THE STATE OF ARIZONA
CITIZENS CLEAN ELECTIONS COMMISSION

Phoenix, Arizona

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April 20, 2017
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9:31 a.m.

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Prepared by:
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| public meeting before the citizens clean elections <br> COMMISSION convened at 9:31 a.m. on April 20, 2017, <br> at the State of Arizona, Clean Elections Commission, <br> 1616 West Adams, Conference Room, Phoenix, Arizona, in <br> the presence of the following Board members: <br> Mr. Steve M. Titla, Chairperson <br> Mr. Mark S. Kimble <br> Mr . Damien Meyer <br> Ms. Amy B. Chan <br> Mr. Gailen D. Paton <br> others present: <br> Thomas M. Collins, Executive Director Paula Thomas, Executive Officer <br> Sara Larsen, Financial Affairs Officer <br> Gina Roberts, Voter Education Manager <br> Mike Becker, Policy Director <br> Alec Shaffer, Web Content Manager <br> Amy Jicha, Legal Admin and VE Intern <br> Rivko Knox, LWV, AZ <br> Joseph N. Roth, Osborn Maledon <br> Lee Miller, SOS <br> Garrett Archer, SOS <br> L1z Atkinson, SOS <br> Bill Maaske, SOS Joseph La Rue, AG <br> Joel <br> Mirja Rien Advocacy Network <br> Mirja Riester, Riester | 1 We go to the next item, discussion and <br> possible action on Executive Director's Report. <br> MR. COLLINS: Thank you, Chairman Titla, <br> Commissions. <br> A couple of things. First, I want to <br> congratulate Amy, our -- who's been with us as our <br> intern now for almost a year, I think. She will be <br> graduating from the Barrett Honors College in May, and <br> with -- summa cum laude, and she's decided she's going <br> to attend Emory Law School in the fall and has received <br> a scholarship there. So we're really pleased to be <br> able to say that, and it's been great having her work <br> with us. And it looks like she's well on her way to a <br> successful legal career, despite my best efforts to <br> persuade her otherwise. But -- so that's very -- <br> We're really very pleased and proud of Amy. <br> We did -- Sara and Gina were at the Election <br> Officials spring workshop last week and presented <br> several -- a couple of different presentations and <br> attended a number of training sessions. So all the <br> county recorders and election directors were there, as well as the Secretary's office. <br> 23 There's a -- voter registration deadline was <br> April 17th for the next consolidated election date, <br> 25 which is May 16th. |
| ```09:31:42-09:32:27 PROCEEDING CHAIRPERSON TITLA: The Citizens Clean Elections Commission meeting comes to order Thursday, April 20, 2017, at 9:30 a.m. The item we have on the agenda is -- the first item is discussion and possible action on Commission minutes for March 23rd, 2017 meeting. COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: Mr. Chairman. CHAIRPERSON TITLA: Commissioner Kimble. COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: I move the minutes be approved. CHAIRPERSON TITLA: Motion by Commissioner Kimble. Is there a second? COMMISSIONER MEYER: Second. CHAIRPERSON TITLA: Second by Commissioner Meyer. All in favor, say aye. (Chorus of ayes.) CHAIRPERSON TITLA: Opposed. (No response.) CHAIRPERSON TITLA: Abstain. (No response.) CHAIRPERSON TITLA: Motion carried unanimously.``` | The last thing I want to really hit upon -- <br> two things. One: There is, sort of behind the report, <br> the budget -- first quarter budget update. The <br> revenues, they are on track with what we saw in 2016 <br> and we haven't exceeded any caps that are -- that are set. <br> And then the last thing I'd like to say a <br> couple words about is the -- is the Supreme Court <br> 9 decision to grant the petition for review in the Legacy <br> 10 Foundation Action Fund matter. So just for -- Just to <br> 11 sort of recapitulate, partially for you all and <br> 12 partially for the public, this is a matter that is left <br> 13 from the 2014 election, it involves the Legacy <br> 14 Foundation Action Fund doing advertisements in the <br> 15 republican gubernatorial primary advocating the defeat <br> 16 of then Mayor Scott Smith of Mesa. They -- we went <br> 17 through a -- our administrative process and a final <br> order issued. <br> And the Clean Elections Act provides for a <br> specific statute of limitations on those -- on appeals. <br> In fact, there's a reported Arizona Supreme Court case <br> that says that, if the statute wasn't clear enough, <br> 23 from 2006 where this issue was challenged. Sorry. <br> 24 COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: I apologize. <br> 25 MR. COLLINS: No, no. No, that's fine. |

1 Legacy Foundation did not meet the statute of limitations. They -- The case was dismissed by the
3 Superior Court. They appealed to the Court of Appeals.
4 Unanimous Court of Appeals panel, in an unpublished
decision, affirmed -- affirmed the lower court
decision.
7 The issue in the case really is the statute
of limitations. And the argument that Legacy
9 Foundation Action Fund is making has to do not with the
10 merits of the Clean Elections Act or our actions, but
11 with their, we think, clearly erroneous interpretation
12 of the -- the administrative law sections at issue
13 here.
14 In effect, what they've argued is: There is
15 no statute of limitations, as long as you can somehow
16 construct an argument that challenges, quote, unquote,
17 jurisdiction. And that's -- What that really means,
18 in practical terms, is that there would be no finality
19 to administrative legal decisions ever, because you
20 would always be able to default and then come back in
21 and essentially say, you know, whatever you want.
And so the reason I want to point that out is
23 because, you know, obviously there's -- in addition to
24 the Clean Elections issues on the merits, which this
25 is -- to make clear, this is not a Clean Elections
merits issue, it's also distinct from some of the --
you know, there's a growing skepticism of
administrative law that is part of -- you know, part of
the -- part of the legal culture. You saw that
highlighted in Justice Gorsuch's confirmation hearing;
certainly Arizona's courts are not immune from that
either. But this also doesn't deal with that issue, it
doesn't deal with the, you know, administrative rules
and delegation and those kind of issues that are
10 highlighted in that context; this is not about that 11 either.
12 This is about if you have administrative
3 rules and if you have administrative hearings and if you have administrative decisions, do you get finality or not. And so this is a very, very narrow issue in terms of the broader Clean Elections merits questions and the broader administrative law questions that are out there in the -- in the legal world. But it is a very important issue in terms of any administrative agency, city, county, town that is concerned about finality of their administrative decisions.

So it's a -- It is of significance for
23 reasons that have less to do with the issues you'll see
24 either debated around the Commission's authority or the
25 issues you see debated around administrative law and

1 administrative agencies in general and much more to do
2 about whether or not, you know, after all is said and
3 done, can you ever have finality.
4 And we believe that finality is critical to
5 the functioning of the Commission, as well as the
6 functioning of any administrative legal proceeding,
7 whether you are a fan of administrative legal
8 proceedings or not.
9 So I just wanted to kind of put that out
10 there. And if you have any questions about any of
11 that, please let me know; otherwise, that concludes my
12 report.
13 CHAIRPERSON TITLA: Any questions by the
14 Commissioners?
15 (No response.)
16 CHAIRPERSON TITLA: I'd just like to also
17 congratulate Amy for her graduation from ASU. That's a
18 lot of degrees I see there in one graduation, bachelor
19 of science in psychology, bachelor of arts in political
20 science, with religious studies and social justice and
21 human rights minors. So a lot of hard work there; I
22 commend you for that. And you are to be commended for
23 the summa cum laude with highest honors also, so
24 congratulations on all that hard work. I'm sure that
25 you will do well in law school. The first year is

1 always the hardest in law school, so hang in there and
2 I'm sure that you'll do well. Thank you.
3 Any questions by the Commissioners on the 4 report?
5 (No response.)
6 CHAIRPERSON TITLA: I also would like to
7 continue to commend the staff here for their voter
8 education efforts. I've been notified by the Director
9 that Sara and Gina attended Election Officials of
10 Arizona spring workshop on April 2nd and they presented
1 some information at the social media 101 training session. They're also continuing to work on campaign
finance and Native American voter outreach efforts. So
I commend the Director and the staff for working on voter outreach; it's one of the important functions of our Commission, as mandated by the voters in the Clean Elections Act. So we have some dates coming up here, Commissioners, in the report, so I think that we should keep that in mind.

Are there any more questions or any comments?
COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: Mr. Chairman.
CHAIRPERSON TITLA: Commissioner Kimble.
COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: I have one question
4 about the budget, statement of operations, where our
25 total revenues are far below what was projected because
of a big drop in court assessments. Where do we stand on that whole issue?
MR. COLLINS: So Chairman Titla, Commissioner
Kimble, there are sort of three interrelated issues
there. First, with respect to the revenues we're
seeing coming in right now, they are consistent with
our -- with what we anticipated, which is, as you
observed, lower and low -- and has been lower and off
over the course of the past several years.
With respect to our work in addressing some
of the intricacies of the issues with the
Administrative Office of the Courts, without getting
too deeply into, you know, the legal aspects of it, myself and Joe Kanefield have met with the AOC director and his staff in the last week or so to try to work
towards a resolution. So we're -- we are still --
We're still at a stage where we are corresponding with
them about the interpretations of some of the
court-related statutes and the case law related to it, you know, versus ours. But so we're making, I would
call it, a steady but -- you know, steady process --
progress.
23 One of the issues that I think is -- sort of
24 was outstanding related to that was the bill, Senate
25 Bill 1158, which you'll recall that we were able to
work out with the Court as part of a -- they did a
bunch of amendments in the Senate, and one of them
dealt with at least part of our issue. And that bill is currently not moving.
5 There is -- it's gotten -- Just to sort of
give you press reports, there's been press reports
7 about it, it basically was held in house judiciary.
8 Either the Republic or the -- I think the Capitol
9 Times reported that, you know, Chairman Farnsworth had
0 not talked to the press about, you know, his reasons
for holding that bill and a couple of other
court-related bills. You know, Chairman Farnsworth has
very definitive views on legal issues; he is an
14 attorney. And so, you know, it's just -- but no one
15 knows the answer to why.
16 That having been said, you know, once the
17 amendment was put on it, our view was essentially that
18 it was not really -- I mean, there's not very much else
19 for us to do with that. But if the bill doesn't pass,
20 then we -- you know, we do have some additional work to
21 do with AOC on the issues that the bill would have
22 helped solve, if that's helpful.
23 COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: Yes, it is. Thank you.
24 CHAIRPERSON TITLA: Any more comments,
25 questions, Commissioners?

1 COMMISSIONER MEYER: Commissioner Titla.
2 CHAIRPERSON TITLA: Commissioner Meyer.
3 COMMISSIONER MEYER: On the budget here, on
4 the fund balance, the 2017 actuals and the projections,
5 there's a $\$ 5.1$ million variance there. I guess my
6 question is: Is that $\$ 7$ million projection, is that
7 for the entirety of 2017?
8 MR. COLLINS: Yeah.
9 COMMISSIONER MEYER: So we're really kind of
10 on track, then, aren't we?
MR. COLLINS: Yeah. Yeah, that's right.
COMMISSIONER MEYER: 1.8 through this first quarter is 7.2 annualized, right? Okay. Okay. I just
14 wanted to make sure I was reading that right. That's 15 all I had. Thanks.
16 CHAIRPERSON TITLA: Okay. Any more comments? (No response.)
CHAIRPERSON TITLA: If not, why don't we go
19 to the next item, which is discussion and possible
20 action on interagency service agreements with the
21 Arizona Secretary of State's office.
22 Director.
23 MR. COLLINS: Yes. Mr. Chairman,
24 Commissioners, I want to say, as an introductory -- as
25 an introductory matter, that, you know, we've had a

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1 very productive last week in working with Secretary
2 Reagan and Secretary Reagan's staff on this project.
3 We -- I think the status quo is that what we -- what we
4 did was we've exchanged drafts. I've identified, in a
5 table that is in your packet which you received last
6 night, which you may or may not have gotten a chance to
7 go through, so I'll try to hit the highlights, the
8 differences between the draft that you received in the
9 meeting packet and the draft we received from the
10 Secretary of State.
11 Most of these -- If you see, the comments
12 are in the right-hand column. I would say that the
13 bulk of the suggestions the Secretary of State's office
14 makes are acceptable to us and really are -- are fine.
15 I think we have a couple of recommendations
16 with respect to clarification to make sure we're
17 understanding a couple of things. For example, just to
18 give you the first one, the Secretary, and I can
19 understand why, wants -- there was a clause that we had
20 put in about the rules of the Clean Elections
21 Commission. That language comes out.
22 We want, you know, just to sort of give you
23 an idea of what -- and the Secretary's office hasn't
24 had a chance to review this either, so we're all --
25 review my comments, so we're kind of all -- we're
trying to sort of get to a place where we're talking about terms. But we'd like to -- We just want to make that clear that we're talking about additional reports that are required of participating candidates by the Act and the rules, we're not -- you know, we don't need
6 a blanket statement about the rules, per se, but we
7 just want to make that clear, those kinds of things.
8 I think that -- I had a brief e-mail
9 conversation with Mr. Miller this morning. Lee Miller
10 is the Deputy Secretary of State and has appeared
before the Commission many times as a -- when he was in
private practice about the pricing in the -- in the
3 program proposal that we got at the last meeting.
Basically he's here, if we have specific questions, but
we think that he -- I think there's still some room for
6 us to work out what the cost -- how the costs get
17 allocated and how the deliverables and objectives get
18 described in that project plan, I think, if I'm
19 correct.
So I think we have a sense of what -- The
21 critical things in this agreement draft, if we're able
22 to get this finalized over the course of the next few
23 days, is, one, it does ensure our reports are in the
24 system. We have a couple language tweaks we want to do
25 that go to that, but they're really pretty

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insignificant.
Two, we think that it does identify, you
know, the goal of the See the Money program to allow
folks to be able to use -- get better access to
campaign finance data, which is, I think we've all -- I
think we all agree is a valid and important voter
education interest. I think that, you know, there's
some safeguards for the Secretary's office with respect
to appropriations made to them; those are very
0 reasonable, standard terms for an interagency service agreement.

You know, we have -- so there's a lot of --
there's a lot of really good progress that's been made, and I'm really pleased with that. So without kind of -- I mean, without kind of getting -- it's a little hard to figure out how to address this, per se, except to say that, you know, our basic -- our basic view is that, you know, we -- in my view as staff, and I think staff's view in general, is that, you know, we have the makings of an agreement we can finalize pretty quickly with the -- and we just have a few tweaks we would like to talk about with the Secretary of State's office and -- but most of their suggestions are helpful and they have been -- you know, there's been a lot of compromise on their part that I appreciate greatly.

1 And so I guess, as far as action, I mean,
2 this is your opportunity to ask questions. I know you
3 haven't necessarily had a chance to digest everything.
4 If you have, you know, bigger picture questions about,
5 you know, the financial aspects of this or those kinds
6 of things, Mr. Miller is here and can talk through
7 those things, I think. And I appreciate him being
8 here. If you have specific legal questions that you've
9 thought of as you've been looking at this stuff or it
10 occurred to you sort of as we're talking, you know, we
11 do have the option to go into executive session and
12 Joe Roth is here and can talk to us about those things.
13 So I think the best thing, from my
14 perspective, may be to sort of -- to open the floor up
15 to -- Mr. Chairman, if you're comfortable with this, is
16 to have Mr. Miller talk a little bit about their
17 perspective, the Secretary's perspective on this, and
18 then any questions you may have. And then you may have
19 questions for me, Mr. Miller, or Joe, and then we'll
20 kind of deal with those accordingly.
21 CHAIRPERSON TITLA: Mr. Miller.
22 MR. MILLER: Thank you very much,
23 Mr. Chairman.
24 Members, my name is Lee Miller. I serve as
25 the Deputy Secretary of State. We very much appreciate

1 your consideration of investing in the Secretary's See
2 the Money project.
3 We're going to build this project. It is the
4 top priority of the Secretary. Having said that, your
5 investment in the project will allow us to, frankly,
6 substantially accelerate the functionality we are able
7 to deliver to the people of Arizona. Said not like a
8 lawyer, it's going to allow us to hire a couple more
9 people who are going to -- now who are going to be able
10 to work in support, in addition to the team we already
11 have working on this. So we're going to get more of
12 the project done faster.
13 Having said that, let me also make it clear,
14 I have no intention, the Secretary has no intention to
15 ask the Commission to cut any checks until we have
16 actual technology, we have actually hit milestones, we
17 have actual deliverables to show you. I'm not asking
18 you to just give me a couple hundred thousand dollars
19 today, give me a couple hundred thousand dollars next
20 month. The dialogue I think we need to continue to
21 have with staff is to truly quantify and qualify
22 exactly what pieces and parts will be delivered and
23 exactly what schedule.
24 And similar to the experience you may have
25 had building a house, when I hit a deliverable, when I
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1 pour a slab, I put in a draw request and say, see,
2 there's a slab; so now, pursuant to the agreement, you
3 owe me this. And when the walls go up, see, there are
4 the walls; and now, pursuant to the agreement, when the
5 walls are up, there's another request for funding.
$6 \quad$ That is the type of relationship we seek
7 here. I don't want you to just take it on faith that
8 we're going to deliver a fabulous project. I know
9 we're going to deliver a fabulous project. I want you
10
to invest in it because it's -- I'm going to be able to
11
do more things faster, but I'm not going to ask you for
12 any money until I have actual things to show you.

2 In point of fact, the -- your dollars and my dollars
3 really are simply paying computer developer, computer
4 coder salaries. And so it's -- unlike building a
5 house, you know, I can't -- I don't have -- I'm not
6 going to end up with anything other than computer code
7 at the end of this project.
8 And so the -- my risk is that -- is that we
9 get to essentially January 1st, 2018, and it doesn't
10 have the -- the system doesn't have the functionality,
11 it doesn't have the capabilities we envision. I, at my
12 expense, I've got to keep going. I've got to make it
13 work. I have a statutory obligation, the Secretary has
14 a statutory obligation to provide Arizona with an
15 electronic way for political committees to report their
16 finances. So with my dollars and at my risk, I've got
17 to make it work. What we're simply asking you all here
18 for is a $\$ 200,000$ investment in that project.
19 COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: Okay. And I just want
20 to be clear about one other point. There was a
21 discussion about a continuing annual maintenance fee or
22 access fee, I'm not exactly sure what it was called; we
23 are setting that aside for a moment, that's not going
24 to be part of this agreement. But whatever comes out
25 of the agreement on the annual fee will not affect this

1 agreement, is that correct?
2 MR. MILLER: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Kimble, yes.
3 I was at the Secretary of State's office for probably
4 two whole weeks before I came to the conclusion that
5 every change in law, and to highlight a comment your
6 Director made about rules, every change in rule is a
7 technology project. The -- What is yet to be
8 determined is collectively how do we support this
9 solution going forward. The information needs we would
10 like to provide the people of Arizona, we have to provide the people of Arizona, almost certainly will evolve, and that's great. But every time they evolve, my coders have to go to work to modify the software to accommodate, and that costs money.

And so the to be determined, probably perhaps not for even a year, is how do we collectively address that topic. Because if we can commit to one another, wow, this thing looks pretty good, let's just try and keep it like it is, let's try and minimize changes, then costs associated with maintenance and operation, we can keep those down. On the other hand, if we go, this is great and wouldn't it be so much greater if it was in color and HD and -- and sure, and it all costs money. Because every change -- Every change ultimately requires people modifying code, and those 09:59:09-10:00:20

1 people get paid fairly well.
2 COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: I guess -- I guess my 3 question is: This agreement talks about continued access by the Commission staff to the See the Money project and ensures that there will be no problem with the Commission staff accessing this. That will -- If we reach agreement on this, that would not be affected if there were some failure to reach agreement on the annual maintenance fee?

MR. MILLER: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Kimble, absolutely not.

COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: Okay. Thank you.
COMMISSIONER CHAN: Mr. Chairman. I'm sorry.
CHAIRPERSON TITLA: Commissioner Chan.
COMMISSIONER CHAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
Lee, it's really good to see you.
MR. MILLER: Good morning.
COMMISSIONER CHAN: I -- And excuse me, because my voice is leaving me, I think. I'm a little under the weather.
Regarding the -- our agency's access to the
system, I did voice my concerns last month to the
Secretary about the fact that, you know, without any
24 warning, our reports were turned off. And I know that
25 we're addressing that in this agreement by asking that
those be immediately turned back on, and I know she mentioned it's not an issue right now because we're not in the middle of an election. But my understanding is that last year we were in the middle of filing, and inexplicably that happened, which I think is not good for relations between the offices. So I was happy to see that that's part of this agreement.
8 As far as the maintenance going forward --
9 Well, one, I just wanted to make sure that that's
10 acceptable to you. Because I did feel that the
Secretary was not willing to turn on those reports, for
whatever reason, when she was here last month. Will it
be a problem to turn those on once we sign this agreement?

MR. MILLER: Mr. Chairman, Ms. Chan, I don't
have -- Commissioner Chan, I don't have an answer for
you precisely, as I stand here at the podium, only
because we are at work today trying to make forward
progress on See the Money, and I don't -- at this
moment at the podium, I don't have -- I don't know how
much time it's going to take one of those IT folks to
do what needs to be done to address your immediate
request.
24 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Okay.
25 MR. MILLER: I don't foresee that it's any
problem. But having said that, if I go back to the office and they say, yeah, we can do that, but that's, you know, seven days of coder time to -- because we are -- we are not spending time on the campaign finance system that we used to have.
6 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Gotcha. Okay.
7 MR. MILLER: So I just don't have an answer for you right now.
9 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Okay.
10 MR. MILLER: But we will absolutely get an answer for you this afternoon, and I'll communicate that with Mr. Collins and he can share it with everyone.

COMMISSIONER CHAN: Thank you.
MR. COLLINS: If I may, Mr. Chairman.
CHAIRPERSON TITLA: Tom.
MR. COLLINS: Just to amplify that point, I
think that the thing that I have had as one of my
objectives in trying to, you know, make this work and get the investment set forth in a way that, I think,
21 you know, deals with the Commissioners' concerns is
22 really focused on -- on ensuring that both, you know,
23 reports that we require that are in the Clean Elections
24 Act or are required of participating candidates are
25 there and remain available.

1 And I think that, you know, although, again,
2 we have a couple of tweaks to the language there we
3 want to make, Mr. Miller made some tweaks, we have some
4 other tweaks, but I think that the principle that that
5 will be the substance of this and that that will, going
6 forward, regardless of the See the Money public portion
7 of this, that infrastructure will be in place in time
8 for the election is, I think -- at the very least, I
9 think, all of our understanding of this. And
10 obviously, Mr. Miller, correct me if I'm wrong, but
11 that's certainly my --
MR. MILLER: Mr. Chairman, I share the
Executive Director's view about how -- you know, we
14 will -- we will absolutely explore this afternoon how
15 long and what the resources might be to get
16 Commissioner Chan the information she would like now,
17 and we'll go from there.
18 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Thank you.
19 COMMISSIONER MEYER: Mr. Chairman.
20 CHAIRPERSON TITLA: Commissioner Meyer.
21 COMMISSIONER MEYER: Mr. Miller, thanks for
22 being here; really appreciate it. And I'm really
23 encouraged at the progress you made with Tom the last
24 week on this; I think it's great.
25 One question I had, and this is a question

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1 for you. And Tom, help me out here if I'm wrong. But
2 I think we've kind of looked at some of the cost
3 estimates for part of this website, and we've done some
4 research and found some numbers that are substantially
5 less than the quote that we're seeing from your office,
6 from the Secretary of State's office, to complete that
7 portion of the project. And I think it's the public
8 website portion, if I'm understanding correctly.
9 MR. COLLINS: Yeah. And just to -- if you
10 want me to, I can fill in some of that. I think he --
Mr. Miller knows, but I don't know if he does.
COMMISSIONER MEYER: Well, my question is:
Based upon the numbers, I think we've shared that --
MR. COLLINS: Yeah.
COMMISSIONER MEYER: -- with their office,
has there been any evaluation or reassessment by the
Secretary of State's office to see if this can be done cheaper?

MR. MILLER: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner
20 Meyer, I think the -- I think the most appropriate way
21 to answer your question is to say the See the Money
22 project is being developed entirely with personnel that
23 work for the Secretary. I know, frankly, what those
24 folks get paid. Our chief information officer has set
25 sort of productivity milestones for those individuals.

He's also determined that to get to a fully functioning project that meets the needs of the Commission, of the Secretary, of the people of Arizona, it's going to take us until the end of the year. So my costs are simply how many hours are -- is the staff going to work times what they get paid.
7 And the only way I can really modify my cost is to have fewer people working on the project, and
9 that's -- that would be a significant challenge,
10 because it is also a driver for us to have a fully
functioning system live and available by January 1.
Because once you get into an even numbered year, once
you get into an election year with a -- where there are going to be statewide elections, candidates and the people who are interested in those elections have made
6 it emphatically clear to us, don't be doing anything new in the middle of -- in the middle of an election.

So we feel we need to hit -- we absolutely
have to hit that January 1 date. There will be a
learning curve for candidates, candidate committees,
treasurers, all those hardworking folks, that we're
going to have to work through in the first quarter of
'18. And so I -- I've got to staff the project to hit
24 that milestone.
25 COMMISSIONER MEYER: So on the cost issue,

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your figures are just coming from straight math and how
2 many hours it's going to take you guys to complete this
3 and that's how you're getting your number?
4
Meyer, yes.
6 COMMISSIONER MEYER: And then a follow-up
question, based on your answer there, in timing. I
think you said earlier, you know, you can get this done
faster with the Commission's help. Do you believe that
10 the Secretary of State's office can have this See the
11 Money project done by January 1 of 2018 without the
12 Commission funds?
MR. MILLER: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner
Meyer, yes. It will not have the full functionality,
15 it will not provide the level of detail to the public
16 that we envision, that we collectively envision. Our
17 statutory mandate is to be able to simply collect
18 contribution information and expense information and
19 show that to the public. That's what we do now, that's
20 what we've all done for more than a decade. That by
21 itself is not very insightful and not very valuable.
What collectively we're investing in is the
23 -- is the analytical capability to tie that information
24 together to see that all of the relationships that are
25 associated with those dollars coming in and dollars

1 going out, that's where you really see who influences
2 who, who may have obligations to who. That's a brand
3 new piece, and I want to deliver that, the Secretary
4 wants to deliver that analytical piece by January 1st;
5 and with your investment, it's going to let us do so.
6 COMMISSIONER MEYER: And it sounds like that
7 piece you were just talking about, the analytical
8 piece, that would be really critical for voter
9 education and helping voters better understand who is
10 investing in whom and how that all shakes out. Am I
11 understanding that answer --
MR. MILLER: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner
Meyer, absolutely. That's exactly why I think this
partnership is entirely appropriate and going to be
15 very valuable for the people of Arizona going forward.
16 COMMISSIONER MEYER: Thank you.
17 CHAIRPERSON TITLA: More comments,
18 Commissioners?
19 COMMISSIONER PATON: Yes.
20 CHAIRPERSON TITLA: Commissioner Paton.
21 COMMISSIONER PATON: Thank you for coming and
22 talking to us in person, instead of this -- just by
23 papers and whatever. I appreciate you coming in and
24 speaking to us.
25 I have -- I believe in teamwork and all that

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1 kind of stuff and kumbaya, we should all work together,
2 and I think this is part of our -- our mission is to
3 educate people, have information access to everybody.
4 I guess my -- So I'm supportive of this thing.
5 I don't know about the maintenance ongoing,
6 because that 50,000 a year, our income is down, and
7 that kind of concerns me. That could be two elected --
8 I mean, two people that are -- we're sponsoring for
9 Clean Elections, you know, running for state office.
10 I guess my -- Maybe I don't understand, but
11 why is this not in your budget, this thing that you're
12 asking for us to help you with?
MR. MILLER: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner
Paton, it is in the budget. We are -- As I've
indicated, we are at work today developing our new
6 version of our campaign finance reporting system and
17 the See the Money analytical tool. We are soliciting
18 your investment, as I said, to be able to deliver more
19 functionality faster.
20 The reason we are not here today to talk
21 about a future investment in the maintenance of the
22 site is that's a -- frankly, a completely different
23 question and would require us to forecast, well, what
24 -- this house is nice, but I'd really like it to be,
25 you know, yellow instead of blue. And so we've laid

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| that question off to the future, because until you <br> actually see -- until you see the house, until you see <br> 3 -- until you see the software solution, you see what <br> functionality you're getting for the initial investment, we'd simply be guessing -- <br> COMMISSIONER PATON: Right. <br> MR. MILLER: -- how many people, and by <br> extension, at what cost it's going to take to continue <br> to make the thing better. <br> COMMISSIONER PATON: So I guess my statement, <br> question, I don't -- I don't know which it is -- Like <br> 12 I said, I'm not opposed to helping you with this. I <br> 13 think it would be good for both of our offices to work <br> 14 together and so on. I just am kind of nervous about <br> 15 the ongoing part of it affecting our budget, and so I <br> 16 was just curious as to why your budget doesn't allow <br> 17 for you to do this in the future once we get on the ground running. <br> 19 MR. MILLER: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner <br> 20 Paton, I guess -- I guess the best example, the most <br> 21 appropriate level of comfort I can share with you, is <br> 22 the reality that, similar to this, the Secretary of <br> 23 State's office operates, on behalf of the 15 Arizona <br> 24 counties, a voter registration software solution. <br> 25 There is a maintenance contract with the vendor that | want me to do now? <br> COMMISSIONER PATON: Right. I see now. <br> MR. MILLER: And that's -- And my agreement <br> with that voter registration software company actually <br> runs five years. But that's why there's actually <br> language in the back of this which says, by the way, if you don't have the money or I don't have the money, <br> then essentially the deal is off. We all are subject <br> to, in my case legislative appropriation, I think in <br> the Commission's case that your revenue streams <br> maintain. And if they don't, then the deal is off; <br> there's nothing any of us can do about that. <br> COMMISSIONER PATON: Okay. Thank you for <br> flushing things out. I mean, that makes things more <br> clear to me. Thank you. <br> COMMISSIONER MEYER: Mr. Chairman. <br> CHAIRPERSON TITLA: Chairman -- Commissioner <br> Meyer. <br> COMMISSIONER MEYER: So just so I understand <br> 20 this, this term of maintenance -- And I think I was <br> 21 mistaken. I was thinking about just general upkeep of, <br> 22 oh, this part of the site is not working; we've got to <br> 23 get a coder out there to fix that. But I think, if I <br> 24 understand what you're saying, the maintenance part is <br> 25 also going to be a component of, well, if the laws |
| 1 developed that solution. That contract is running us 2 about $\$ 850,000$ a year. And essentially what that 3 contract says is: For $\$ 850,000$ a year, we'll do all 4 the security updates, we'll fix any obvious bugs in the 5 system, and you get, I'm rounding off here, and you get 6250 hours of our programmers' time. So you just tell 7 us what cool new things you'd like to see in the 3 system; and if we can get it done within 250 hours, 9 then we're all good for 800,000 bucks. <br> 10 If I said to them, you know what? Take the <br> 250 hours of coders' time out of that deal, you know, <br> my price goes down. But my friends across the street <br> here have demonstrated that every single year they make <br> changes to the laws affecting voter registration -- <br> COMMISSIONER PATON: Sure. <br> MR. MILLER: -- and I've used up all 250 <br> hours of those coders' time, without fail, year after <br> year after year. So -- <br> And, here is the fun part, my budget is just <br> year by year by year. It's entirely possible for the <br> legislature to make substantive change in the law of <br> voter registration, and then don't give me any money -- <br> 23 COMMISSIONER PATON: Right. <br> 24 MR. MILLER: -- to implement it, and then we <br> just all sort of go look at each other. What do you | change, then we're going to have to rework the website 2 so it functions in a way that's consistent with the way 3 the law has been changed by the legislature. Is that what you're saying is going to be part of this maintenance thing that you're asking -- <br> 6 MR. MILLER: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner <br> Meyer, absolutely. <br> 8 COMMISSIONER MEYER: Okay. Thank you. <br> 9 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Mr. Chairman. <br> 10 CHAIRPERSON TITLA: More questions, <br> 11 Commissioner Chan? <br> 12 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Mr. Chairman and <br> 13 Mr. Miller, I think, you know, that's always the way it <br> 14 is, right? I mean, I don't think there's ever a <br> 15 session that goes by that the legislature doesn't <br> 16 tinker with the election law. They can't help <br> 17 themselves. They're running using the election law, <br> 18 the voters, the constituents, do all that. <br> 19 I think, you know, the difference between <br> 20 what you're talking about with the counties is that the <br> 21 counties actually have a statutory role in, you know, <br> 22 being the keepers of the voter registration database in <br> 23 conjunction with the Secretary of State's office. And <br> 24 I think from my perspective as a Commissioner -- And <br> 25 I'm not saying I'm opposed to doing maintenance. I |

want to hear more about it for sure. But I think the difference is that the Secretary actually has the full statutory authority to create and provide this system for the people of Arizona. And I think this is a very exciting system that the -- that your office has put together. I think that's why the Commission is
interested in supporting it financially, to help it
come online in time for the January -- you know, the
'18 election cycle. But I believe that, you know, ongoing I would say philosophically I feel that it is the Secretary's responsibility.

I know in the past there has been a burden on
your office as far as the five dollar filing -- you
know, five dollar -- and our office has paid for, you
know, maybe a half a -- I think it was like a half an employee or something like that. And that is the type of thing that makes more sense to me than continuing to pay, unless there's a significant burden on the system. And I know that there is a piece of the system, but -Anyway, so those would be my thoughts on that subject. I don't know that that's really, you know --

MR. MILLER: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Chan,
23 Mr . Collins has made it sort of perfectly clear to us
24 that he has no intention of taking a proposal to the
25 Commission and does not foresee the Commission ever
supporting any type of ambiguous financial commitment.
Just like what we are trying to set forth here is a
articulate schedule of deliverables, and the labor
associated with achieving that objective equals those
amount of dollars, we would foresee the discussion
about further support and maintenance going exactly
that direction. If it was the pleasure of the
Commission to say, wow, that looks great, don't change
anything, then I don't disagree that there would be
10 little incentive for the Commission to further invest.
On the other hand, if it was the pleasure of the
Commission, as I said, to, you know, want to see it in
4 K , okay, and here is what that costs.
COMMISSIONER CHAN: Okay. Thank you.
CHAIRPERSON TITLA: Any more comments,
Commissioners?
(No response.)
CHAIRPERSON TITLA: Okay. Tom, so you'll be working on this agreement with him?

MR. COLLINS: Yes. Mr. Chairman,
21 Commissioners, what I would like to do is -- You know,
22 we have some tweaks, as I've described them. I don't
23 think they're really that significant, but I think
24 they're important to talk about with Mr. Miller and
25 Mr. Maaske and Ms. Atkinson. What I would like to do

1 is move forward with that, and then, given that time is
2 of the essence here, you know, when we get to a
3 finalized agreement that Mr. Miller can live with and
4 Secretary Reagan can live with and we're comfortable
5 with as staff, we'd probably call, on 24 hours' notice,
6 a conference call. We'll try to get you the -- we'll
7 try to do it in a way that we can get you the contract
8 and a summary of the contract ahead of the 24 hours, so
9 you have a chance to review that.
10 And the materials you have, I would, you
11 know, take the time to review before that so that you
12 are, you know, as familiar as you can be with the terms
13 of the discussion. And then we can get a meeting
14 together within -- really within not very much time.
15 And I'd like to shoot for the next week or so, if
16 possible. If that doesn't work out, you know,
17 whatever. But I really -- I think the main point that
18 I've heard from the Secretary's office is that because
19 time is of the essence, we need to get this in place
20 before the next Commission meeting, which is, I think,
21 May 18th, 19th, or 20th.
22 MR. MILLER: Mr. Chairman, Members, just to
23 try and crystallize Tom's comment, we are, as we speak,
24 soliciting resumes for more -- for coders, for
25 developers, for more people for this project. If --

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1 And over the next week or two, we will move those folks
2 through the hiring process and identify the specific
3 individuals we would like to add to the team.
4 If I have your commitment to the investment,
5 we will go forward and we will add those individuals to
6 the team. If I don't have your financial commitment at
7 that time, candidly, I'm not going to add more staff.
8 So the -- Frankly, so the sense of urgency here is I'm
9 moving forward through the hiring process to identify
10 the particular individuals to add to the team. And if
11 I can afford it, I will do so. And if I can't afford
12 it, then we will thank them for their interest and
13 encourage them to seek employment elsewhere.
14 CHAIRPERSON TITLA: Okay. Tom, well,
15 continue working on the agreement and let us know --
16 MR. COLLINS: Yeah, I will.
17 CHAIRPERSON TITLA: -- ahead of time about
18 the material and we can take a look at it. I think
19 that this is an important project to work on with
20 Mr. Miller and the Secretary of State's office. It's
21 very important, so continue working on it and let us
22 know. Thank you.
23 MR. COLLINS: Okay.
24 CHAIRPERSON TITLA: Why don't we go to the
25 next item --

1 MR. MILLER: Thank you very much.
2 COMMISSIONER MEYER: Thank you, Mr. Miller.
3 CHAIRPERSON TITLA: -- next item, V,
discussion of rule amendment proposals approved for
public comment on February 23rd: A. A.A.C
R2-20-702(B). And that's to consider: 1. Option A -
Ban on expenditures to political parties with Clean
Elections funding. 2. Option B-Limit on
expenditures to political parties of Clean Elections
funding to voter information and political event fees.
3. Option C-Restriction of expenditures to political
parties for campaign expenditures and additional documentation requirements.

Tom.
MR. COLLINS: Yes, Mr. Chairman. So the main reason this is here for discussion purposes, not action purposes. The 60 -day comment period is still running, and it doesn't end until May 12th, so these amendments that we've proposed won't be eligible to be voted on until the next Commission meeting.

We did, however, because of the way the
meetings fell, have a little bit of extra -- there's
just like a -- I don't know, there's this two-week kind of -- kind of gap that allows us to sort of update you 25 on our thinking along this -- about this, and really
around one specific issue. And this is sort of bearing
in mind some of the comments from Commissioners around
the issue on consultants and wanting to, you know, try
to make sure that we're -- that candidates are getting the documentation we think they ought to get in order to be essentially in the best position to comply and, you know, deal with any auditing and all those kinds of
8 things, without disrupting the ability of candidates to
9 both seek consulting services and those relationships.
10 So in view of that, you know, we've gotten --
although we have not gotten a lot of public comment on
this issue, we have at least -- I've gone out and gotten some feedback from folks on both the democratic side and the republican side who do consulting to talk
15 about that issue. And we think that, you know, that we
16 will not, come May 18th, recommend the adoption of the
17 second sentence that is on Item V, Page 1 about marking
18 up and the additional requirement that the
19 participating candidate provide us and be provided with
20 a list of other political clients of the consultant.
21 There's a number of reasons why we think that
22 that's -- you know, that that's not necessary at this
23 step. We do think that those rule proposals comport
24 with the anti-corruption principles that undergird the
25 Clean Elections Act, but, you know, we will -- we're

1 going to -- we're not going to recommend the adoption
2 of those. And we thought, since we have this sort of
3 interstitial meeting, there was no harm in telling you
4 that now, instead of waiting until -- until then. And
5 that's really the purpose of having this on the agenda.
6 And unless you have any questions about it,
7 that's really all I have to say about it.
8 CHAIRPERSON TITLA: Any questions by the
9 Commissioners on this item?
10 COMMISSIONER MEYER: Mr. Chairman, I just
11 have a comment.
12 CHAIRPERSON TITLA: Commissioner Meyer.
COMMISSIONER MEYER: I -- I know that we did
receive a comment from Brandon Dwyer, who's a former
15 Clean Elections candidate, and I was glad to see that.
16 I think that's -- it's great to get comments from those
17 who participated in the system, and I'd encourage
18 others who have to provide comments as well.
19 MR. COLLINS: And Mr. Chairman, if I may.
20 CHAIRPERSON TITLA: Tom.
21 MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner
22 Meyer, we have talked about doing some additional
23 outreach, both informally to, you know, attorneys and
24 consultants, who I hear from semi-regularly, and then
25 through our social media outlets, to solicit that

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1 comment.
2 CHAIRPERSON TITLA: Yes, Tom, I think it's
3 important to get all the information, the input that we
4 can from the public. I too read the comment by Brandon
5 Dwyer, and he is not in favor of passing Option A on
6 R2-20-702(B). He said that he wouldn't run in 2018 if
7 this option was passed, which is Option A.
8 He also made the same comment on Option B.
9 He said that I use my normal campaign funds to purchase
10 access to the voter file. I would have trouble running
1 as a Clean Elections candidate again. More likely I
wouldn't run in 2018 if this option passed, which is
Option B that he's talking about.
And then he said that on Option $C$ he has --
15 he calls it great starting ground rules. If these
16 rules were -- or where -- or were in place before the
2016 campaign, it would have made life easier, is what
8 he says.
But the point I'm making is that if we hear
more of these comments by the public, then it's good to
hear these comments so we get more public input. I
think that it would be good.
Any comments by Commissioners?
COMMISSIONER PATON: Yes.
CHAIRPERSON TITLA: Commissioner Paton.

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| COMMISSIONER PATON: Just reading through his commentary, he said he wouldn't run, but he's giving no reasons why he wouldn't run for Option B. I mean, the access to the voter files from the party is -- is not very expensive anyway. And in Option B, they're allowing you to use -- to use the party to get access to those files. So I don't understand his statement there. To me he's saying the exact opposite of what I think B states, so I'm a tad confused. Maybe Tom could talk to him and find that out -- <br> MR. COLLINS: Well, sure. <br> COMMISSIONER PATON: -- or you can explain to <br> me that I'm reading this wrong. <br> MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner <br> Paton, we'll follow up with -- we follow -- we can <br> follow up with anybody who comments, and we'll follow up about it, but -- We'll just follow up. <br> COMMISSIONER PATON: Okay. Because I really <br> don't understand -- <br> MR. COLLINS: Sure, sure. <br> COMMISSIONER PATON: -- his objection to it. <br> MR. COLLINS: Sure. I'm happy to follow up, <br> and I'm sure -- And frankly, when we do follow up, the public likes that too. I mean, people like to know that their comments are actually getting read. | 1 And in addition, Council Member -- <br> 2 I should note that Commissioner Chan and <br> 3 Commissioner Kimble attended that meeting on behalf of 4 the Commission, along with myself and Sara and Mike. <br> 5 So -- and he tried to articulate, for our <br> 6 purposes and -- mine and Sara's purposes in terms of <br> 7 working on this, returning the report to them, some of 8 his views in a way that is helpful because it sort of <br> 9 -- it sort of encapsulates, encaptures, or <br> 10 recapitulates what his views on the Act are, which GRRC <br> 11 staff attorney Chris Kleminich was helpful enough to <br> 12 put together a summary of those for us so we didn't <br> 13 have to transcribe them ourselves. So that's helpful. <br> 14 I would also say that I had a very productive <br> 15 conversation with Mr. Kleminich this week about how we <br> 16 might address the Council's concerns with respect to <br> 17 what approval means for them and what it means in terms <br> 18 of their own views on the statute and how we might -- <br> 19 now that we have some more articulated sense of that, <br> 20 how we might both acknowledge that in some way, and as <br> 21 I've expressed to Mr. Kleminich, without being in a <br> 22 position where we have waived some of these legal <br> 23 issues that we have sought to preserve. <br> 24 So I think we've made significant headway <br> 25 there in terms of my communication with Mr. Kleminich, |
| COMMISSIONER PATON: Maybe he's <br> misunderstanding it. <br> MR. COLLINS: Sure. Absolutely. We'll <br> follow up with him, and I'll let you know where that is. <br> COMMISSIONER PATON: Okay. <br> CHAIRPERSON TITLA: Okay. If there's no more <br> comments, why don't we go to Item VI, discussion and <br> possible action on the 5 Year Review Report submitted <br> to Governor's Regulatory Review Council and related <br> matters. <br> Mr. Collins. <br> MR. COLLINS: Yes, Mr. Chairman, <br> Commissioners, and I will try to make this brief as <br> well. Joe Roth is here in case we have, for some <br> reason, legal questions; I don't think there are any. <br> What happened at the last GRRC meeting, I <br> think you're aware, they accepted in part -- or, <br> approved in part and returned in part the 5 Year <br> Report, which is a -- which is significant progress, <br> because that means the vast majority of our -- the vast <br> majority of the rules in the report have now been -- <br> 23 have now been -- gone through that process. What they returned was three rules, R2-20-109, R2-20-110, and 25111. | the Council's decision to approve part of the report, and I think we now have a potential, you know, trajectory to at least put the 5 Year Report piece together in a way that puts that behind us. The related issues continue to be the purported -- I don't know what term we're using for it. <br> MR. ROTH: Date of purported repeal. <br> MR. COLLINS: What? <br> MR. ROTH: Date of purported repeal. <br> MR. COLLINS: The date of purported repeal, <br> which is currently set at June 7. And I don't know if <br> I told Sara this yet, but we're going to try to turn <br> this report around so this will also be on the June 7 <br> agenda of GRRC. Our meeting of the 18th, I have to <br> work with Chris to make sure you guys get a chance to <br> look at the report before we get it to them. But in <br> any event, that's sort of the plan. And I really think <br> we're -- I think we made some progress. <br> And that's -- that really concludes my report <br> on that, and -- unless you have questions about it. <br> And of course, Commission Kimble and Commissioner Chan <br> may have their own observations. <br> 23 CHAIRPERSON TITLA: Any questions, <br> Commissioners, comments? <br> (No response.) |


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| :---: | :---: |
| CHAIRPERSON TITLA: Okay. No comments. <br> Let's go the next item, VII, discussion and <br> possible action on final audit approval for the <br> following participating candidates for the 2016 <br> election cycle. <br> Sara. <br> MS. LARSEN: Good morning, Chairman, <br> Commissioners. <br> Yesterday you should have received the audit <br> summary, the summary of the findings that we received. <br> A few of them had minor errors in them, there were two <br> or three that did have some significant reporting <br> errors, so I'm going to work with Tom on going forward <br> and trying to get some kind of resolution on those <br> reporting errors. And then some are minor accounting <br> errors that most likely were bank fees or things that <br> really could be resolved fairly easily. And then we <br> had one audit that had absolutely no findings in it at all. <br> So if you have specific questions on any of <br> the audits, I'm happy to answer those. <br> CHAIRPERSON TITLA: Commissioners, questions? <br> COMMISSIONER MEYER: Are we sending a fruit <br> basket to Tonya MacBeth? <br> 25 MS. LARSEN: Chairman, Commissioner Meyer, I | obviously -- We'd ask you approve the audits and <br> authorize Sara and I to work with the candidates that <br> we believe need additional attention to resolve their reporting issues. <br> CHAIRPERSON TITLA: Commissioners, does <br> anybody want to make that motion? <br> COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: Mr. Chairman. <br> CHAIRPERSON TITLA: Commissioner Kimble. <br> COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: I move that we approve <br> the audits of the -- one, two, three, four, five, six <br> -- the eight candidates mentioned in Item VII of the <br> agenda. <br> CHAIRPERSON TITLA: Motion by Commissioner <br> Kimble to approve the audit findings. Second? <br> COMMISSIONER CHAN: Second. <br> CHAIRPERSON TITLA: Commissioner Chan, <br> second. <br> All in favor, say aye. <br> (Chorus of ayes.) <br> CHAIRPERSON TITLA: Opposed. <br> (No response.) <br> CHAIRPERSON TITLA: Abstain. <br> (No response.) <br> CHAIRPERSON TITLA: Motion passes <br> unanimously. |
| think that we should send something to all of the candidates who have clean audits. It's very -- It's wonderful to see that. Even the candidates that have minor errors, that -- you know, when you have a -- <br> COMMISSIONER PATON: Would that be against <br> the gift clause? <br> MS. THOMAS: Nominal. <br> MS. LARSEN: When I feel that the candidates <br> have, you know, a five dollar discrepancy -- We're <br> talking about a large sum of money that they're dealing <br> with over the course of the primary and general <br> election period. So five dollars, 20 dollars, if you <br> get within that range, that's -- I feel like that's <br> better than I do with my own personal checking account. <br> So there were some large number discrepancies <br> in these, though, that I am going to delve deeper into <br> from the findings from -- from the auditors. <br> CHAIRPERSON TITLA: Any more questions, <br> comments, Commissioners? <br> (No response.) <br> CHAIRPERSON TITLA: Do we need any action on <br> this, Tom? <br> MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, yes. We'd ask <br> that you approve the audits. And approving audits <br> obviously doesn't complete them in the sense I'm | 1 COMMISSIONER MEYER: Do we need to further <br> 2 move that you can continue -- <br> 3 MR. COLLINS: No, I don't think. I think <br> 4 that's just -- Just as long as you understand we're going to do that, I think we're good. <br> COMMISSIONER MEYER: Understood. <br> MS. LARSEN: And Chairman, Commissioners, <br> just to let you know that those did conclude our <br> general election audits, so there are no random audits <br> that are pending. So all of those audits have wrapped <br> up. We do have one full audit review that is out, and <br> I think Tom and I are going to work to hopefully have <br> that to you in the next Commission meeting or two. <br> CHAIRPERSON TITLA: Sara, thank you for all <br> the hard work you've been doing in this area. You've <br> been working on a timely basis and I really appreciate <br> it. You're to be commended for that. <br> MS. LARSEN: Thank you. <br> CHAIRPERSON TITLA: Okay. Let's go to <br> Item VIII, discussion and possible action on 2017 <br> legislative agenda and items including update on bills <br> affecting Clean Elections, elections general, and <br> administrative law. <br> 24 Mr. Collins. <br> 25 MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, we |

don't really have very much to update. There are a couple of bills that we've been watching that don't have necessarily a dramatic impact on anything we're doing. There are always going to be questions on how laws related to election and administrative law come out after the fact in terms of how they're going to be dealt with. But right now things appear to be quiet
from our perspective. We're certainly conscious of the
fact that there are lots of bills out there that folks
who are generally supportive of the Clean Elections are
concerned with, but those are not really Clean
Elections issues; those are issues related to other --
other things. So, you know, not to -- So we generally
don't and haven't gotten involved in those kinds of things, and we'll continue to not.

So that's really it. I mean, I think -- I
think there's -- You know, I do think that there's
going to be some changes to administrative law that
will pass that will potentially affect all
administrative agencies in terms of the standard of
review that courts use; however, if you look at what
the lower Court of Appeals judges currently do, it's
really not that clear to me that they are actually
particularly, on legal questions, bound in any
25 significant way by Title 12 as it now stands. So I

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think that's -- I think that's gotten some attention
in the press and Reason.com and other places, but I
don't -- I think the attention it's gotten is overblown
if you look at what lower Court of Appeals judges are
actually doing in Arizona now.
6 And that's really all I have to say about
7 legislative stuff.
8 CHAIRPERSON TITLA: Any questions by
9 Commissioners, comments?
10 COMMISSIONER PATON: Yes, if I may. 11 CHAIRPERSON TITLA: Commissioner Paton. 12 COMMISSIONER PATON: So Tom, could you explain to us how this all -- this past legislative thing worked without having a true lobbyist, that you and Joe and the staff have seemed to have done admirably without this? I would like to probably pat you on the back and -- Explain to us how this has worked out, in your estimation.

MR. COLLINS: Well, so far, Mr. Chairman,
20 Commissioner Paton, Mike and I and Gina and -- have all
21 spent time at the legislature this year in one thing or
22 another -- on one issue or another. And the session is
23 not over, I just want to be clear, so, you know -- but,
24 you know, I think we've -- I think -- I think things
25 have been -- I think we made it through this test

1 case. You know, we will see -- The intensity level
2 around our issues is lower this year, that seems to be
3 clear. Next year will be -- but I think it's been --
4 I think it's been good.
5 I will say this thing -- this, which I think
6 is really actually an irony of the situation we've been
7 in. You know, I think that -- I feel like myself and
8 everybody else on staff really is invested and always
9 has been invested in the success of the Commission and
10 the success of the Act. And I think that when things
11 happen that are challenges, I think that everybody on
12 staff, and this is what makes our staff, I think, the
13 best staff in state government, everybody has a
14 personal stake in the success of this. And we have
15 expectations for ourselves and for the Commission and
16 for the Act that are not reasonable, given the
17 political circumstances that the Act functions in. And
18 so when a challenge arises, we're -- you know,
19 especially, you know, I think, Mike, Gina, Sara, Paula,
20 Alec, and Amy are the best people to have to work with.
21 So it's been a successful session, and I
22 think it's been -- so far, and again -- but, yeah, I
23 think that -- I think things worked out pretty well.
24 And I think a lot of things you said at the beginning
25 about how staff would be -- our staff would be well

10:43:14-10:44:29
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1 equipped to deal with this turned out to be true, and
2 in a certain way this was galvanizing.
3 COMMISSIONER PATON: Yeah. I just think that
4 having a real face, just like Mr. Miller coming to talk
5 to us, Secretary of State -- when people come and are
6 face to face with people -- you know, you're an expert
7 in your field, you're representing us, you're
8 representing the Act, instead of just for somebody
9 that's just doing this as a job, you know, the
10 lobbyist, to me I just think that that makes a big 1 difference. And of course you're invested, you're vested in the whole deal. And so those legislators see you face to face, and I think it probably made a big difference, instead of just them thinking you're a bureaucrat or whatever. You know, we all have ideas about bureaucrats. But when you go there and tell them your ideas straight heart to heart, I think that makes a big difference. So that's enough of my commercial. MR. COLLINS: I did have to shave my beard, though, so --

COMMISSIONER PATON: I see that it's coming back.

CHAIRPERSON TITLA: Any more comments,
Commissioners?
(No response.)


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