 5 needs to be brought fully to light through a sworn affidavit 6 process if he chooses to cooperate. 7 And finally, should he wish to fully cooperate, 8 including a sworn affidavit disclosing who directed this 9 conduct, who financed it, and what agreements are made, I 10 believe that genuine, complete disclosure is a factor that 11 this Commission may reasonably weigh in its determination. 12 Thank you for your time and thank you for your 13 attention to this matter. 14 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you, Mr. Myers. 15 Next we have Vincent La. 16 Am I pronouncing your name right, sir? 17 MR. LA: Yes, you have Mark. Thank you. 18 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Okay. Mr. La, would you 19 proceed? 20 MR. LA: Yeah. Good afternoon, Chair and 21 Commissioners. My name is Vincent La. I'm a concerned 22 Republican voter, and I -- I believe the Commission should 23 deny Mr. Heap's request to withdraw from Clean Elections. 24 In addition, I also believe he should be held to 25 the maximum pun- -- consequences, which includes fines and Miller Certified Reporting, LLC www.MillerCertifiedReporting.com

13 1 potentially disqualification. I believe that if he is found 2 to have violated Arizona Revised Statutes Title 16 Section 3 942(c), I believe he should be disqualified before the 4 ballots are printed. 5 In addition to the locations documented to by Lisa 6 Everett, I personally saw Heap signs at locations including 7 State Route 87 and McDowell, Greenway, Hayden, Scottsdale, 8 and Shea and Tatum. I have also repeatedly, like others, 9 seen Heap signs placed neatly along signs for Kimberly Yee 10 and Alex Kolodin, who are backed by the same political 11 organizations. That raises an obvious question: Were the 12 signs printed or installed by the same vendor or 13 organization? 14 Yee and Kolodin each reported roughly \$70,000 in 15 sign spending. Heap, on the other hand, reported only \$600. 16 That enormous difference deserves an explanation. The 17 Commission should determine who ordered Heap's signs and who 18 paid for them. 19 Furthermore, Clean Elections cannot become a 20 risk-free gambit. A candidate should not be able to enter 21 the program, campaign as a participating candidate, and then 22 try to quit when asked to sign a sworn statement saying their 23 reports are correct. This matter is especially for 24 Corporation Commission. 25 The Corp Comm's Code of Ethics makes certain Miller Certified Reporting, LLC www.MillerCertifiedReporting.com	15 1 public. Anybody can read them. It's meant to -- the rules 2 are designed so anybody can follow them and run for office. 3 That's the whole point. 4 On July 20th, the Secretary of State's office 5 notified not only Dr. Heap, but the members of the Clean 6 Elections Commission that Dr. Heap had submitted enough valid 7 qualifying contributions to qualify for public funding. And 8 that is an important fact here; it's the fact that Dr. Heap 9 qualified for the funding. It's not the receipt of the 10 money, it's the qualification that is the standard here. 11 The most important part of this is, you know, 12 the -- the -- the failure to file under penalty of perjury 13 under -- with a notarized statement that Dr. Heap has 14 complied with all the financial requirements in order to 15 receive those funds. 16 When I hear counsel for Dr. Heap say "well 17 circumstances intervened," that's just code for we decline to 18 file under oath, under pen- -- under penalty of perjury the 19 financial statements. 20 Dr. Heap and his counsel -- Dr. Heap and his 21 counsel have -- sorry. 22 Dr. Heap and his counsel have the opportunity to 23 remedy the problem here, all they have to do is file the 24 notarized statement under penalty of perjury and say that 25 they've complied or not complied. If they haven't complied Miller Certified Reporting, LLC www.MillerCertifiedReporting.com
14 1 demands of non-Clean Elections candidates when it comes to 2 conflicts of interest. I believe former Commissioner Justin 3 Olson created this ethics rule so that Arizonans could have 4 faith in their elected commissioners. 5 As Arizonans, we must preserve Clean Elections as 6 an effective way of reducing conflict of interest and the 7 appearance of conflicts in our elected officials. A law 8 without enforcement is not a law at all. 9 So I urge, again, the Commission to deny his 10 request to withdraw. And if the facts satisfy the statutory 11 qualifications for disqualification, the Commission ought to 12 pursue it. 13 Thank you. 14 THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. La. 15 Next, Tom Ryan. 16 Mr. Ryan? 17 MR. RYAN: Thank you, Chair, members of the 18 Commission, Executive Director Mr. Collins. 19 I also speak in opposition of Dr. Heap's petition 20 to withdraw as a Clean Elections candidate. 21 Look, he could have chosen to privately fund his 22 campaign; he chose not to. Instead, he sought money from the 23 Clean Elections campaign. He chose to run as a Clean 24 Elections candidate. 25 The rules are easy to understand. They're very Miller Certified Reporting, LLC www.MillerCertifiedReporting.com	16 1 then they still can run as a candidate, but there may be 2 penalties for that. But the idea of allowing them to 3 withdraw and defeating the investigation just simply 4 sanctions dishonesty and cheating in elections, which is 5 contrary to the whole role of Clean Elections. 6 So it's easy. All Dr. -- all Dr. Heap has to do is 7 to comply with AR -- AAC R-2-106(a); submit the affidavit 8 under oath, under penalty of perjury, and have it notarized 9 and then let the investigation go. 10 If -- if circumstances intervene that are easy to 11 explain away, then there's no problem; Dr. Heap doesn't have 12 anything to worry about. But if, as they've been credibly 13 suggested that there was a more than just a thumb, but a 14 whole, you know, a whole cow put on the -- the scales of 15 justice here to -- to weigh in favor of Dr. Heap, then that 16 investigation should go forward by this entity. 17 And for those reasons, because he holds the power 18 to -- to remedy the situations, he's -- he's declining to do 19 so, I'm asking that you decline to withdraw -- decline the 20 petition to withdraw and to continue the investigation. 21 Thank you very much. 22 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you, Mr. Ryan. 23 Next, Nancy Hawkins. 24 Ms. Hawkins? 25 MS. HAWKINS: Can you hear me? Okay. Miller Certified Reporting, LLC www.MillerCertifiedReporting.com

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1 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Yes, we can, Ms. Hawkins.
 2 You can proceed.
 3 MS. HAWKINS: Okay. Well, I've got -- I was
 4 having problems here so I have two Zoom devices going.
 5 So in addition -- my name is Nancy Hawkins. I'm a
 6 resident of Pinal County. I've written out a statement.
 7 In addition to the many hats I wear in my personal
 8 life, I am a proud member of the Pinal County Republican
 9 Committee, where I have served as a Past Chair and I am now
 10 serving as the organization's Second Vice Chair. I have
 11 given much of my time and energy in helping conservatives get
 12 elected over many election cycles.
 13 As was stated in Lisa Everett's complaint, during
 14 the primary election season I saw dozens of Ralph Heap signs
 15 up -- go up throughout Pinal County. Seeing this quantity of
 16 signs was confusing, as I know from my involvement in the
 17 party, that Mr. Heap had not qualified for his Clean
 18 Elections money when these signs went up.
 19 When it became public that Mr. Heap's second
 20 quarter campaign report did not reflect any kind of
 21 expenditure on signs, I was troubled as I knew the number of
 22 signs purchased by Mr. Heap would likely sway the race. And
 23 I ended up being right.
 24 Our party has put down a marker on how important
 25 election integrity is. I believe if we do not police
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1 ourselves, we have no grounds to stand on to lecture the
 2 other side about election fraud.
 3 In light of the fact that we know and this action
 4 likely swayed the Corporation Commission race, I employ that
 5 the Clean Elections Commission use the full power authorized
 6 by state statute to penalize Mr. Heap.
 7 Number one would be with the independent expendi-
 8 -- expenditure report support Mr. Heap has received, allowing
 9 him to simply leave Clean Elections would be too lenient of a
 10 penalty. Forcing him to stay in the program, not awarding
 11 him his Clean Election funding, and fining him ten times his
 12 illegal expenditure would be a strong deterrent for future
 13 illegal behavior.
 14 Or second, the Commission could consider waiving
 15 penalties if Mr. Heap decides to leave the race of his own
 16 accord. Any penalty or settlement with Mr. Heap should also
 17 require him to provide detailed accounting of how his signs
 18 were purchased and if an agent of his campaign made the
 19 purchase on his behalf.
 20 Thank you very much for your time. I appreciate
 21 it.
 22 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you, Ms. Hawkins.
 23 Next we have a gentleman whose name I can't make
 24 out. T-J-M-O-N.
 25 MR. MONTAGUE: Yeah, I apologize. Tyler
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1 Montague.
 2 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Okay. Could you state your
 3 full name and spell it for the record before you proceed.
 4 MR. MONTAGUE: Yes. Tyler Montague.
 5 T-Y-L-E-R. Montague is M-O-N-T-A-G-U-E.
 6 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you. Proceed.
 7 MR. MONTAGUE: Members of the Commission,
 8 thank you for listening.
 9 I think, you know, I can -- I can envision a
 10 scenario in which Dr. Heap didn't have ill intent and
 11 through, you know, carelessness or bad advice got into this
 12 situation. You know, he's operated on my mom and my dad; we
 13 -- you know, he's -- he's not a terrible person.
 14 However, the -- the harm here is -- is clear. He
 15 won by a small margin with a -- against a candidate that was
 16 following the rules and Dr. Heap was not. And I think it's
 17 very reasonable to assume that the -- the victory is
 18 attributable to the -- to the unfair, you know, the
 19 violations of the rules that are alleged and seem to be well
 20 supported.
 21 I think that could possibly apply to signatures as
 22 well, knowing market rates and how difficult it is to get
 23 those. That is something that should be investigated, not
 24 just the signs.
 25 I think the harm is also -- and why I think the
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1 Commission should act swiftly and firmly -- is to the Clean
 2 Elections themselves. If the playbook is: Cheat, if you
 3 don't -- if you get away with it, you're good; if you get
 4 caught, you just withdraw and there's no harm/no foul. If
 5 that becomes the playbook, then -- then that's a harm to the
 6 entire Clean Election process.
 7 And so if Dr. Heap withdraws all the way from the
 8 race, I think that is fair and I would not mind if -- if any
 9 sort of penalty was waived in that scenario, that there would
 10 be justice to -- to put it back in hands. If he is allowed
 11 to exit the program, I think significant penalty should be
 12 imposed so that there is a deterrent in the future and that
 13 this -- this scenario is not rewarded. Or if he stays, the
 14 same would have to be with significant penalties.
 15 I -- I just think that it would -- it would hurt
 16 the integrity of the process.
 17 Also, we should find out who was directing these
 18 expenditures and giving advice. I don't -- I don't think
 19 vendors are responsible, but consultants perhaps should be
 20 investigated.
 21 That's what I have to say. Thank you for
 22 listening.
 23 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you, Mr. Montague.
 24 Is there anyone else who wishes to make a comment?
 25 Either raise your hand or wave your hand at this -- at the
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21 1 camera or do something to get my attention and we will call 2 upon you. 3 I don't see anyone else. 4 MR. LA SOTA: Mr. Chairman, I would like a 5 couple minutes of rebuttal. Enough to make -- 6 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Yes -- 7 MR. LA SOTA: Okay. Thank you. 8 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: -- Mr. LaSota, I'm going to 9 do that as soon as I make sure no one else is -- is waiting 10 to speak. 11 Cathy, do you see anyone else? 12 MS. HERRING: I do not. 13 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Okay. Thank you. 14 Okay. Mr. LaSota? 15 MR. LA SOTA: Sorry, I had to unmute. Thank 16 you, Mr. Chairman. 17 You know, the one thing I'd point out is we've had 18 a lot of comments about he shouldn't just be able to walk 19 away. I mean, I think people are misunderstanding the import 20 of -- of what Dr. Heap is doing. And -- and comments like, 21 Oh, well, you know, if you can just take the money and -- and 22 spend money on the signs and then withdraw later. 23 Well, he hasn't gotten any money from Clean 24 Elections and he's -- he's simply seeking to withdraw. If 25 you withdraw as a candidate, I mean, you still have to file Miller Certified Reporting, LLC www.MillerCertifiedReporting.com	23 1 Commission. 2 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you, Mr. LaSota. 3 Tom Collins, is there anything you want to say? 4 MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, I'm 5 not sure that it adds any value for me to get into a thing 6 around what I've said to Mr. LaSota and the context of that. 7 I don't -- I don't think that actually serves any -- any 8 value. Our -- my letter says what it says. That part, I 9 think, is cut and dry. 10 Beyond that, I don't -- I don't -- so I don't think 11 there is anything that I -- I would add. 12 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Okay. Thank you, Tom. 13 Is there any member of the Commission that wishes 14 to make a motion to go into executive session at this time? 15 COMMISSIONER WERTHER: Mr. Chairman, I'd like 16 to move we go into executive session for this item. 17 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you, Commissioner 18 Werther. 19 Is there a second? 20 COMMISSIONER PATON: I'll second. It's Paton. 21 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you, Commissioner 22 Paton. 23 It's been moved and seconded that we go into 24 executive session. I will call the roll. 25 Commissioner Werther. Miller Certified Reporting, LLC www.MillerCertifiedReporting.com
22 1 campaign finance reports and you can still be penalized for 2 -- for violations of campaign finance laws. I mean, I think 3 that a lot of people on this call simply do not comprehend 4 either of those two facts. 5 And, you know, this notion of we're going to make 6 him stay as a candidate so he won't receive any funding and 7 can't raise any money and -- I mean, that -- that's just 8 untenable. It would be illegal. It -- it's not fair to a 9 candidate to say you're not -- we're not giving you any 10 money, but you can't withdraw; and while you're a candidate 11 -- or while you're a participating candidate and while you 12 don't -- even though you don't want to be a participating 13 candidate, you cannot raise private funds. Which is -- is 14 essentially what the people advocating against this request 15 have -- have stated. 16 So I -- I think we have the right to -- we have the 17 right to withdraw. It's in the rules. This -- this business 18 about there's a difference between qualifying and 19 disbursement, that's a bunch of hooley. If we qualified, 20 where's our check? Where's our money? We've -- we've not. 21 And we've been told we -- we may not receive any 22 money from the Executive Director. So how that qualifies -- 23 qualified in anyone's parlance is -- is -- escapes me. 24 So thank you, Mr. Chairman, and we respectfully 25 request that Dr. Heap's request be approved by this Miller Certified Reporting, LLC www.MillerCertifiedReporting.com	24 1 COMMISSIONER WERTHER: Aye. 2 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Paton. 3 COMMISSIONER PATON: Aye. 4 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Crump. 5 COMMISSIONER CRUMP: Aye. 6 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Titla has not 7 joined us, has he? 8 (No audible response.) 9 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: No? Okay. 10 Chair votes aye. 11 The vote is 4-to-nothing we will go into an 12 executive session, and when we finish we will be back here. 13 Thank you. 14 MS. HERRING: Chairman Kimble, can you please 15 confirm who should join executive session? 16 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: The four Commissioners and 17 Mr. Morgan. 18 MS. HERRING: Thank you. 19 (Whereupon the proceeding is in executive session 20 from 3:30 p.m. until 3:51 p.m.) 21 22 * * * * * 23 24 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: So Cathy, are we back in 25 regular session? Miller Certified Reporting, LLC www.MillerCertifiedReporting.com

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1 MS. HERRING: Yes.

2 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you.

3 When we started the meeting today we talked about

4 the purpose of the meeting was to deal with the request from

5 Dr. Heap regarding withdrawing from Clean Elections funding

6 program. During the comments from the public and from

7 other -- other members who have interest in this, there's

8 been a lot of other things brought up besides this about

9 what's going to happen next, some -- there's been talk about

15:52:15 10 fines. And I'd just like to ask -- to ask Mr. Morgan to

11 clarify once more what we are here to decide today, nothing

12 more, nothing less.

13 Mr. Morgan?

14 MR. MORGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chair, members of

15 the Commission. My name is Craig Morgan of Taft, Stettinius

16 & Hollister. I'm your independent legal advisor.

17 The sole issue before the Commission today is

18 whether to accept or deny the request from Dr. Heap through

19 his lawyer to no longer participate as a Clean candidate.

15:52:49 20 Issues related to sanctions, misconduct -- alleged

21 misconduct, investigations, complaints, none of that is

22 before you. None of that should be considered in any way,

23 shape or form as it relates to the decision that you need to

24 make today. Those issues, if and when they arise, they will

25 be and should be addressed then. They are not issues before

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1 you today. Today the sole issue is based on the law and the

2 Commission's rules, whether it can -- or does, I should say,

3 accept the withdrawal request.

4 Thank you.

5 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you, Mr. Morgan.

6 Does any member of the Commission wish to make a

7 motion whether to approve Dr. Heap's request?

8 COMMISSIONER WERTHER: Mr. Chairman, I'd like

9 to move to deny the request by Dr. Ralph Heap to withdraw as

15:53:49 10 a participate candidate under the Arizona Citizens Clean

11 Elections Act.

12 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you, Commissioner

13 Werther.

14 Is there a second?

15 COMMISSIONER CRUMP: I'll second.

16 COMMISSIONER PATON: I'll second. It's Paton.

17 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: I'll -- I heard Mr. Crump

18 first. Commissioner Crump seconds.

19 It's been moved and seconded that we deny

15:54:07 20 Mr. Heap's request to withdraw from the Clean Elections

21 program. I will call the roll.

22 Commissioner Werther.

23 COMMISSIONER WERTHER: Are.

24 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Paton.

25 COMMISSIONER PATON: Aye.

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1 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Crump.

2 COMMISSIONER CRUMP: Aye.

3 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: The Chair votes aye. The

4 motion is approved 4-to-nothing.

5 We now move to Item III, public comment. This is

6 the time for consideration of comments and suggestions from

7 the public. Action taken as a result of public comment will

8 be limited to directing staff to study the matter,

9 rescheduling it for further consideration or responding to

15:54:44 10 criticism.

11 Please limit your comments to no more than two

12 minutes.

13 Does any member of the public wish to comment?

14 I'm not seeing anyone asking to comment.

15 Public may also submit comments by e-mail at

16 ccec@azcleelections.gov.

17 Item IV, adjournment. If there's no further

18 business I will entertain a motion to adjourn.

19 COMMISSIONER WERTHER: Mr. Chairman, I move to

15:55:19 20 adjourn.

21 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you, Commissioner

22 Werther.

23 Is there a second?

24 COMMISSIONER PATON: Second. Paton.

25 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you, Commissioner

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1 Paton.

2 It's been moved and seconded that we adjourn. I

3 will call the roll.

4 Commissioner Werther.

5 COMMISSIONER WERTHER: Aye.

6 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Paton.

7 COMMISSIONER PATON: Aye.

8 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Crump.

9 COMMISSIONER CRUMP: Aye.

15:55:35 10 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Chair votes aye. We are

11 adjourned.

12 Thank you.

13 (Whereupon the proceeding concludes at 3:55 p.m.)

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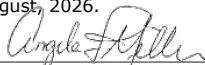
1 CERTIFICATE

2
3 STATE OF ARIZONA)
4) ss.
5 COUNTY OF MARICOPA)
6

7 BE IT KNOWN that the foregoing proceedings were
8 taken before me, Angela Furniss Miller, Certified Reporter
9 No. 50127, all done to the best of my skill and ability;
that the proceedings were taken down by me in shorthand and
thereafter reduced to print under my direction.

10 I CERTIFY that I am in no way related to any of the
11 parties hereto nor am I in any way interested in the outcome
thereof.

12 I FURTHER CERTIFY that I have complied with the
13 requirements set forth in ACJA 7-206. Dated at Litchfield
14 Park, Arizona, this 7th of August, 2026.

15 
Angela Furniss Miller, RPR, CR
16 CERTIFIED REPORTER (AZ50127)

17 * * *

18 I CERTIFY that Miller Certified Reporting, LLC, has
19 complied with the requirements set forth in ACJA 7-201 and
20 7-206. Dated at LITCHFIELD PARK, Arizona, this 7th of
August, 2026.

21 
Miller Certified Reporting, LLC
22 Arizona RRF No. R1058
23
24
25

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