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THE STATE OF ARIZONA  
CITIZENS CLEAN ELECTIONS COMMISSION

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PUBLIC VIRTUAL MEETING

Phoenix, Arizona

December 17, 2020

9:31 a.m.

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<p style="text-align: right;">Page 2</p> <p>1 PUBLIC VIRTUAL MEETING BEFORE THE CITIZENS CLEAN 2 ELECTIONS COMMISSION convened at 9:31 a.m. on 3 December 17, 2020, at the State of Arizona, Clean 4 Elections Commission, 1616 West Adams, Phoenix, Arizona, 5 in the presence of the following Board members: 6 7 Mr. Galen D. Paton, Chairperson 8 Ms. Amy B. Chan 9 Mr. Mark S. Kimble 10 11 OTHERS PRESENT: 12 13 Thomas M. Collins, Executive Director 14 Paula Thomas, Executive Officer 15 Gina Roberts, Voter Education Director 16 Mike Becker, Policy Director 17 Alec Shaffer, Web Content Manager 18 Avery Oliver, Voter Education Specialist 19 Julian Arndt, Executive Support Specialist 20 Kara Karlson, Assistant Attorney General 21 Jeanne Galvin, Assistant Attorney General 22 Kyle Cummings, Assistant Attorney General 23 Leo Miller, Wilenchik &amp; Bartness 24 Joshua Offenhartz, Wilenchik &amp; Bartness 25 William Fischbach, Tiffany &amp; Bosco 26 Dr. Bob Branch, Power of Fives 27 Leezah Sun, Candidate 28 Bob Christie, AP</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 4</p> <p>09:33:14-09:34:14</p> <p>1 COMMISSIONER CHAN: I move that we adopt 2 the minutes as written. 3 CHAIRMAN PATON: Do I have a second? 4 COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: Commissioner Kimble. 5 Second. 6 CHAIRMAN PATON: Okay. So, was that for 7 both August and October meetings? 8 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Oh, I'm sorry, 9 Mr. Chairman. On the agenda, it just says the 10 Commission minutes for November 19th, 2020. 11 CHAIRMAN PATON: Okay. But my notes say 12 something different. So, we'll just go with that, 13 then. 14 So, we are -- we have a motion and a second 15 to adopt the minutes for November 19th, 2020, and we'll 16 start voting. 17 Commissioner Chan, how do you vote? 18 COMMISSIONER CHAN: I vote aye. 19 CHAIRMAN PATON: Commissioner Kimble? 20 COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: Aye. 21 CHAIRMAN PATON: And this is Commissioner 22 Paton, and I vote aye, as well. The motion passes. 23 Item III: Discussion and possible action 24 on Executive Director's report. 25 Mr. Collins?</p>
<p>09:31:01-09:33:13</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 3</p> <p>1 P R O C E E D I N G 2 3 CHAIRMAN PATON: Okay. This is 4 Commissioner Galen Paton, and I will call the meeting 5 to order. Agenda I is to call the order. It is 9:30 6 on December 17th, and I call this meeting of the 7 Citizens Clean Elections Commission to order. 8 And we will go through the roll call, and 9 let me know if you are here. 10 Commissioner Chan? 11 COMMISSIONER CHAN: This is Commissioner 12 Chan. I am here. 13 CHAIRMAN PATON: Welcome. I see you. 14 Commissioner Kimble? 15 COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: I am here. 16 CHAIRMAN PATON: And I believe Commissioner 17 Meyer and Commissioner Titla are not present. And so, 18 I'm Commissioner Galen Paton, the chairman, and I'm 19 here. 20 So, Item II: Discussion and possible 21 action on minutes for the November 19th, 2020 meeting. 22 Any discussion? 23 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Mr. Chairman, this is 24 Commissioner Chan. 25 CHAIRMAN PATON: Yes. Go ahead.</p>	<p>09:34:16-09:35:46</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 5</p> <p>1 MR. COLLINS: Yes, Commissioner -- Chairman 2 Paton, Commissioners. So, I will -- I'm going to get 3 through the agenda fairly -- through this part of the 4 agenda fairly quickly. 5 Just a quick preview with respect to the 6 rest of the meeting and those of who you are waiting 7 for the Item -- I think it's VI, I think we should be 8 able to get there fairly quickly. 9 So, we had -- the electors met on 10 December 14th and, you know, you can see in the report 11 some of the activities that happened leading up to 12 that, in terms of the canvass and other aspects. 13 You know, we did a -- as you all know, we 14 did a letter, you know, thanking the voting community 15 and the election officials and others for their efforts 16 in this election and, you know, we do continue to 17 follow up on many of those -- those kinds of 18 educational and informational opportunities. 19 You know -- and, as you can see, working 20 through this month, the Voter Education team will be 21 plugging away really right through the end of the month 22 and has been. 23 A couple of quick points for us, I just 24 want to make -- if I can figure out how to use my mouse 25 here for a second.</p>

<p>09:36:21-09:37:56 Page 6</p> <p>1 The one other thing I wanted to really 2 mention, you know, we are -- as far as our regulatory 3 agenda, you'll see there that we've identified, you 4 know, what we think is going to be our main regulatory 5 agenda for the coming year. That's something that we 6 will post on our -- on our website, and part of that is 7 just the -- part of the process of some of the things 8 that we -- boxes, frankly, that we need to check off in 9 terms of notice for purposes of the rule-making process 10 now. 11 And right now, as we look at things, we 12 think the main thing will be to make sure that we need 13 to evaluate and determine if there's any rules that we 14 need to update because of the Court of -- Court of 15 Appeals' decision that we got in October, I want to 16 say, and we know that some of those things we were 17 ahead of the game on in terms of the rules we adopted 18 in, like, 2017. Other things will definitely have to 19 change. 20 So -- and then -- and I hope to get in 21 contact with the Governor's Regulatory Review Council 22 staff, hopefully, soon in the new year to make sure 23 we're on track there. 24 So, you know, really not a lot to report, 25 other than our ongoing, you know, Voter Education</p>	<p>09:39:22-09:41:06 Page 8</p> <p>1 And, then, because the statute sets up our budgeting -- 2 sets those caps around calendar years, you know, it 3 follows from that that our budget follows the calendar 4 year. 5 So, what we have done here, as we had in 6 prior years, is identified those things that are 7 calculations that are required to be done by statute 8 and, then, included in that, also, our anticipated 9 budget for the coming calendar year. 10 A couple of things that I would note, 11 first, you know, obviously, there's not going to be 12 candidate funding in this calendar year because 13 we're -- candidates cannot file for 2022 until January 14 of 2022 for their funding. 15 And, then, I think the other thing I 16 just -- I just want to make a quick point about is 17 that -- you know, there's two things. One, as we 18 always see on this memo, there is a structural, if you 19 will -- well, "structural" is not the right word. 20 There is a projection we have to do that will -- that 21 continues to show the funded deficit if we spent at the 22 maximum allowable under law. You know, that projection 23 is required by statute, but you know, that's not a -- 24 that's not a true deficit because we don't spend at 25 that level. It's just, you know, if we were -- if we</p>
<p>09:37:59-09:39:15 Page 7</p> <p>1 activities, but if you have any questions, 2 Commissioners, I'm happy to answer them. 3 Thank you. 4 I'm sorry, Mr. Chairman. I think you're on 5 mute. 6 CHAIRMAN PATON: I was on mute. 7 Any comments from the audience on this 8 item? You can signal the moderator if you have any 9 comments. 10 (No response.) 11 CHAIRMAN PATON: If not, then, moving on to 12 Item IV: Discussion and possible action on 2021 13 calendar year budget. 14 And Mr. Collins is going to begin our 15 discussion and Mike is on hand if you have any 16 additional questions. 17 Go ahead, Tom. 18 MR. COLLINS: Yes. Thank you, 19 Mr. Chairman. 20 We are -- so every year, as I think all 21 of -- all of you have gone through this for at least 22 four years. Basically, what we do is we -- the statute 23 obligates us to make some projections about, you know, 24 what the fund looks like, what our projected expenses 25 are, and make those calculations on a formula basis.</p>	<p>09:41:10-09:42:46 Page 9</p> <p>1 spent at the statutory capacity. 2 And, then, the other, you know, point, I 3 think, is worth stressing is that this is not a 4 calendar year appropriation that rolls over; rather, 5 the way that the statute operates is that the surcharge 6 that funds the Act is collected. The treasurer is 7 directed to place that -- to place those dollars in 8 the -- into the Clean Elections fund, you know, where 9 they remain because they are appropriated explicitly by 10 the statute, by the voters. 11 So, with that background, you know, I think 12 that -- you know, other than, obviously, in these 13 off-years, we have a reduction in our overall spending. 14 We don't have any -- anything that we think is 15 necessarily -- I mean, basically, I'd turn it over to 16 you all for -- to any commissioner that has questions 17 or comments. 18 You know, I, also, note that 19 programmatically, you know, we anticipate coming to the 20 Commission with the voter -- with our voter education 21 plans for the coming year in the coming year. So, once 22 we have -- once we've made this determination about the 23 budget, you know, then Gina and her team will -- and 24 Paula will work on that process. 25 So, you know -- so, at that point,</p>

<p>09:42:52-09:44:08 Page 10</p> <p>1 Mr. Chairman, if you have any questions or comments, 2 we're happy to answer them. 3 CHAIRMAN PATON: Any questions for 4 Mr. Collins from the Commission? 5 COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: Yes, Mr. Chairman. 6 This is Commissioner Kimble. 7 CHAIRMAN PATON: Yes, Commissioner Kimble, 8 go ahead. 9 COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: Mr. Collins, I don't 10 want to get too much into the weeds on the budget, but 11 looking through it, the total expenses are up 12 substantially, more than twice what they were last 13 year. And I can see personnel services are going up 14 substantially, data processing. 15 Could you just talk about some of the 16 reasons for going from total expenses of about 670,000 17 to about 1.4 million? 18 MR. COLLINS: I would -- well, I'm going to 19 ask Mike to rescue me on this. 20 MR. BECKER: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner 21 Kimble, a couple of reasons the numbers are a little 22 bit off. One, the full amount that the Commission has 23 spent in 2020 has not come in yet. So, when you are 24 looking at the actual numbers and comparing it to what 25 we're budgeting, the actual numbers are going to</p>	<p>09:45:32-09:47:01 Page 12</p> <p>1 thing, candidate funding projections. In 2018, it was 2 close to \$9 million to candidates. 2020, it was \$2.9 3 million. 4 Is that, substantially, because there were 5 no -- outside the Corporation Commission, no statewide 6 races or are fewer people signing up to be Clean 7 Elections candidates? 8 MR. BECKER: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner 9 Kimble, it's both. We do expect more candidates 10 because there's going to be another statewide race for 11 the Governor and Secretary of State. We do expect the 12 numbers to increase a bit, but not where it was several 13 years ago. And we don't have the numbers that we used 14 to have, and this year was only the Corporation 15 Commission for the statewide. So, that's why. 16 COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: So, is it right to 17 say there's been, like, a -- there's been a steady 18 decline in interest in being a so-called clean 19 candidate? 20 MR. BECKER: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner 21 Kimble, when matching funds went away several election 22 cycles ago, we had a dramatic decline. Now we've seen 23 a steady -- a steady rate of, roughly, somewhere 24 between 28 and 35 candidates running through the Clean 25 Elections. That may go up a bit with more statewide</p>
<p>09:44:10-09:45:29 Page 11</p> <p>1 increase. We did not -- we do not have those numbers 2 for December, and we will have more numbers in January. 3 So, that number will increase. 4 As far as your external data processing, 5 that number has increased quite a bit for both the 6 voter ed side and the admin side, and the reason for 7 that is we are -- there are a couple of reasons. One, 8 we're moving from the way we handle our system and 9 things like that, we're going to a Cloud basis through 10 the State. And there's a lot of detail that has been 11 worked out by our IT group and a lot of work on that. 12 So, we are -- we are budgeting quite a bit more than we 13 think is going to actually be needed so that we don't 14 have to come back to you time and time again. 15 Secondly, we are, also, having to update 16 our systems, our individual computers, as well as our 17 laptops, to do security upgrades and to get more 18 software that are more compatible with what we're doing 19 in the state. So, that's why those numbers have 20 increased, but overall, you will see our actual numbers 21 will go up at the end of this month and in January, 22 when we get final numbers for what we put the 23 Commission spent for 2020. 24 COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: Okay. And one other 25 question I had, the last page of this -- of this budget</p>	<p>09:47:04-09:48:42 Page 13</p> <p>1 offices open in 2022, but we expect in that range 2 again. 3 MR. COLLINS: And, if I could, 4 Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Kimble, just add a little to 5 Mike's point about that, with respect to participation, 6 I think there's two other issues that we don't -- you 7 know, we don't know -- I think Mike is right that we 8 have reached a point of stability. What we don't know, 9 in a given year -- and we've had now -- just in 2016, 10 we had the 2016 election cycle, 2018 election cycle and 11 the 2020 election cycle. 12 Those election cycles have all been under 13 different regimes, campaign finance-wise, as applied to 14 the Clean Elections Act. The first being in 2018, we 15 were under the same rules as we now will be under 16 following the Court of Appeals' decision. And, then, 17 in 2020, it was our first year under Prop 306, and we 18 know for a fact that there have been wild 19 misconceptions about the effect of that Act and active 20 discouragement of folks running clean because of it. 21 You know, whether that's -- and, you know, 22 that is -- that is a true statement that those things 23 have occurred. Whether or not those inaccurate 24 portrayals of the law will change -- as they're 25 corrected, you know, will change people's behavior and</p>

<p>09:48:44-09:50:10 Page 14</p> <p>1 now that the Court of Appeals has settled, you know, 2 one of the -- a couple of the major outstanding issues 3 related to that, you know, I mean, we may see some 4 changes in 2022 one way or another, but it's -- you 5 know, we have not had a stable legal regime in place 6 under Clean Elections or under the campaign finance 7 system as a whole since 2016. 8 It's changed every -- every cycle. So, it 9 just makes it a little harder for consultants and 10 attorneys who, you know, have -- you know, to make the 11 kind of decisions and advice that they might otherwise. 12 So that's just my two cents. The facts are the facts. 13 That's my inference and subject to your own point of 14 view. 15 COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: Well, I guess -- and 16 I don't want to get too much into it today, but it 17 seems like a topic for future discussions about are 18 there things we can and should be doing to -- to 19 encourage more candidates to consider running as Clean 20 Elections candidates. 21 MR. COLLINS: Yeah. Mr. Chairman, 22 Commissioner Kimble, I agree. I think -- I think 23 that -- I think that in this off year or off nine 24 months, if you will, I do think there will be some 25 opportunities to -- with the -- with the Court of</p>	<p>09:51:33-09:52:39 Page 16</p> <p>1 further discussion, I'll entertain a motion to adopt 2 the memorandum at pages 1 and 2 of Item IV, setting 3 forth Commission's progressions -- projections for the 4 calendar year. 5 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Mr. Chairman? 6 CHAIRMAN PATON: Yes, Commissioner Chan. 7 COMMISSIONER CHAN: I'll make the motion to 8 adopt the projections set forth on pages 1 and 2. Is 9 that what you said? 10 CHAIRMAN PATON: Yes, 1 and 2 of Item IV. 11 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Of Item IV. Thank you, 12 Mr. Chairman. 13 COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: I will second that. 14 CHAIRMAN PATON: Okay. So, we have a 15 motion and a second to adopt the memorandum of pages 1 16 and 2 of Item IV, and I will call the roll. 17 Commissioner Chan? 18 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Aye. 19 CHAIRMAN PATON: Commissioner Kimble? 20 COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: Aye. 21 CHAIRMAN PATON: And this is Commissioner 22 Paton, and I vote aye, as well. The motion carries. 23 Moving on to Item V: Discussion and 24 possible action on Primary Election candidate audits. 25 Mr. Collins?</p>
<p>09:50:12-09:51:31 Page 15</p> <p>1 Appeals' decision and with the rule-makings we'll have 2 to do, as I mentioned in the Executive Director report, 3 and then with the year under Prop 306 -- the cycle 4 under Prop 306 is done, I think that we will be in a 5 position to start to address some of those things on 6 a -- on a -- by communicating them, in part, to, you 7 know, the folks who are involved in this process on a, 8 sort of, day-to-day basis. That's fairly easy. 9 COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: Thank you, 10 Mr. Chairman. 11 CHAIRMAN PATON: Sure. 12 I might add that maybe we could do 13 education to prospective candidates to -- before -- 14 well before planning for this could start for them to 15 let them know that we're available and how Clean 16 Elections can help them with their campaign. Just as 17 we've been doing voter education, maybe we could do 18 candidate education. 19 MR. COLLINS: I agree. 20 CHAIRMAN PATON: Any other comment? 21 (No response.) 22 CHAIRMAN PATON: Any comments from the 23 public? 24 (No response.) 25 CHAIRMAN PATON: Okay. If there's no</p>	<p>09:52:41-09:54:06 Page 17</p> <p>1 MR. COLLINS: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Thank 2 you. 3 I'm going to -- these are Primary Election 4 audits. We are in the process of -- you know, 5 obviously, we'll be endeavoring to finish the primary 6 and then we'll move on to the general. You know, my 7 understanding with these audits is there's no -- no 8 significant findings, and so the rules require that we 9 approve them, frankly, regardless of if there's 10 findings or not. 11 This is simply an opportunity for the 12 Commission to, you know, review and -- and if you have 13 any questions or comments on the issues -- on those 14 reports, obviously, Mike or I can answer them. 15 Otherwise, like I said, we're open for questions or 16 comments from you, Mr. Chairman. 17 CHAIRMAN PATON: Okay. Any discussion from 18 the Commission? 19 (No response.) 20 CHAIRMAN PATON: And any discussion from 21 the public? 22 (No response.) 23 CHAIRMAN PATON: If not, I'll entertain a 24 motion to approve the audits identified in Item V of 25 the agenda.</p>

<p>09:54:10-09:55:11 Page 18</p> <p>1 COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: Mr. Chairman? 2 CHAIRMAN PATON: Yes, Commissioner Kimble. 3 COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: I move that we 4 approve the audits in Item V of today's agenda. 5 CHAIRMAN PATON: Okay. We have a motion. 6 Do we have a second? 7 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Mr. Chairman, I second 8 the motion. 9 CHAIRMAN PATON: Commissioner Chan seconds 10 the motion, and so we will have a vote. 11 Commissioner Chan, how do you vote? 12 COMMISSIONER CHAN: I vote aye. 13 CHAIRMAN PATON: Commissioner Kimble? 14 COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: Aye. 15 CHAIRMAN PATON: And this is Commissioner 16 Paton. I vote aye, as well. 17 Item VI: Discussion and possible action on 18 MUR 20-04, Eric Sloan. This is an enforcement-related 19 item. Since we're meeting virtually, I'd like to Tom 20 to introduce the item and give an overview of the 21 recommendation, then have time for Commission 22 questions. Following that, I would like to hear from 23 Mr. Miller, the attorney for Mr. Sloan, then 24 Mr. Fischbach, who represents Dr. Branch, and 25 Mr. Miller again, if necessary.</p>	<p>09:57:04-09:58:26 Page 20</p> <p>1 point, Mr. Chairman, and -- 2 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Mr. Chairman? 3 MR. COLLINS: Sure. 4 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Tom, you know, just 5 looking at this last night, frankly, there was just 6 such a dichotomy between the two parties', kind of, 7 versions of events. And so, just to refresh my 8 recollection, since we do this, kind of, every two 9 years, if we find that there is -- if we agree with 10 your recommendation that there is reason to believe 11 that there may have been a violation, that doesn't put 12 a penalty on Mr. Sloan. 13 Does that just proceed to an additional 14 investigation? Is that how this works? 15 MR. COLLINS: Yeah. 16 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Can you just, kind of, 17 refresh my recollection, please? 18 MR. COLLINS: Sure, of course. 19 Mr. -- Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Chan, the 20 rules lay out the process here. So, if there are three 21 members of the Commission who determine that there's 22 reason to believe a violation may have occurred, we do 23 undertake an investigation. We have outlined in the -- 24 in the memo some of the tools we think may be necessary 25 to do that.</p>
<p>09:55:13-09:57:01 Page 19</p> <p>1 So, Mr. Collins, you're up. 2 MR. COLLINS: Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman 3 Commissioners. 4 I'm not sure if we'll end up having Lee 5 Miller, or someone else from his firm, but at any rate, 6 I don't want to put too much gloss on the 7 recommendation. We do believe that there is reason to 8 believe a violation may have occurred. We've outlined 9 what we think are the issues that are -- that we've 10 been able to identify by evaluating the complaint, the 11 response and campaign finance reports. 12 I just want to stress that -- that this is 13 a determination that is preliminary and, as you can see 14 from the memo and the two -- and the response and the 15 complaint, there are substantial issues of fact around 16 the issues we've identified that there are -- that 17 there's reason to believe a violation may have 18 occurred, so just to put this in perspective. 19 And, then, additionally, if you have 20 questions related to procedure here, we do have an 21 attorney from the Attorney General's Office who is 22 there to answer your questions on those, just to ensure 23 that there's an appropriate buffer, but other than 24 that, you know, unless you have questions or 25 comments -- I mean, I'm open to your questions at this</p>	<p>09:58:30-10:00:18 Page 21</p> <p>1 So, you know -- so, the big -- the 2 distinction to your point about penalties and those 3 kinds of things, this determination is the functional 4 equivalent of a reasonable cause determination by 5 the -- by the Secretary of State's Office. And so, as 6 you probably recall, obviously, once the Secretary of 7 State does that, they pass the case to the Attorney 8 General's Office. 9 In our situation, once this determination 10 is made, we go forth and do an investigation to try to 11 determine, from Staff's perspective, what the -- what 12 the facts are. There are then -- you know, there 13 are -- there are provisions related to administrative 14 settlement in the rules that we are -- you know, we 15 have to abide by and, then, there are, also, rules 16 related to the briefing of the determination of 17 probable cause to believe, and then -- and, then, the 18 penalty question. 19 So, those are all -- and just to be candid, 20 obviously, those are not, in every matter, steps that 21 we reach. In other words, you know, we -- you know, we 22 have often come back to the Commission with a 23 conciliation agreement, you know, prior to that, but 24 our -- were the Commission to determine reason to 25 believe a violation may have occurred, it would be our</p>

<p>10:00:21-10:01:46 Page 22</p> <p>1 goal to try to determine what -- you know, to try to -- 2 try to determine what we think the -- how we would -- 3 be able to be in a position to make a recommendation to 4 the Commission on, you know, what we believe the 5 preponderance of the evidence is on those disputed 6 issues of fact. 7 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Mr. Chairman -- and I'm 8 happy, of course, to give time to Commissioner Kimble 9 and yourself, but I am anxious to hear from the parties 10 involved from their own mouths. I know, you know, 11 obviously, there's a lot of paperwork here documenting 12 their claims, but just to hear from them today is going 13 to be something I'm interested in because of the 14 different stories they have to tell -- not stories in 15 the sense that they're not true, but just the 16 difference between them -- 17 CHAIRMAN PATON: Certainly. 18 COMMISSIONER CHAN: -- is what I'm saying. 19 CHAIRMAN PATON: Certainly. 20 MS. KARLSON: Mr. Chairman? 21 CHAIRMAN PATON: Yes, Kara. 22 MS. KARLSON: I just wanted to make clear 23 that, for purposes of this decision item, Jeanne Galvin 24 is the Attorney General -- or Assistant Attorney 25 General who will be representing the Commission. So,</p>	<p>10:03:01-10:04:20 Page 24</p> <p>1 Members. My name is Lee Miller. We are with 2 Wilenchik &amp; Bartness, here today on behalf of the 3 Respondent, Sloan 2020 Campaign Committee and the 4 candidate, Eric Sloan. 5 Frankly, at this point, all I wanted to 6 convey to you and your colleagues is that we stand by 7 our response, note that we received a clean audit 8 report for our primary period activities, and look 9 forward to working with Mr. Collins and his colleagues 10 at the Commission to resolve this matter as rapidly as 11 we possibly can. 12 And with that, Mr. Chairman, I'm available 13 for any questions. 14 CHAIRMAN PATON: Okay. Any questions for 15 Mr. Miller from the Commission? 16 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Mr. Chairman? 17 CHAIRMAN PATON: Yes, Commissioner Chan. 18 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Hi -- Hi, Lee. It's 19 Amy, obviously. Can you just, kind of, go over for 20 us -- I know, obviously, you know, you probably feel 21 like you don't want to repeat ad nauseam what you 22 already put in paper, but can you, please, just go over 23 for us, boil it down, simple terms, what happened? 24 What is the story here? Why is there this difference 25 of facts? What happened, according to Sloan, and</p>
<p>10:01:49-10:03:00 Page 23</p> <p>1 to the extent the Commission has any questions, they 2 should be directed to Jeanne. And I just wanted to say 3 thank you to her for stepping into this role and being 4 able to provide any advice you may need. 5 MS. GALVIN: Good morning, and you're 6 welcome. 7 CHAIRMAN PATON: Thank you, Ms. Galvin. 8 Any other questions or discussion before we 9 have Mr. Miller speak? 10 COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: Mr. Chairman? 11 CHAIRMAN PATON: Yes, Commissioner Kimble. 12 COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: I agree with 13 Commissioner Chan that I'd like to hear from the 14 parties. There's just such substantial disagreement 15 on -- on what the facts are that I'd like to hear from 16 them. I've read this all over several times, and I 17 really would like to hear them talk about it in their 18 own words. 19 CHAIRMAN PATON: Certainly. I agree. 20 Any other questions? Discussion? 21 (No response.) 22 CHAIRMAN PATON: Okay. Mr. Miller, if 23 you're available, you have the floor to speak to the 24 Commission. 25 MR. MILLER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman,</p>	<p>10:04:24-10:06:31 Page 25</p> <p>1 what's the deal here? 2 MR. MILLER: Certainly, Mr. Chairman, 3 Commissioner Chan. I guess, to try and summarize, 4 Mr. Sloan and the Sloan 2020 Committee entered into -- 5 you know, we'll call it a consulting agreement with a, 6 quote/unquote, consulting firm known as the Power of 7 Fives and that The Power of Fives would work closely 8 with Sloan 2020 and with Candidate Sloan and would 9 assist them with both gathering \$5 contributions 10 qualifying for Clean Elections and, when they were 11 qualified, frankly, with figuring out a spending plan, 12 how The Power of Fives was going to facilitate 13 Mr. Sloan being elected to the Corporation Commission. 14 I think -- I think the most fundamental 15 difference in perspective here is that Sloan 2020 16 believed -- believes that having -- having qualified 17 for Clean Elections funding, it's, at that point, that 18 it would engage with its consultant and, you know, put 19 together a budget, put together a plan, you know, 20 \$50,000 on World Radio, \$25,000 for social media, 21 things that you would customarily see in any political 22 campaign. 23 What we experienced was -- as soon as Sloan 24 2020 qualified for Clean Elections funding, was that it 25 received an invoice from The Power of Fives that simply</p>

<p>10:06:36-10:08:22 Page 26</p> <p>1 said, you know, pay us over 100 percent of the funding 2 that you're entitled to. You know, we're happy to chat 3 about how that money is going to be spent, but The 4 Power of Fives' view of things is that they earned the 5 entire \$115,000 and, I think, change as soon as Sloan 6 2020 qualified for Clean Elections funding. 7 Within days of that -- within days of 8 qualifying for Clean Elections funding, there was, 9 we'll call it, robust dialogue between the Sloan 10 Campaign and The Power of Fives over how the money was 11 to be spent. Ultimately, Sloan 2020, Eric Sloan, came 12 to the conclusion that the spending plans -- that the 13 services being offered by The Power of Fives were not 14 services that he believed were going to create a 15 victory in the campaign. 16 And so, pursuant to the contract, Sloan 17 2020 terminated The Power of Fives. And, then, three 18 or four weeks later, you all received this complaint, 19 and I think that's -- that's our summary. 20 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Thank you so much for 21 going over it for us again like that. Thank you. 22 CHAIRMAN PATON: Thank you. 23 Any other questions for Mr. Miller? 24 (No response.) 25 CHAIRMAN PATON: If not, then we will hear</p>	<p>10:09:46-10:11:14 Page 28</p> <p>1 elections to multiple candidates, one of which happened 2 to be Sloan who, also, at one point, used to work for 3 The Power of Fives. 4 Mr. Sloan signed an agreement that is clear 5 as day as to what the obligation was in that through 6 Phase 1 and 2 of the campaign, which is, essentially, 7 through the Primary Election. He was obligated to pay 8 the entire statutory amount allotted for the Primary 9 Election campaign, which Mr. Miller is correct, it's 10 \$116,000 -- \$116,600. We provided the support, and 11 under that, the terms of that contract, Sloan was 12 obligated to pay it. 13 In addition, The Power of Fives paid 14 \$23,000 to an attorney by the name of Tim LaSota to 15 both challenge Sloan's opposition during the Primary 16 Election, but also, to defend Sloan himself when 17 Sloan's own signatures were challenged. And the notion 18 that Mr. Sloan was unaware of this expenditure or that 19 he didn't authorize it is ludicrous. 20 At one point, Tim LaSota was representing 21 Mr. Sloan, and Mr. Sloan can't deny it. There's -- 22 Mr. LaSota appeared to defend Mr. Sloan in the primary 23 challenge lawsuit against Mr. Sloan, and in terms of 24 the engagement between The Power of Fives, Mr. LaSota 25 made it clear that Mr. Sloan was obligated to pay for</p>
<p>10:08:28-10:09:43 Page 27</p> <p>1 from Mr. Fischbach, if Mr. Fischbach is available to 2 speak to the Commission. 3 MR. FISCHBACH: Yes. Good morning, members 4 of the Commission. My name is Will Fischbach. I'm a 5 partner with the law firm of Tiffany &amp; Bosco. Seated 6 to my right is my client, Dr. Bob Branch, who is the 7 principal of The Power of Fives. I'd like to make a 8 brief statement and have my client make one, as well, 9 and then -- and, then, I'm happy to answer any 10 questions. 11 Relative to the -- I think, the inquiry 12 from Commissioner Chan, we agree with the Chairman's 13 position that it is up to this Commission to decide 14 today whether or not probable cause exists to move 15 forward with an investigation. We are not asking you 16 and I don't believe the chairman is asking you to pass 17 judgment at this point in time, nor would that be 18 prudent of you to do so, unless and until you have all 19 of the facts at your disposal. 20 Of course, it's not unusual, in a 21 circumstance like this, for there to be dual narratives 22 of what happened, but succinctly put, The Power of 23 Fives is not, as Mr. Miller put it, a political 24 consulting company. The Power of Fives offered turnkey 25 election support in both the primary and general</p>	<p>10:11:20-10:12:17 Page 29</p> <p>1 Mr. LaSota's fees. 2 And he would have done so, but, as alleged 3 in our complaint, I believe, roughly -- was it July of 4 this year? Mr. Sloan approached Mr. Branch and asked 5 him to advance that additional sum of money of \$23,000, 6 to pay Mr. -- Mr. LaSota's bills. 7 Now, I'm sure that my colleague, Lee 8 Miller, disagrees with that. I'm sure that Mr. Sloan 9 disagrees with that summary, but that is why it is 10 incumbent on you, as the Clean Elections Commission, to 11 conduct a thorough investigation, utilize your subpoena 12 power and get your arms around what happened here. And 13 I am confident and Mr. Branch is confident that when 14 you do that, you will find that the facts align with 15 our version of the events. 16 I would like to see if Mr. Branch -- 17 Dr. Branch, rather, has anything to add to that 18 summary. 19 DR. BRANCH: I would and -- 20 CHAIRMAN PATON: Yes. Go ahead, 21 Dr. Branch. 22 DR. BRANCH: Yes. Sorry, sir. 23 CHAIRMAN PATON: Go ahead. 24 DR. BRANCH: Commissioner and Chairman, 25 thank you very much for letting us be here today.</p>



<p>10:12:23-10:14:03 Page 30</p> <p>1 In July of 2019, Eric Sloan and I entered 2 into an agreement that he would be our first candidate 3 that The Power of Fives, LLC would represent. In 4 August, we executed that, and in September of last 5 year -- now, I know that Mr. Miller wants you to 6 believe that nothing happened until Eric Sloan received 7 his funding, but understand Eric Sloan received his 8 funding about a week and a half prior to the Primary 9 Election. We were actually running his entire campaign 10 since a year ago September is when we had our first 11 expenditures. 12 We started gathering signatures for him per 13 his request. We started having events for him per his 14 request. And in November of last year, 2019, he asked 15 me for a job. I told him that it was problematic since 16 he was my candidate. And he said, well, hire my wife's 17 firm. And he says, that's perfectly legal; you can do 18 that. So, I agreed to pay his wife's firm \$4,000 a 19 month. So, when Mr. Evans wants -- I mean, Miller 20 wants you to believe that we had no expenditures, 21 that's not the case. 22 Also, working on his campaign I had former 23 Secretary of State Ken Bennett working on his campaign, 24 my management staff working on his campaign, and a 25 whole host of people that were front people at events</p>	<p>10:15:54-10:17:28 Page 32</p> <p>1 away from qualifying. Now, understand The Power of 2 Fives was spending all of this money before he 3 qualified. We made agreements, since Sloan and Lea 4 Marquez Peterson were the only two Republican 5 candidates. I entered into agreements with the 6 Republican Party to help get behind them, those two 7 candidates. 8 We created -- again, with, you know, former 9 Secretary of State Ken Bennett and a few other people, 10 plus the Republican Party, we had mass mailings. We 11 had the calls all set up to convince people to give \$5 12 contributions. These are expenditures that The Power 13 of Fives paid. 14 So, when Eric Sloan -- when it came up 15 to -- when he got his funding, at that time, it was 16 over. He won the primary. He got his funding. All of 17 the effort was because of The Power of Fives and the 18 money that we had expended and, according to the 19 contract, nothing more and nothing less is what we 20 asked for. 21 Now, the \$23,000 for the legal fees, when 22 they came to me and -- when Sloan came to me and asked 23 me for them, this was after everything was -- 24 challenges were all done. I said, listen -- after his 25 attorney and he convinced me that this was legal, I</p>
<p>10:14:08-10:15:49 Page 31</p> <p>1 for Mr. Sloan gathering signatures. In fact, when the 2 signatures were ultimately challenged, Eric Sloan was 3 the only signature that was challenged that came 4 through victorious because we funded and we funded the 5 people to help go get those signatures. So, the only 6 reason why he is on the ballot was because of our 7 efforts. 8 A little correction from my attorney here, 9 in May of last -- of this year, after all of the court 10 cases -- now, understand Eric Sloan went out and got 11 Tim LaSota. I didn't even know Tim LaSota -- Attorney 12 Tim LaSota. He negotiated the price for Tim LaSota on 13 the challenges, the signature challenges, and he 14 negotiated the price with Tim LaSota on his own 15 defense. 16 After all of those challenges and after all 17 of the defenses, that's when Tim LaSota -- I mean, 18 that's when Eric Sloan and Tim LaSota both came to me 19 and asked me, The Power of Fives, to advance him 20 \$23,000 that was negotiated by Sloan. So, throughout 21 the entire process, The Power of Fives was expending a 22 lot of money. 23 Now, when April came around and his 24 signature challenge was successful, he defended it, we 25 still -- we were still over a thousand \$5 contributions</p>	<p>10:17:32-10:18:48 Page 33</p> <p>1 said this is a campaign expenditure. It has to be. It 2 has to be because my company is not in the business to 3 loan money. We are your turnkey campaign. This is a 4 campaign expenditure. 5 So, when I've seen that he did not put that 6 on his filing, that's when I contacted my attorney and 7 I said, listen, this is -- 8 MR. FISCHBACH: Don't. What we talked 9 about is privileged. 10 DR. BRANCH: Oh, I'm sorry. That's when I 11 filed the complaint. That's when I contacted 12 Mr. Collins. 13 And I want to thank you very much, 14 Mr. Collins. It was over a weekend, and you responded 15 to me in this COVID world. And that's when I submitted 16 my complaint. 17 CHAIRMAN PATON: Okay. Any questions by 18 the Commission for the two -- the two men on the 19 screen? 20 (No response.) 21 COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: Mr. Chairman? 22 CHAIRMAN PATON: Yes, Commissioner Kimble. 23 COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: Tom, I wonder if you 24 could get into, briefly, a discussion of why what, on 25 the face of it is a contract dispute between these two</p>

<p>10:18:52-10:20:58</p> <p>Page 34</p> <p>1 parties, is now a Clean Elections matter. 2 MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner 3 Kimble, that's a good question. I would say this about 4 that. The Act provides for what to do in the event of 5 a contract dispute of this nature and, you know, 6 Mr. Miller contacted me about that. And they -- and 7 under the terms of that provision, as the response 8 notes, there's some amount of money -- I'm not going 9 to rely on my memory to state what it is, but there's 10 some amount of money held back from the primary to deal 11 with that. There's, also, a pending arbitration 12 schedule. 13 My view on this is that we have a -- there 14 are two interests here. One, there's an enforcement 15 issue that I believe there's reason to believe a 16 violation may have occurred and, then, secondly, 17 because of the substantial issues of fact, there are 18 questions -- there's an overall question about whether 19 or not -- and we want to develop to examine, I should 20 say, you know, some of the expenditures here. 21 Now, it may be that the arbitration, you 22 know, purports to resolve some of those issues. I 23 think that my viewpoint is that rather than deferring 24 this determination until after the arbitration is 25 completed, the determination here on its face would</p>	<p>10:23:10-10:24:44</p> <p>Page 36</p> <p>1 arbitration take its course and then whatever comes out 2 of that, we'll deal with. The reason being that, you 3 know -- you know, there's -- there's a -- because 4 without the authorization, I just -- I don't -- I don't 5 know how to engage with that process in a way that can 6 ensure whatever the Commission's interests -- whatever 7 we sort of think the Commission's interests may turn 8 out to be are taken care of. 9 So, I guess, what I'm trying to say is 10 that, obviously, but for the complaint, we wouldn't be 11 here; but that having been said, again, I think that 12 because this is a preliminary determination, you know, 13 I think that in order for us to feel, you know, 14 comfortably empowered within the rules of the 15 Commission to get in -- to be aware of and to, 16 potentially, have to take actions in this situation, we 17 just -- we would -- we would recommend not waiting 18 until the arbitration results. 19 I hope that answers your question. I know 20 it's a long answer to a -- because the answer is -- the 21 real answer is I don't know yet, but I don't want to 22 wait -- or my recommendation is not to wait until then 23 to determine probable cause -- or not probable cause -- 24 to determine whether there's reason to believe a 25 violation may have occurred.</p>
<p>10:21:08-10:23:05</p> <p>Page 35</p> <p>1 empower the staff to ensure that the Commission's 2 interests, which are separate from the party, are 3 looked after. 4 Whether or not and how we would -- how we 5 address that in the context of this arbitration, I'm 6 not -- I'm not, frankly, in a position to tell you. 7 That is something that I think that we would 8 anticipate, you know, talking to both sides about that 9 issue once we're empowered to ensure that the 10 Commission interest here has -- you know, has the -- 11 essentially, that my actions and the actions that, you 12 know, other staff members or attorneys might take are 13 authorized under the Commission's rules. 14 So, it's really out of a sense of prudence, 15 from my perspective, that we recommend the 16 determination be made now on this preliminary question 17 because it will give us an opportunity to evaluate, you 18 know, how we ascertain the necessary facts and how the 19 arbitration proceeding would fit into those -- would 20 fit into those -- fit into that. 21 I'm not prepared today, for example, to 22 say -- because this would be the effect of not making a 23 determination, I think. What I'm not prepared to do is 24 say or to recommend -- and this is, obviously, your 25 decision, not mine, but mine is to say let's let the</p>	<p>10:24:45-10:26:29</p> <p>Page 37</p> <p>1 COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: So, could you talk a 2 little bit about what kind of timeline you envision 3 this taking? Is this something that you would come 4 back with -- if we were to move forward, would you come 5 back with a recommendation in a month, or is this a 6 very lengthy process? 7 MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner 8 Kimble, I would say this about that. We're -- you 9 know, as you -- as you -- as Kara noted, you know, 10 helpfully, for the record, you know, we have -- we have 11 things set up in such a way where, you know, you'll 12 have counsel on the -- on the proceedings and we will 13 have counsel on our investigation. Those would be 14 separate, and that's in order to ensure, you know, that 15 everybody has ample process. 16 I -- you know, I think that with this 17 authorization, we'll be able to engage a little bit 18 more in that evaluation. I will say this. Unless 19 there's a contrary rule -- and I don't think that there 20 is provided that, you know, ex parte and other things 21 are dealt with -- you know, we could, obviously, update 22 you on where the arbitration question gets us once, you 23 know, we have -- we -- you know, staff and Kara have an 24 opportunity to be engaged in the process. 25 I don't -- I think that -- I think that we</p>

<p>10:26:31-10:27:47 Page 38</p> <p>1 can work with the parties to -- with the Respondent, 2 really, ultimately, and then -- and then, obviously, 3 we'll -- we'll be working with the Complainant, as 4 well, to -- you know, to make sure that there's -- that 5 appropriate communication of our progress is made 6 subject to all the -- the due process considerations 7 that go into that. 8 MS. GALVIN: If I may -- this is Jeanne 9 Galvin -- Chairman Paton, members of the Commission, I 10 would suggest that you make your decision on whether to 11 move forward separate and apart from the status of the 12 arbitration. You clearly have jurisdiction over the 13 campaign issues, and I would recommend that, that you 14 evaluate what you have in front of you, decide whether 15 there is merit in the findings and whether the 16 investigation should continue and, at this point, not 17 worry so much about the arbitration. Let the parties 18 do that part of it, and then you exercise your 19 authority with respect to the material that you have in 20 front of you. 21 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Mr. Chairman? 22 CHAIRMAN PATON: Yes, Commissioner Chan. 23 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Mr. Chairman, 24 Ms. Galvin, I'm so disappointed to hear you say that 25 because, frankly, hearing Commissioner Kimble's --</p>	<p>10:29:01-10:30:03 Page 40</p> <p>1 CHAIRMAN PATON: Yes. Go ahead. 2 MR. FISCHBACH: The arbitration hearing is 3 scheduled for, I believe, January 13th of next year, 4 but it is -- it is coming up. However, I would agree 5 with Jeanne Galvin that there are two separate things 6 and one doesn't necessarily, you know, govern the 7 outcome of the other. And, you know, it is -- you've 8 heard the phrase sunlight is the best disinfectant. 9 The origin of that phrase is from a collection of 10 essays by Louis Brandeis called "Other People's Money 11 and How the Bankers Use It." 12 And the question for this Commission is the 13 citizens money, the citizens of Arizona, and how 14 Mr. Sloan used it. And that is certainly within your 15 purview regardless of what happens in the Triple A 16 arbitration. 17 CHAIRMAN PATON: Thank you, sir. 18 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Thank you. 19 CHAIRMAN PATON: Any other questions or 20 comments? 21 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Mr. Chairman, I'll just 22 make some comment. 23 CHAIRMAN PATON: Yes. 24 COMMISSIONER CHAN: I mean, I'm inclined to 25 go with Tom's recommendation just with the caveat that</p>
<p>10:27:50-10:29:00 Page 39</p> <p>1 Chairman -- question, I should say, I actually had that 2 same thought, which was, you know, one, I wanted to ask 3 the parties -- and forgive me if it's in the 4 paperwork -- have they proceeded to arbitration and are 5 they planning to, if they haven't. 6 Because if we get involved or -- I mean, I 7 do think there are substantial issues of fact, 8 obviously. I mean, this is a contract dispute that 9 needs to be sorted out for us to determine -- I mean, I 10 don't disagree that there is reason to believe a 11 violation may have occurred, depending on which way the 12 contract dispute goes. For us to get involved in 13 trying to figure that out, when there's an arbitration 14 clause between the parties, seems like a lot of 15 duplication of work if there's going to be an 16 arbitration. 17 That's what I'm concerned about. Not that 18 that's not our role, but if there's going to be that 19 already, should we be getting involved there. So, I 20 guess, that's more of a comment, but that's why my 21 thought process was, also, going to the arbitration. 22 Can one of the parties, maybe, jump in and 23 let us know? Is that going forward? 24 MR. FISCHBACH: This is Will Fischbach 25 here, counsel for The Power of Fives.</p>	<p>10:30:07-10:31:21 Page 41</p> <p>1 because -- there's to caveat. I don't think there's 2 any harm in going forward. I mean, I think, you know, 3 if there's no "there" there, then there's nothing that 4 will come of it. I think, obviously, we've kind of 5 erred this out. We've gotten a lot of information from 6 the parties, both on paper and today here at the 7 meeting, on the record. 8 I just hate to see, you know, what happens 9 between parties that originally started out as friends, 10 so to speak, or colleagues. So, I guess, I would just 11 put that forward. 12 And thank you, Ms. Galvin, for stepping in 13 today and for your advice. 14 MS. GALVIN: You are very welcome. 15 CHAIRMAN PATON: Commissioner Kimble, 16 anything else? 17 COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: Mr. Chairman, I would 18 make a motion that we determine that there is reason to 19 believe that violations of the Clean Elections Act and 20 rules may have occurred and that the executive director 21 is empowered to move forward with a further 22 investigation. 23 I hope I worded that correctly, Tom. 24 CHAIRMAN PATON: Before we get that far, I 25 just -- I want to say something myself. You know, I'm</p>

10:31:26-10:32:56 Page 42

1 a layperson, and this is something that, I think, a  
2 light needs to be shined. Obviously, there's two  
3 widely divergent sides to this, and myself, I feel like  
4 I need somebody to go through this step by step. And  
5 this is -- this is State money that we are entrusted  
6 with and we have to -- we have a responsibility to make  
7 sure that it's used correctly and in line with the law  
8 and to give us credibility with the electorate.  
9 And so, I certainly believe that we should  
10 proceed on with this. There may not be anything there,  
11 but that way we will know exactly what's going on.  
12 So, going back to your motion, I accept  
13 that motion.  
14 Do we have a second?  
15 COMMISSIONER CHAN: I second the motion,  
16 Mr. Chairman.  
17 CHAIRMAN PATON: So, Commissioner Chan  
18 seconds the motion.  
19 So, we are going to vote on whether we  
20 proceed with the reason -- reason to believe that there  
21 was a violation here.  
22 Commissioner Chan, how do you vote?  
23 COMMISSIONER CHAN: I vote aye.  
24 CHAIRMAN PATON: Commissioner Kimble?  
25 COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: Aye.


10:32:56-10:34:09 Page 43

1 CHAIRMAN PATON: And this is Commissioner  
2 Paton, and I vote aye, as well. So the motion carries  
3 and -- let's see where are we going.  
4 And Item VII, does any member of the public  
5 wish to make comments at this time? You may, also,  
6 send comments to the Commission by mail or email at  
7 ccec.cleanelections.gov.  
8 If we don't have -- go ahead. Yes,  
9 Commissioner Chan.  
10 COMMISSIONER CHAN: I don't know if there's  
11 any other public comment, but I wanted to give a shout  
12 out to my children who are watching on YouTube. They  
13 found out I was going to be on YouTube and they got  
14 very excited about it. So, shout out to my six- and  
15 eight-year-old watching us on YouTube.  
16 CHAIRMAN PATON: You're famous.  
17 Okay. Item VIII: Motion to adjourn.  
18 Do I have a motion to adjourn?  
19 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Mr. Chairman, I move  
20 that we adjourn the meeting.  
21 CHAIRMAN PATON: All right. We have a  
22 motion to adjourn.  
23 Do we have a second?  
24 COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: Second.  
25 CHAIRMAN PATON: Second by Commissioner

10:34:12-10:34:28 Page 44

1 Kimble, and we will vote.  
2 Commissioner Chan?  
3 COMMISSIONER CHAN: I vote aye.  
4 CHAIRMAN PATON: Commissioner Kimble?  
5 COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: Aye.  
6 CHAIRMAN PATON: And Commissioner Paton, I  
7 vote I, as well.  
8 Thank you, and have a safe rest of  
9 December.  
10 (Whereupon, the proceedings concluded at  
11 10:34 a.m.)  
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1 STATE OF ARIZONA )  
2 COUNTY OF MARICOPA )  
3 BE IT KNOWN the foregoing proceedings were  
4 taken by me; that I was then and there a Certified  
5 Reporter of the State of Arizona, and by virtue thereof  
6 authorized to administer an oath; that the proceedings  
7 were taken down by me in shorthand and thereafter  
8 transcribed into typewriting under my direction; that  
9 the foregoing pages are a full, true, and accurate  
10 transcript of all proceedings and testimony had and  
11 adduced upon the taking of said proceedings, all done to  
12 the best of my skill and ability.  
13 I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am in no way  
14 related to nor employed by any of the parties thereto  
15 nor am I in any way interested in the outcome hereof.  
16 DATED at Phoenix, Arizona, this 18th day of  
17 December, 2020.  
18  
19   
20 LILLIA MONAREZ, RPR, CR #50699  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

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