

**STATE ELECTION COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES  
March 15, 2023  
10:00 a.m.**

1122 Lady Street, 5th Floor  
Columbia, SC 29201

Present: Mr. John Wells, Chairman; Ms. JoAnne Day; Mr. Clifford Edler (via teleconference); Ms. Linda McCall; Scott Moseley

Others Present: Howard Knapp, Executive Director; Sharese Johnson, Administrative Coordinator; Thomas Nicholson, General Counsel; two members of the public

**COMMISSIONERS**

JOHN WELLS  
Chairman

JOANNE DAY

CLIFFORD J. EDLER

LINDA MCCALL

SCOTT MOSELEY

Chairman Wells called the meeting to order. Mr. Knapp advised all notices of the meeting had been posted as required by the Freedom of Information Act.

**Approval of Minutes**

The first item of business was the approval of minutes for the January 18, 2023 (SEC) meeting. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Ms. McCall, seconded by Ms. Day. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

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**New Business**

HOWARD M. KNAPP  
Executive Director

The first item under new business was the Statement of Economic Interest, filing to the State Ethics Commission are due by March 30.

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The second item of new business was the SEC being a recipient of the State Library's Notable Documents Award for the agency's website. Notable document award is awarded to agencies that produced exemplary publications. The Ceremony is proceeding today and Chris Whitmire, Deputy Executive Director was in attendance as well as his staff are attending on behalf of the agency.

The next item of new business was the U.S. House of Representatives Election Integrity Caucus panel discussion. Mr. Knapp was invited by the U.S. House Committee in Administration to be on the panel discussing how the Election Commission run elections so well in South Carolina. They will also discuss how the Election Commission keeps their voter rolls accurate as possible.

The next item of business was U.S. Senate Rules Committee Testimony. Mr. Knapp was also invited by the U.S. Senate Rules Committee to testify before the committee. This is regarding how well the Election Commission administers elections and to discuss the voter list maintenance process.

The next item of business was the S.C. Senate Confirmation. Mr. Knapp was confirmed by the S.C. Senate.

The last item under new business was Chairwoman of Berkley County Legislative Delegation has requested that SEC conduct an audit of the Berkley County office. SEC is currently in the fact-finding phase of the audit.

### **Old Business**

The first item under old business was the Agency Year-End update. The House is currently debating the budget. They will finish this week and go on furlough next week. Then it will be the state budget. There will be more information in May when the budget conference committee meets.

The last item under old business was the election infrastructure security update. Mr. Knapp stated the agency continues to work with its federal, state, and private security partners to protect South Carolina's election infrastructure.

### **Executive Session**

Chairman Wells asked for a motion to go into executive session to receive and discuss legal advice. Ms. Day made motion, seconded by Ms. McCall. The motion passed unanimously.

Zigmantanis, et al v. McMaster, et al  
Osborne, et al v. S.C. State Election Commission, et al  
SC Safe Elections, et al v. SC State Election Commission, et al  
S.C. NAACP, et al v. Alexander, et al  
Curry v. S.C. State Election Commission  
Other items as needed

No votes were taken during executive session.

Upon returning to open session with no further business to discuss, Ms. Day made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. McCall. The motion was passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharese Johnson