

GOVERNMENT
OF
THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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BOARD OF ELECTIONS

+ + + + +

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

+ + + + +

WEDNESDAY

SEPTEMBER 2ND, 2026

+ + + + +

The District of Columbia Board of Elections
convened via videoconference, pursuant to notice
at 10:34 a.m. EDT, Gregory McCarthy, Chair,
presiding.

BOARD OF ELECTIONS MEMBERS PRESENT:

GREGORY MCCARTHY, Chair
KARYN GREENFIELD, Member
MIKE WAKEFIELD, Member

BOARD OF ELECTIONS STAFF PRESENT:

MONICA HOLMAN EVANS, Executive Director
TERRI STROUD, General Counsel
CECILY E. COLLIER-MONTGOMERY, Director,
Office of Campaign Finance
WILLIAM SANFORD, General Counsel, Office
of Campaign Finance

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1 P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

2 (10:34 a.m.)

3 CHAIR MCCARTHY: Good morning. My name
4 is Gregory McCarthy. I'm Chair of the Board of
5 Elections of the District of Columbia.

6 It is 10:33 a.m. on Wednesday the 2nd
7 of September.

8 We are at 1015 Half Street Southeast,
9 and this is our regular monthly meeting.

10 Welcome to everybody who's here and
11 online. First of all, I'd like to establish
12 that we have a quorum. I see both of my
13 colleagues are here virtually, Ms. Greenfield
14 and Mr. Wakefield, so that is three out of
15 three. Indeed, we have a quorum.

16 I think next on the agenda would be to
17 adopt the agenda for this meeting, which is
18 before my colleagues. So, if you're in
19 accordance with that, I would entertain a motion
20 for adoption.

21 MEMBER GREENFIELD: I so move.

22 CHAIR MCCARTHY: All right. How about

1 a second?

2 MEMBER WAKEFIELD: Second it.

3 CHAIR MCCARTHY: Great. Everyone in
4 favor?

5 MEMBER GREENFIELD: Aye.

6 MEMBER WAKEFIELD: Aye.

7 CHAIR MCCARTHY: Anyone opposing? I
8 don't think so. Great. So that's adopted.

9 Next before us, we have the minutes
10 from our previous meeting on July 17th, which
11 were duly distributed to us beforehand. I
12 assume my colleagues have had a chance to review
13 them, and if you find them in accordance with
14 what actually happened, I would entertain a
15 motion for adoption as well.

16 MEMBER GREENFIELD: I so move.

17 CHAIR MCCARTHY: Great. How about a
18 second?

19 MEMBER WAKEFIELD: Seconded.

20 CHAIR MCCARTHY: Great. All right.
21 All in favor of adoption, say aye, please.

22 MEMBER WAKEFIELD: Aye.

1 MEMBER GREENFIELD: Aye.

2 CHAIR MCCARTHY: No one's opposing. I
3 oppose. So they are indeed adopted. All right.

4 We've got that out of the way. And we have
5 this thing on the agenda called board matters.
6 Eventually, I'm going to have a matter, I think
7 to -- to bring it. I don't -- today, so let's
8 get it right to the executive director report.

9 MS. STROUD: Actually, I do have an
10 item on the agenda under board matters. Mr.
11 Wakefield, you have the floor.

12 MEMBER WAKEFIELD: Oh, yes. Yes. Yes.

13 Thank -- thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thanks,
14 Terri. Yeah, it recently came to my attention
15 that a -- a partner at my law firm represents a
16 party with a litigation action before the board,
17 and it's one of the items that'll be on the
18 agenda a little bit later today. So, after
19 consulting with the DC Board of Elections
20 General Counsel, as well as the DC Board of
21 Ethics and Government Accountability, I'm going
22 to recuse myself from that particular matter.

1 And for the -- the sake of the public record
2 here, I'm going to read into the record a
3 recusal memorandum that I prepared that you'll
4 be receiving a copy of members of the board as
5 well as the executive director and the general
6 counsel of the board. So, if you could just
7 bear with me for 45 seconds or so, let me just
8 read this into the record quickly so that it is
9 there.

10 The memo says, this is to notify you
11 that because I may or may be perceived to have a
12 conflict of interest in matters affecting
13 Douglass v. Board, DC Superior Court, concerning
14 initiative measure number 88, the Rent Control
15 and Housing Eligibility Adjustment Amendment Act
16 of 2026, and the district's ethics rules
17 prohibit conflicts of interest, I understand
18 that I may not participate in any way as a
19 district government employee in any matters
20 regarding this case or initiative. A partner of
21 my law firm, Holland & Knight, LLP, is
22 representing a party in this matter. I am

1 recusing myself, and as a result, will take no
2 action regarding the above-described matter. I
3 also will not personally represent, act as an
4 agent or attorney for or otherwise participate
5 on behalf of Holland & Knight or any clients in
6 this litigation or any related matter pending
7 before the board.

8 When this matter is called or discussed
9 at the public meeting of the board, such as a
10 little bit later today, I will announce my
11 recusal on the record and physically leave the
12 meeting, including any closed or executive
13 session during the board's consideration or
14 discussion of this matter.

15 By copy of this memorandum, I am
16 requesting that the District of Columbia Board
17 of Elections Executive Director and General
18 Counsel and any other designated person
19 providing administrative assistance ensure I am
20 screened from any information or communications
21 on any such matters and that I do not receive
22 materials related to Douglass v. Board or

1 initiative measure number 88.

2 I understand that this recusal will
3 remain in effect for the duration of litigation
4 and related administrative proceedings
5 concerning initiative measure number 88, or for
6 as long as I remain a partner at Holland &
7 Knight and the circumstances giving rise to the
8 conflict continue to exist.

9 So that -- that concludes me needing to
10 read this into the record, so I appreciate your
11 -- your forbearance on that and happy to
12 continue on with the board meeting. And when
13 the time comes in the litigation status report,
14 I'll go ahead and log off of this meeting and
15 get notified when it's okay for me to rejoin the
16 meeting.

17 CHAIR MCCARTHY: Okay, thank you very
18 much for your attentiveness to that matter, and
19 it is so noted, and we'll log you out when the
20 item comes up.

21 MEMBER WAKEFIELD: Thank you.

22 CHAIR MCCARTHY: Okay. Ms. Evans,

1 pleasure to have your report as well.

2 MS. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. This
3 is the Executive Director's Report for August
4 2026, Executive Director August Engagements. On
5 August 26th, 2026, the Committee on Executive
6 Administration and Labor held a public round
7 table to receive an official update on the
8 findings of the District of Columbia's 2026
9 primary elections and hold preliminary
10 discussions on the district's readiness for the
11 general election. The purpose of this round
12 table was to examine access to the ballot
13 process as well as running of the 2026 primary
14 election, utilization of ranked choice voting
15 and the election outcomes. The roundtable was a
16 public discussion focusing on the preliminary
17 findings of using ranked choice voting in the
18 District of Columbia for the first time in the
19 election history.

20 Voter registration rolls. In August,
21 BOE registered 4,148 new voters and processed
22 20,735 registration changes. In total, we

1 prepared 24,883 voter registration cards to be
2 mailed. Additionally, 1,188 registered voters
3 moved out of DC, 254 voters canceled their DC
4 registrations and registered with other
5 jurisdictions, and 770 voters registered in DC
6 after canceling their registrations in other
7 states.

8 We are continuing to register voters
9 using our website portal. To date, we have
10 processed over 116,711 applications using the
11 portal. These include new voter registrations
12 and updates to existing registrations. Total
13 non-citizen registration is 1,509. We
14 registered six new non-citizens in August. We
15 are continuing our outreach to DC communities to
16 share information about non-citizens voting in
17 local elections.

18 2026 election cycle planning. We are
19 continuing to implement the requirements of the
20 Automatic Voter Registration Expansion Act. We
21 are maintaining a pending file of otherwise
22 eligible voters who declined voter registration

1 at the Department of Motor Vehicles. We are
2 also evaluating data received as a result of
3 implementing AVR expansion.

4 To date, we have processed over 32,738
5 pre-approved registrations from DMV, and 9,674
6 are currently on the pre-approved list.

7 Residents who are placed on our pre-approved or
8 pending voter list will receive a mail ballot
9 for the November general election. This will
10 allow them to register and vote at the same
11 time. We are continuing to monitor legislation
12 and court decisions that affect elections
13 operations.

14 List maintenance. The Data Services
15 Division is currently processing all returned
16 undeliverable mail. We prepared a final notice
17 letter for individuals who did not vote in the
18 primary and whose ballots were returned as
19 undeliverable. Once the final notice letters
20 were mailed, we updated the status of these
21 individuals to inactive. As of July 31, our
22 current voter roll is 488,073.

1 Cybersecurity awareness. Cybersecurity
2 is a shared responsibility. The actions we take
3 play an important role in protecting BOE systems
4 and election operations. Accordingly, we have
5 developed a cybersecurity awareness series to
6 help educate staff members. Every click counts,
7 think first, click second, highlight simple
8 hygiene practices to help reduce risk to BOE
9 operations. We have also implemented a new OIT
10 help center. The help center will make it
11 easier to get IT support and track progress.
12 The OIT Help Center is available now and gives
13 users one place to request help, track requests,
14 and access support resources.

15 Voter education and outreach. During
16 the month of August, the Voter Education and
17 Outreach Division participated in 22 outreach
18 events on behalf of the agency. Events included
19 Spring of the year Community Resource Fair at
20 Martha's Table and Community Cuts for Kids at
21 THEARC The division is also planning and
22 preparing for National Voter Registration Day, a

1 nonpartisan civic holiday that celebrates
2 democracy and creates awareness of voter
3 registration opportunities on a single day.
4 This year, National Voter Registration Day will
5 be celebrated on Tuesday, September 15th. To
6 date, we have scheduled seven events on this
7 state.

8 Election Worker Division. The Election
9 Worker Division continues to prepare for the
10 November general election. In-person training
11 classes began on Tuesday, August 11th. We are
12 offering three election worker training classes
13 Monday through Friday and two classes on
14 Saturdays for a duration of 10 weeks. The
15 training curriculum has been updated to align
16 with the training manual and all workers will --
17 that all workers will receive when they attend
18 our in-person training classes. To date, we
19 have trained 989 election workers.

20 The Election Worker Division is also
21 recruiting and accepting applications for new
22 election workers. The Election Worker Division

1 is working with the voter education and outreach
2 team to partner with DC-based organizations for
3 our Adopt a Vote Center program. We have 11
4 organizations partner -- partnering with us to
5 adopt a vote center for the general election.

6 Restore the Vote Division. The Restore
7 the Vote Division is meeting with the Department
8 of Corrections every other Friday until early
9 voting begins. Main topics of discussion will
10 include dates for registration drives by BOE
11 staff and outside organizations and logistics
12 surrounding in-person voting. The Restore the
13 Vote Division is also working with the
14 Corrections Information Council to include
15 voting material and registration applications in
16 their upcoming mailing to those in the Federal
17 Bureau of Prisons.

18 Lastly, Restore the Vote Division is
19 using data sets from the Department of
20 Corrections and the Corrections Information
21 Council to identify new -- newly incarcerated
22 residents and those that may have transferred

1 facilities to ensure registration lists are as
2 accurate as possible.

3 Voter Services Division. The deadline
4 to file candidate nominating filing petitions
5 for the general election was August 5th,
6 nominating petitions were then posted for a 10-
7 day challenge period from August 8th through
8 August 17th. We are currently conducting
9 nominating petition challenge hearings to
10 determine ballot access. And that concludes my
11 report.

12 CHAIR MCCARTHY: Thank you. Any -- any
13 questions from my colleagues on that? No?
14 Okay.

15 MEMBER WAKEFIELD: No.

16 CHAIR MCCARTHY: Okay.

17 MEMBER GREENFIELD: No.

18 CHAIR MCCARTHY: All right. Shall we
19 proceed to the General Counsel's Report from Ms.
20 Stroud?

21 MS. STROUD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. The
22 first item on my agenda is a -- that the board

1 will consider whether a proposed initiative
2 measure, the DC Equal Home Ownership Act meets
3 proper subject requirements and is best able to
4 proceed through the initiative process. Notice
5 that the board would consider this question at
6 its September meeting was published in the DC
7 register on July 31st, 2026, at 73DCR010812. To
8 date, the board has received no request from any
9 member of the public to participate in this
10 discussion of the board's determination, either
11 in support of or against the measure.

12 So, by way of legal background about
13 the initiative process in DC, voters in the
14 district are permitted to participate directly
15 in the legislative process via the right of
16 initiative. The term initiative is defined in
17 the district charter as the process --- process
18 by which the electors of the district may
19 propose laws, except for laws of -- laws
20 appropriating funds and present such proposed
21 laws directly to the district voters for their
22 approval or disapproval.

1 Under DC official code section 1-
2 1001.16, the board, upon receipt of a proposed
3 initiative measure, must refuse to accept it if
4 it determines that, one, the measure conflicts
5 with or seeks to amend Title IV of the DC Home
6 Rule Act, also known as the District Charter.
7 Two, the measure conflicts with the U.S.
8 Constitution. Three, the measure has not been
9 properly filed. Four, the verified statement of
10 contributions, which consists of the -- the
11 measure committee statement of organization and
12 the initial report of receipts and expenditures
13 was not timely filed. Five, the measure would
14 authorize discrimination in violation of the DC
15 Human Rights Act. Six, the measure would negate
16 or limit a budgetary act of the council, or
17 seven, the measure would impermissibly
18 appropriate funds under applicable DC Court of
19 Appeals rulings.

20 And if we could see whether the
21 proposer, Mr. Addison Sarter, is present and
22 raise him to the level of panelists, I do

1 believe we see Mr. Sarter there. Okay. Mr.
2 Sarter, Addison Sarter, a registered voter in
3 the District of Columbia, filed the original
4 version of the measure that is being considered
5 today on December 23rd of 2025. That version of
6 the measure proposed a policy that favored
7 publicly developed permanently affordable home
8 ownership on district-owned land, but it made
9 the operative program dependent on subsequent --
10 subsequent council action. Among other things,
11 public home ownership units could be developed
12 only if separately authorized by the council,
13 implementation dependent on council
14 authorization and funding, and agency rulemaking
15 also required council authorization.

16 The -- for the initial version, the
17 General Counsel for the DC Council indicated
18 that the measure was not a proper subject in
19 that it did not constitute a law. But the
20 office of the attorney general -- of the
21 attorney general disagreed and found that the
22 measure didn't meet the requirements for law.

1 The board reached the conclusion that because
2 the essential actions contemplated by the
3 measure were discretionary authorizations that
4 could occur only after separate council action,
5 the measure did not constitute a law and
6 therefore even if it was if voters approved it
7 and the council funded it, the measure would not
8 have any independent operative effect unless the
9 council exercised its discretion and funded the
10 measure.

11 In light of the board's opinion
12 rejecting the original version of the measure,
13 Mr. Sarter submitted a revised version of the
14 measure on June 29th, and that is what the board
15 is considering today. By its summary statement,
16 the measure -- the purpose of the measure is to
17 authorize the use of district-owned land for
18 publicly developed permanently affordable home
19 ownership unit -- units with implementation
20 subject to appropriations approved by the DC
21 Council, and it would allow for the sale of such
22 units with no required down payment using an

1 affordability formula intended to target monthly
2 payments of approximately \$700 in 2026.

3 So, the revised measure and Mr. Sarter
4 can speak to this, sought to address the
5 concerns that were raised by the board in its
6 order, and the principal revision was intended
7 to solve the problems that had been identified.

8 Rather than merely permitting the district to
9 act after separate council authorization, the
10 measure revised section 3(b), which now provides
11 that the district shall give preference to
12 developing public home ownership units whenever
13 qualifying district-owned land is disposed of or
14 developed. The revised measure also removed the
15 requirements for separate council authorization
16 that had appeared in several operative
17 provisions of the original version.

18 On June 29th, the board's Office of
19 General Counsel requested the advisory opinions
20 that are required by DC Official Code Section 1-
21 1001.16(b)(1)(a) from both the Office of the
22 Attorney General and the General Counsel for the

1 Council regarding whether the revised measure
2 presented a proper subject of initiative. The
3 General Counsel for the Council unlike she had
4 done previously concluded that the instant
5 measure presented a proper subject, and the
6 Office of the Attorney General concluded that
7 the measure was a proper subject of initiative,
8 which is what it had done earlier. The OAG, in
9 its opinion, directly addressed the basis for
10 the board's February rejection and concluded
11 that the measure directly addressed the board's
12 concerns by removing the provisions that had
13 required separate council authorization. It
14 found most important the fact that section three
15 no longer required council authorization before
16 the district could -- could prioritize publicly
17 developed permanently affordable home ownership.

18 In the OAG's opinion, those changes
19 largely addressed the board's concerns. It
20 noted that section 3(b) provided that the
21 district shall give preference to public home
22 own -- home ownership units when qualifying

1 district-owned land. It imposed a mandatory
2 obligation in that regard rather than leaving
3 the underlying policy to future council
4 discretion.

5 The OAG further reasoned that the
6 remaining provisions supply enough detail to
7 effectuate that mandate in that they define
8 public home ownership unit -- units, establish
9 the basic -- basic pricing framework, authorize
10 agency rulemaking, and establish eligibility and
11 priority criteria. So, in the OAG's view, the
12 revised measure both adopts the policy affecting
13 the public generally and sets in motion the
14 effectuation of that policy.

15 And we can hear from Mr. Sarter.

16 CHAIR MCCARTHY: I have some -- I have
17 some questions first.

18 MS. STROUD: Sure.

19 CHAIR MCCARTHY: So I'm -- I'm fine
20 with where we ended up. I -- I don't think I
21 would've shared the board's initial concern at -
22 - when -- when they considered it before, but

1 what it seems to me, right, is there's a
2 toggling back and forth between a may and a
3 shall here in terms of the council's
4 prerogative. So, in the original version, the -
5 - the council already had the may part. The
6 council has always had this authority to -- to -
7 - to do whatever it is this act proposes. It
8 didn't need an initiative to give it. The
9 authority it already had. If it's a may, they
10 may -- they may have done it even without this
11 initiative. Is that -- is that fair or?

12 MS. STROUD: They may have without the
13 initiative. It's just the people are saying
14 that they would like to do it --

15 CHAIR MCCARTHY: So --

16 MS. STROUD: -- the people proposing
17 it.

18 CHAIR MCCARTHY: -- so I noticed in the
19 -- in the -- in the summary that you have before
20 us, couple of the may's have been, if you will,
21 upgraded to a shall, but there's still some may's
22 in here, you know, may be prioritized. It --

1 it's suitable. There -- there's still a lot of
2 discretionary terms, and so it's still -- and --
3 and but what -- but what you're saying is in the
4 -- under the previous version, it only would've
5 worked if the council had adopted particular
6 regulations or authority to make that particular
7 project happen.

8 MS. STROUD: Well, the --

9 CHAIR MCCARTHY: And now they're saying
10 you already -- it -- it's qualifying that they
11 have that authority, but didn't they already
12 have that authority to do it at their
13 discretion?

14 MS. STROUD: Well, perhaps, but I think
15 that the main issue is that the provision, the
16 initiative now imposes a mandatory rule
17 governing future District action in that the
18 language in 3(b) says the -- the District shall
19 give preference to the development. So that is
20 where the mandatory language comes in and the
21 may I think don't necessarily undermine or
22 conflict with the fact that that does.

1 CHAIR MCCARTHY: But preference is
2 indeed a subjective term as well, as opposed to
3 it's not a shall.

4 MS. STROUD: Well, it -- it -- it shall
5 give preference, which is what didn't have to do
6 before.

7 CHAIR MCCARTHY: But the preference is,
8 it lies in the eye of the beholder, right? I
9 mean, it -- it -- and there's still some wiggle
10 room. So I guess my -- my only question is, it
11 -- it -- it still seems to me that this law is
12 still not self-effectuating because there is
13 still, I'm going to use the word wiggle room.
14 That sounds derogatory. I don't mean it to be
15 derogatory, but discretion, I got to say, of the
16 council preference may still not self-executing
17 necessarily because it -- to do what it already
18 had the authority to do at its own discretion.

19 MS. STROUD: I don't --

20 CHAIR MCCARTHY: You know?

21 MS. STROUD: Yeah. I understand what
22 you're saying, but I don't agree with that view.

1 I think that the language. I mean, I'm not
2 saying that it is a -- I'm not saying that there
3 are not some ways in there, and I'm not saying
4 that those ways -- but I don't think that those
5 ways carry the day. I think that the language
6 in 3(b) renders this. I mean, I -- and we
7 haven't gotten to the point where I'm making a
8 recommendation. I think we're still hearing,
9 but I don't -- I -- I don't agree that -- I
10 think that the -- the fact that the --

11 CHAIR MCCARTHY: Well, I think that my
12 --

13 MS. STROUD: -- the phrase shall give
14 preference means that the council has been
15 mandated to give preference.

16 CHAIR MCCARTHY: I -- I think really my
17 question is really goes back to the board's
18 earlier action --

19 MS. STROUD: Uh-huh.

20 CHAIR MCCARTHY: -- when they did find
21 -- they recommended, if you will, the upgrade,
22 if you will, in terms of firmness of it which

1 the council and the OAG at the time didn't --
2 were okay with the existing language, and it was
3 this board that, if you will --

4 MS. STROUD: Well, the counsel for the
5 general council previously did not think that
6 the law -- did not think that the law -- that --
7 that the measure constituted a law, but the
8 language that she had difficulty with was
9 removed, and so her opinion changed as a result
10 of the revisions that were made.

11 CHAIR MCCARTHY: Okay.

12 MS. STROUD: And so now the general
13 counsel for the council, as well as the OAG, are
14 in agreement that the measure does constitute a
15 law.

16 CHAIR MCCARTHY: The OAG was in
17 agreement --

18 MS. STROUD: Previously.

19 CHAIR MCCARTHY: -- previously as well.

20 MS. STROUD: Yes.

21 CHAIR MCCARTHY: Under the previous
22 meeting, right?

1 MS. STROUD: And so now, with the new
2 revised version --

3 CHAIR MCCARTHY: Okay.

4 MS. STROUD: -- the general counsel for
5 the Council has indicated that under the
6 definitions of law and what case law has
7 indicated constitutes a law, they find that --

8 CHAIR MCCARTHY: Okay.

9 MS. STROUD: -- that measure
10 constitutes a law.

11 CHAIR MCCARTHY: I -- I think I
12 understand, but I -- okay.

13 MS. STROUD: Okay.

14 CHAIR MCCARTHY: And then maybe the
15 person who's going to testify on behalf of it
16 can just address this as well. The -- in -- in,
17 what is it? Two -- section two, paragraph two,
18 when it talks about \$700 per month in 2026
19 dollars, it doesn't explicitly say that that
20 shall be adjusted in subsequent years to
21 inflation, if you will. It just says what it is
22 this year in '26 dollars, but in theory, the law

1 would mean that if it's in '29, it ought to be
2 in '29 dollars. Is that otherwise self-evident
3 here, or is that the intent of this -- of this
4 language as well, or not?

5 MS. STROUD: I would have to think
6 about that, but I think that the questions -- I
7 think what the board is -- I -- I'm -- I guess
8 I'm asking what -- what -- what requirement or
9 criteria are you thinking that the --

10 CHAIR MCCARTHY: Logic.

11 MS. STROUD: -- measure doesn't meet?
12 Or the proper subject criteria.

13 CHAIR MCCARTHY: Oh, Okay. Yeah, I --
14 I mean, it gets back to, I guess, intent as much
15 as anything else. I'm just wondering whether
16 it's just drafted as strongly as it could be
17 without Regard to whether it violates any of our
18 milestones.

19 MS. STROUD: Well, one of the thing --
20 well, I guess I'm not clear what proper subject
21 criteria we're saying it meets or doesn't meet
22 that the question gets to, but one of the things

1 that the Council can do with respect to measures
2 is prepared in the proper legislative format.
3 And in fact, in the -- in the advisory opinion
4 that the OAG did, I believe that it did
5 undertake to say, okay, well, this is how we
6 placed in the proper format. I'm not speaking
7 as to whether or not it's the strongest law. I
8 think our analysis or the board's analysis is
9 limited to whether it meets the proper subject
10 criteria. And I -- I do think that it does,
11 based on the revisions that were made to the
12 prior version, cross the line into a measure
13 that proposes a law.

14 CHAIR MCCARTHY: Thank you.

15 MS. STROUD: You're welcome. And Mr.
16 Sarter, or does anybody else have any questions
17 about the measure?

18 MEMBER WAKEFIELD: I may as we continue
19 the discussion, but why don't we hear from Mr.
20 Sarter?

21 MS. STROUD: Okay. Mr. Sarter? If you
22 could unmute yourself, Mr. Sarter. And if you

1 could state your name and address.

2 MR. SARTER: Hello. I'm the proposer
3 of the initiative. My name is Addison Sarter.

4 MS. STROUD: Uh-huh. And if you could
5 state your address. Give your statement as to
6 whether or not the measure meets proper subject
7 requirements.

8 MR. SARTER: All right.

9 MS. STROUD: Your address first, sir,
10 please. Oh, yeah. Perhaps there's a bad
11 connection.

12 MEMBER WAKEFIELD: Mr. Sarter, you
13 might try turning off your camera and just go
14 voice, that might help.

15 MS. STROUD: Yeah, we have an
16 indication that your network is low, so it's
17 probably difficult for us.

18 Mr. Sarter, are you talking? We're --
19 we're unable to hear you if you. Mr. Sarter,
20 maybe if you left the meeting and returned, it
21 might get better. But right now, we are unable
22 to hear you. Mr. Sarter, we see that you have

1 your hand raised, but we're not able to hear
2 you.

3 MR. SARTER: Okay. Are you able to
4 hear me now?

5 MS. STROUD: Yes.

6 CHAIR MCCARTHY: Yes.

7 MR. SARTER: Okay. All right. Yes,
8 sorry about that. So yes, so regarding --
9 regarding the measure, I would, you know, what I
10 -- I would just say is that, you know, the
11 measure has already undergone a substantial
12 legal review and that both the office of
13 attorney general and the Council's general
14 counsel, counsel concluded that the revised
15 initiative is a proper subject of initiative.
16 I'd like to say the proposal does not impose a
17 new text. It does not itself make an
18 appropriation and any implementation would
19 remain subject to the District's normal
20 budgeting and appropriations process. I revised
21 the measure specifically to address the specific
22 legal concerns that were previously identified.

1 And yes, so I would respectfully ask the board
2 to follow those legal opinions and approve the
3 measure as a proper subject so DC voters can
4 decide if it should become a law.

5 MS. STROUD: Thank you, Mr. Sarter.
6 And with respect to the previous conversation,
7 I'm going to highlight the previous section of
8 the measure, section three which at that point
9 said, "Subject to federal law, the Home Rule Act
10 and council authorization, District owned land
11 and public housing resources may be
12 prioritized." That law also -- the measure also
13 said, "This is a statement of policy only." So
14 the -- and -- and additionally, section four
15 said previously, "District agencies may develop
16 public home owner -- home ownership units only
17 if the council separately appropriates funds or
18 authorizes land use."

19 And there were several other instances
20 where that similar language was used, which made
21 clear that it was mainly subject to council
22 authorization, including the main provision,

1 which was the preference that, you know,
2 District-owned land and public housing resources
3 may be prioritized -- prioritized for publicly
4 developed, permanently affordable home ownership
5 rather than private developer rental housing.

6 And again, this was something that the
7 OAG in its opinion indicated with respect to the
8 first measure that it did not have a problem
9 with, but the general counsel for the council
10 specifically highlighted section three, which
11 does not appear as it did in the current
12 version.

13 Do the board members have any more
14 questions or?

15 CHAIR MCCARTHY: No. So, upon assuming
16 this is adopted today, then you're -- you're
17 going to prepare what for us next in terms of
18 the -- the -- the adoption for the text for
19 public voting?

20 MS. STROUD: Just for the record, the
21 board does not have to decide today. The board
22 can take it under advisement and enter into

1 executive or closed session to deliberate or
2 seek further, you know, discuss concerns with me
3 or get advice from me so the board does not have
4 to make a decision today. If the board were to
5 adopt the measure, then we would proceed along
6 the initiative process and within 20 days, we
7 would formulate the measures, short title,
8 summary statement and legislative text, and then
9 we would have a meeting to adopt those
10 formulations, and the formulation will be
11 prepared by OGP staff.

12 CHAIR MCCARTHY: Right.

13 MS. STROUD: And once the formulations
14 are adopted, they would be published in the DC
15 register for the review period during which any
16 voter who objects to the formulation would seek
17 review of the same in DC Superior Court stating
18 objections and requesting any appropriate
19 changes. So, it would just mean that the board
20 would continue along this process.

21 CHAIR MCCARTHY: Right. I -- I mean, I
22 -- I've mentioned my questions, which again, it

1 more to semantics and logic, if you will, and
2 not necessarily constituted stipulations that we
3 can apply to whether or not it's -- it's valid
4 or not. So I would be comfortable with moving
5 forward with it today, but if any of my
6 colleagues would like additional time to consult
7 with the general counsel or others, I'm happy to
8 do that as well, and I would leave it up to
9 them.

10 MEMBER WAKEFIELD: So, I'm happy to
11 jump in real quick. Yeah, thank you, Mr.
12 Chairman. I -- you know, I will say I -- I do
13 somewhat share, you know, your concerns if you
14 want to characterize it that way on -- on sort
15 of the, the discretionary versus non-
16 discretionary pieces of -- of the proposed
17 language in the initiative. You know, I -- this
18 is not a housing panel, obviously, that, you
19 know, the duty of this -- this panel is to, you
20 know, rule on the legality of whether the -- you
21 know, whether the initiative as it stands is --
22 is legally, you know, pursuable as a voter

1 initiative in DC. There is some procedural
2 background here as was discussed by the general
3 counsel's office for the Board of Elections
4 going back to February and some conflicting
5 opinions, and now we have, you know, more
6 unified opinions with the -- the reframed
7 initiative. You know, I -- given that
8 background and that -- that both you and I, Mr.
9 Chairman, were not on the board back in
10 February, you know, I'd be comfortable taking it
11 under advisement and discussing a little bit
12 further to make sure we understand, you know,
13 the language and the concerns a little better.
14 But I -- you know, I'm also ready to rule today
15 if that's the -- if that's -- that's what the
16 majority requires here.

17 CHAIR MCCARTHY: If Ms. Greenfield is
18 okay with that, I think based on the fact that
19 at least two of us then have some questions,
20 perhaps we would be well served to take it under
21 advisement and consult with the general counsel
22 and act on this at a subsequent gathering, if

1 Ms. Greenfield's okay with that as well.

2 MEMBER GREENFIELD: Yeah. Yeah, I'm
3 okay with the whatever the majority decides.
4 Yeah, I was at the February meeting, so I do
5 remember the initial language and our concerns
6 with it and -- and -- and whether we thought it
7 was legislative or not. And they have made some
8 corrections here, but if we need to have further
9 discussion, I am -- I am okay with that. So, I
10 just want to make sure that we understand and --
11 and -- and --

12 CHAIR MCCARTHY: I -- I hope the
13 general counsel can take it as a positive that
14 there are new board members who are thinking and
15 -- and have questions and that to be perceived
16 as just our own thoroughness and we'd like to
17 come back and discuss it more.

18 MS. STROUD: Absolutely. So, in light
19 of that this is how we will proceed. At the end
20 of the meeting, we will take a roll call vote to
21 enter into closed session to discuss the matter,
22 deliberate on the matter and provide counsel.

1 And so, we will close this meeting by -- by the
2 board being in executive session. And once we
3 do that when meeting, we will only be discussing
4 this matter, which is the consideration of the
5 whether or not the measure presented today
6 presents a proper subject for initiative in the
7 District of Columbia. So, we will do that at
8 the end of the meeting in accordance with the
9 rules of the Open Meetings Act. But for now, we
10 will note that the board is taking it under
11 advisement for that purpose. So that's what
12 we're doing.

13 CHAIR MCCARTHY: Thank you.

14 MS. STROUD: No problem. The next item
15 on my agenda is litigation status. The first
16 matter is Stacia Hall versus the Board, that's
17 in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the DC Circuit.

18 This is a remand from an appeal where a June
19 20, 2025, DC Circuit reversal of the U.S.
20 District Court's denial on the basis of standing
21 of a challenge to legislation allowing non-
22 citizens to vote in local elections. We are

1 awaiting the court's decision.

2 The next matter is the U.S. Department
3 of Justice versus Monica Evans, et al. This is
4 an action by the DOJ, Department of Justice to
5 obtain -- and this is in the U.S. District
6 Court. This is an action by the Department of
7 Justice to obtain from the board confidential
8 personal identifying information from -- on DC
9 voters. On August 6th, the court dismissed the
10 matter. The basis for the decision was that
11 Title III does not authorize the attorney
12 general to compel the board to produce this
13 voter registration list. So that was the basis
14 for the court's decision.

15 CHAIR MCCARTHY: When you say attorney
16 general, I'm assuming you mean the -- the
17 federal attorney general?

18 MS. STROUD: Yes, that's correct. Yes.
19 Uh-huh. The next matter is the U.S. Department
20 of Justice versus Monica Evans, et al. This is
21 in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the DC Circuit.
22 This is an appeal from the order rendered in

1 the previous matter that was filed on August
2 17th.

3 The next matter is John Guggenmos
4 versus the Board. This is an appeal filed on
5 June 26th from the DC Superior Court's June
6 25th, 2026 order granting summary judgment in
7 favor of the board in a matter involving a
8 challenge to the board's decision that
9 initiative measure number 87, the DC Living Wage
10 for All Amendment Act of 2026 met proper subject
11 requirements and its adoption of the board's
12 formulations for that measure. And we are
13 awaiting a briefing order from the court. And
14 that's in the DC Court of Appeals.

15 The next matter is Talib Muhammad
16 versus the board. This is in DC Superior Court.

17 This matter concerns a complaint and a request
18 for a TRO directing -- temporary restraining
19 order directing the board to accept the
20 plaintiff's general election nominating
21 petition. The board filed an opposition to the
22 TRO request in opposed discovery. The court

1 heard argument on August 27th and ruled from the
2 bench that it would not compel the production of
3 documents from the board and indicated that the
4 court would issue an oral ruling on September
5 1st. On September 1st, the court denied the
6 plaintiff's request for injunctive relief. An
7 initial scheduling conference regarding the
8 complaint is set for November 20th.

9 And Mr. Wakefield, if you could leave
10 the meeting as I'm about to --

11 MEMBER WAKEFIELD: No worries. Yep,
12 just let me know when it's safe to return.
13 Thank you.

14 MS. STROUD: Will do. Thank you. The
15 next item on my agenda on -- in the litigation
16 status is James Douglass versus the Board.
17 That's in DC Superior Court. This is a
18 challenge to the board's decision that
19 initiative measure number 88, the Rent Control
20 and Housing Eligibility Adjustment Amendment Act
21 of 2026 met proper subject requirements and its
22 adoption of that measure's formulations.

1 Pursuant to a briefing schedule issued by the
2 court on July 9th, 2026, dispositive motions
3 were filed by -- were filed on July 15th,
4 oppositions were filed on July 31st, and replies
5 to those oppositions were filed on August 7th.
6 The court has set an initial status hearing for
7 October 9th, and that concludes my report.

8 CHAIR MCCARTHY: Thank you. And you'll
9 -- we'll let Mr. Wakefield know.

10 MS. STROUD: Yeah.

11 CHAIR MCCARTHY: Okay, great. Thank
12 you. All right. If there's nothing else from
13 my colleagues, we'll go on from Ms. Collier
14 Montgomery on the campaign finance report,
15 please.

16 MS. COLLIER-MONTGOMERY: Yes. Good
17 morning.

18 CHAIR MCCARTHY: Good morning.

19 MS. COLLIER-MONTGOMERY: For the
20 record, the full report of the Office of
21 Campaign Finance will be posted at our website,
22 ocf.dc.gov before the close of business today.

1 I will have, at this time, highlight a few items
2 of interest for members of the public.

3 First, on August the 26th, 2026, I also
4 presented testimony before the public round
5 table of the committee on executive
6 administration and labor of the Council on the
7 readiness of the Office of Campaign Finance for
8 the 2026 election cycle relative to the status
9 of the certification of candidates in the Fair
10 Elections Program, payouts from and the balance
11 of the Fair Elections Fund, and the debates for
12 the November the 3rd, 2026 general election.

13 The 2026 election debates. The Office
14 of Campaign Finance will conduct debates in the
15 contested citywide races for the offices of
16 mayor of the District of Columbia and the at-
17 large member of the Council on Monday, September
18 the 21st, 2026 and Tuesday, September 22nd,
19 2026. This offices are scheduled for election
20 during the November the 3rd general election in
21 the District of Columbia. All candidates
22 certified to participate in the Fair Elections

1 Program who are in contested citywide elections
2 must participate in the debates. Any candidates
3 in the traditional campaign finance program who
4 have qualified for ballot access are invited to
5 participate. Where there is no FEP-
6 participating candidate in a race or willing
7 non-participating candidate, the mandatory
8 debate requirement is waived.

9 To date in the Fair Elections Program,
10 there is one certified participating candidate
11 who is seeking the office of the Mayor of the
12 District of Columbia, one certified
13 participating candidate seeking the Office of
14 the Attorney General, and two certified
15 participating candidates seeking the Office of
16 At-Large Member of the Council. There were no
17 candidates certified to participate in the Fair
18 Elections Program for the office of the chairman
19 of the Council.

20 In the traditional campaign finance
21 program, there is one candidate who gained
22 ballot access through the June 2026 primary

1 election in the November the 3rd, 2026 general
2 election for the Office of Mayor, one candidate
3 who gained ballot access through the June 2026
4 primary election in the November the 3rd general
5 elections for the Office of Attorney General.

6 However, I would point out that that candidate
7 has declined to participate in the debate, thus
8 the debate for Attorney General will not be
9 held, and two candidates who gained ballot
10 access through the June 2026 primary election in
11 the November 3rd general election for the Office
12 of At-Large Member of the Council and four
13 candidates who have qualified for ballot access
14 through the nominating petition process for the
15 November the 3rd general election.

16 Information on the debate is
17 forthcoming -- forthcoming and will be available
18 at our website. And also, at the dcdebates.com
19 website, including the scheduled date, time,
20 participants and the registration process for
21 the public to attend virtually and participate
22 in the debates through the submission of

1 questions. The OCF sponsored debates will be
2 conducted using a virtual platform.

3 During the month of August, the Office
4 of Campaign Finance also participated in five
5 online training and community outreach events
6 across the District, sharing valuable insights
7 about the campaign finance programs with the
8 attendees. In our audit and compliance division
9 in the Fair Elections Program, I would state for
10 the record that with respect to the 2026
11 election cycle, as of this date, there are 25
12 candidates who are certified to participate in
13 the Fair Election Program. 20 candidates in the
14 June 2026 primary election and five candidates
15 in the November the 2026 general election. The
16 Office of Campaign Finance has authorized the
17 disbursement of the total sum of \$10,537,877.13
18 from the Fair Elections Fund and base amount and
19 matching payments to the certified candidates.

20 Again, in the 2026 special election
21 cycle for member of the council at large, there
22 were three certified participating candidates in

1 the program during the special election cycle,
2 and the Office of Campaign Finance has
3 authorized the disbursement of the total sum of
4 \$457,686.35 from the Fair Elections Fund in face
5 amount and matching funds. As of this date in
6 the Fair Elections Program two new candidates
7 were certified during the month of August, and
8 also there were 14 disbursements which were
9 authorized of public funds to candidates who are
10 certified in the fund.

11 With respect to the candidates who were
12 certified during the month of August, the first
13 one was John Alfuth for Ward 5 State Board of
14 Education Principal Campaign Committee. The
15 candidate Jonathan Richard Alfuth was certified
16 as participating candidate in the Fair Election
17 Program on August the 18th, 2026 for the Office
18 of Ward 5 member of the State Board of Education
19 in the November the 3rd, 2026 general election.

20 The first base amount payment of \$5,000 and
21 matching payment of \$12,950 were authorized for
22 disbursement on August the 18th to the John

1 Alfuth Award 5 committee State Board of
2 Education Principal Campaign Committee.

3 The second candidate who was certified
4 was the --- together with Wiley Principal
5 Campaign Committee, the candidate Joshua Wiley
6 was certified as participating candidate in the
7 Fair Election Program on August the 18th, 2026
8 for the Office of Ward 6 member of the State
9 Board of Education in the November the 3rd
10 general election. The first base amount payment
11 of \$5,000 and matching payment of \$5,600 were
12 authorized for disbursement on August the 18th
13 to the Together with Wiley Principal Campaign
14 Committee. The Fair Elections Division also
15 reviewed 89 reports of receipts and expenditures
16 which were filed during the month on the August
17 the 10th following deadline, and as a result of
18 those reviews issued 28 requests for additional
19 information.

20 With respect to the status of the
21 ongoing 2020, 2022, 2024, and 2025 post-election
22 full field audits, they are listed in our

1 report. There were no audits which were issued
2 during the month of August 2026. In the
3 traditional campaign finance program during the
4 month of August, there were 97 desk reviews of
5 financial reports which were filed in the
6 division. And I would also indicate that the
7 division issued 17 requests for additional
8 information as a result of the reviews of those
9 financial reports.

10 In the Public Information and Records
11 Management Division during the month August,
12 there was one report date during the month of
13 July 2026 for the filing of the reports of
14 receipts and expenditures on July 31st, 2026 by
15 the inactive political committees for which the
16 stats for those reports were not available at
17 our last meeting but are now available in the
18 OCF report.

19 In addition, August the 10th was the
20 deadline for the filing of the reports of
21 receipts and expenditures by the committees that
22 are active during the 2026 election cycle in

1 both the traditional finance and the Fair
2 Elections Program, including the political
3 action committees and the independent
4 expenditure committee. The reports which were
5 filed are available at our website for review by
6 members of the public. Our OCF report provides
7 the status of the financial reports which were
8 due on that date.

9 For the candidates and committees
10 participating in the 2026 election cycle and the
11 traditional campaign finance program, a total of
12 185 candidates registered with the Office of
13 Campaign Finance to -- to date, and of that
14 number, 157 of those candidates are active.
15 During the month of August, the following new
16 registrations occurred for the November the 3rd,
17 2026 general election, for the Office of At-
18 Large Member of the Council, the candidate Asar
19 Mustafa registered on August the 20th. For the
20 Office of Council Chairperson, the candidate
21 Abi-Ananiah Prudent registered on August the
22 6th, 2026.

1 In the Fair Elections Program, there
2 are currently 67 candidates who registered with
3 the office and 40 of those candidates are
4 active. With respect to new candidates who
5 registered during the month of August in the
6 Fair Elections Program, for the Office of State
7 Board of Education Member Ward 6, the candidate
8 Amber Williams registered on August the 3rd,
9 2026.

10 The division referred 21 committees to
11 the OCF Office of the General Council for the
12 failure to timely file the July 31st report of
13 receipts and expenditures and 29 committees for
14 the failure to file the August the 10th, 2026
15 report of receipts and expenditures. And the
16 names of those committees and candidates are
17 listed in our report, which will be posted at
18 the website.

19 There are also eight candidates and
20 treasurers who completed the OCF entrance
21 conference during August 2026, and their names
22 are also listed in the OCF report. I would now

1 ask our general counsel, William SanFord to
2 provide the report of the general counsel.

3 CHAIR MCCARTHY: I -- I -- I have a
4 question.

5 MS. COLLIER-MONTGOMERY: Please.

6 CHAIR MCCARTHY: How many disbursement
7 requests are currently in process or
8 outstanding?

9 MS. COLLIER-MONTGOMERY: What?

10 CHAIR MCCARTHY: How many disbursement
11 requests under the Fair Elections Matching Act
12 are currently in process or otherwise
13 outstanding or in under review by your office?

14 MS. COLLIER-MONTGOMERY: Okay, so,
15 during the month of August?

16 CHAIR MCCARTHY: Now, today.

17 MS. COLLIER-MONTGOMERY: Oh, today?
18 Today, I think we have two candidates who may
19 possibly be certified for the November 3rd
20 election as a result of the August 10th file.

21 CHAIR MCCARTHY: Well, I meant -- I
22 mean, perhaps existing, including candidates who

1 were certified before, but just putting in their
2 cyclical reimbursements.

3 MS. COLLIER-MONTGOMERY: Okay. So, for
4 example all in all, with respect to the primary,
5 we had 20 candidates who were certified, and
6 with respect to those candidates, with the
7 candidates who are unsuccessful in the primary,
8 they would be required to remit any --

9 CHAIR MCCARTHY: I guess, I'm -- I'm
10 trying to get how many requests for disbursement
11 are currently under review?

12 MS. COLLIER-MONTGOMERY: Well, I think
13 at this point, we have completed all of the
14 requests that we received --

15 CHAIR MCCARTHY: Okay.

16 MS. COLLIER-MONTGOMERY: -- as a result
17 of the August the 10th filing, because by
18 statute we have five days, five business days
19 within which to complete a review of requests
20 for matching payments that are submitted with
21 our reports to received and expenditures for
22 newly candidates who are seeking to come into

1 the program, we have 10 days, 10 business days -
2 -

3 CHAIR MCCARTHY: Right.

4 MS. COLLIER-MONTGOMERY: -- to process
5 their request for matching funds. So, with each
6 report, and by statute, we have perhaps maybe 15
7 report dates during --

8 CHAIR MCCARTHY: Right.

9 MS. COLLIER-MONTGOMERY: -- a calendar
10 year, and so with each report, there is a
11 potential for requests for matching funds.

12 CHAIR MCCARTHY: And all -- all those
13 disbursements and reviews by your office are
14 occurring according to that -- those timetables
15 of a certain number of days after submission
16 then?

17 MS. COLLIER-MONTGOMERY: Yes.

18 CHAIR MCCARTHY: And they're all
19 compliant. Okay, thank you.

20 MS. COLLIER-MONTGOMERY: Oh, yes,
21 definitely.

22 CHAIR MCCARTHY: Thank you.

1 MR. SANFORD: Good morning, Mr.
2 Chairman, and distinguished board members,
3 Greenfield and Wakefield. During the month of
4 August 2026, the Office of the General Council
5 received 49 referrals. The referrals which were
6 received during that month included 20 referrals
7 for failure to timely file the July 31st report
8 of receipts and expenditures. The reminder
9 notices to file those -- that report was issued
10 on the 10th of August, and later on, an
11 extension was granted until August 22nd to file
12 the report, and it was still not filed by the
13 due date.

14 In addition, the office made referrals.
15 Received -- the Office of General Counsel
16 received 29 referrals for failure to timely file
17 reports of receipts and expenditures on the July
18 10th required filing date. To explain the
19 difference, the July 31st -- I'm sorry, the
20 August. July 31st filing date is for continuing
21 committees, and the August 10th required filing
22 date is for those active committees during the

1 2026 elective election cycle.

2 In addition, the Office of the General
3 Council completed 15 informal hearings and
4 issued 15 orders, which included the following.

5 Four orders were issued in which a total of
6 \$10,000 in fines were imposed, and 11 orders
7 were issued in which no fines were imposed.

8 During the month of August 2026, the Office of
9 Campaign Finance imposed fines against the
10 following respondents. A fine of \$4,000 was
11 imposed against the Neighborhoods DC Action
12 Fund. A fine of \$2,000 was imposed against the
13 Campaign Committee of Randy Downs for Ward 2. A
14 fine of \$2,000 was imposed against the committee
15 to reelect Janeese Lewis George, and a fine of
16 \$2,000 was imposed against LaJoy for Ward 8.

17 During the month of August, there were
18 no new open investigations. The investigations
19 that remain pending, full investigation number
20 2026-006, that is failure to report expenditures
21 and campaign contribution reporting violations.

22 The respondent is a committee to elect Jakeline

1 Reyes-Yanes and that order, that matter is still
2 pending because the revocation of the
3 certification of this fair election committee is
4 being appealed for a hearing de novo before the
5 board of elections.

6 Second matter is full investigation
7 2026-007. The respondents include the Principal
8 Campaign Committee of Janeese Lewis George and
9 Safe and Affordable DC Independent Expenditure
10 Committee. The allegation was improper
11 coordination. An order was issued on June 12th
12 and a request for a hearing de novo in this
13 matter remains pending before the board of
14 election.

15 Two remaining matters include LCF full
16 investigation 2026-008. An order was issued to
17 show cause and cease and desist on May 11th,
18 2026. That remains pending throughout the
19 duration of the --

20 CHAIR MCCARTHY: Mr. Sanford, could --
21 could you please elaborate on the Safe and
22 Affordable DC and the Principal Campaign

1 Committee for Janeese Lewis George case? You
2 say pending -- remains pending before the board,
3 so.

4 MR. SANFORD: They -- they have
5 appealed. The Office of Campaign Finance issued
6 an order imposing fines and finding there were
7 violations of the statute by the Janeese Lewis
8 George Principal Campaign Committee, as well as
9 the Safe and Affordable Independent Expenditure
10 Committee.

11 MS. STROUD: And I can speak to that.
12 We, the Office of the General Counsel has
13 scheduled pre-hearing conferences in these
14 matters.

15 CHAIR MCCARTHY: That's a pending
16 review with -- is -- is -- is that action?

17 MS. STROUD: We have scheduled pre-
18 hearing conferences in, in both of those
19 matters. Uh-huh.

20 MR. SANFORD: Did you need any --

21 CHAIR MCCARTHY: No, thank you.

22 MR. SANFORD: -- additional

1 information? And the final matter is OCF, full
2 investigation 2026-009, and that the respondent
3 is the United Research Council. The allegation
4 was failure to identify political advertising
5 and failure to report an independent expenditure
6 order to show cause. Cease and desist was
7 issued on May 13th, 2026, and matter remains in
8 force.

9 During the month of August 2026, there
10 were no requests for interpretive opinions, no
11 show cause proceedings were conducted, and that
12 should conclude my report.

13 CHAIR MCCARTHY: Thank you. All right,
14 if there are not any questions, I guess that
15 concludes your Office of Campaign Finance
16 report?

17 MS. STROUD: Yes.

18 CHAIR MCCARTHY: Okay.

19 MS. STROUD: Uh-huh.

20 CHAIR MCCARTHY: Okay, thank you both
21 very much. No other questions from my
22 colleagues. I guess we'll go on to public

1 comments if there are any. While -- while we're
2 -- while we're waiting for that, I -- I should
3 have -- I -- I was remiss that I did actually
4 have a board matter that I wanted to raise. I
5 think it's appropriate to note that since we
6 last met Board Member Wakefield had a momentous
7 event in his family. He and his wife welcomed
8 their first child, who we could also count as a
9 future registered voter here in the District.
10 So, congratulations to Mr. Wakefield, and we
11 assume mother and child are -- are -- are doing
12 well?

13 MEMBER WAKEFIELD: They are, and thank
14 you. And that's -- that's why I'm not with you
15 in person there today. My -- I'm sitting in
16 what used to be my home office, now a nursery,
17 and everybody's happy and healthy, so no, I
18 appreciate -- appreciate the mention.

19 CHAIR MCCARTHY: How are you doing?

20 MEMBER WAKEFIELD: How am I doing? I'm
21 -- I'm doing okay as well.

22 CHAIR MCCARTHY: Okay, good. Well,

1 congratulations to you both.

2 MEMBER WAKEFIELD: Yeah, thank you.

3 CHAIR MCCARTHY: Okay. Any public
4 input for today?

5 MS. STROUD: No hands.

6 CHAIR MCCARTHY: Okay. All right.
7 Well, we'll be here again in a month. The DC
8 equal --

9 MS. STROUD: Well, actually, Mr.
10 Sarter's raised his hand now, so we see that.

11 CHAIR MCCARTHY: Oh, oh, okay.

12 MS. STROUD: Okay. Yeah.

13 MR. SARTER: Thank you. I guess if I
14 could just ask a last question. I was just a
15 little curious about, I guess, the -- so I guess
16 the -- I guess one of the questions was shall
17 versus may and I was just a little curious about
18 in what ways they conflict with each other in --
19 in the context of the text.

20 CHAIR MCCARTHY: Well, I guess that's
21 what we'll discuss perhaps.

22 MR. SARTER: Got you. Okay. Okay.

1 All right. Thank you. Thank you.

2 CHAIR MCCARTHY: Yeah.

3 MS. STROUD: Okay. So, I think now,
4 since we have determined that there are no
5 members who -- of the public who would like to
6 comment, I think it's appropriate for the board
7 now to consider a motion to enter into closed
8 executive session. Is there one? And the
9 purpose would be to consult with the general
10 counsel and deliberate on a quasi-judicial
11 decision pursuant to DC Official Code Sections
12 2-575(b)(4)(a) and 2-575(b)(13).

13 CHAIR MCCARTHY: All right. And
14 there's a motion on the floor. Is there --

15 MS. STROUD: Well, the -- you -- one of
16 the board members have to make the motion
17 accordingly.

18 CHAIR MCCARTHY: Right. There's a -- a
19 motion proposed. Would someone like to move it?

20 MEMBER GREENFIELD: Yes. I'll vote --
21 I'll so -- I so move.

22 CHAIR MCCARTHY: Okay. How about a

1 second -- second?

2 MEMBER WAKEFIELD: And I second.

3 CHAIR MCCARTHY: Aye. All those in
4 favor?

5 MS. STROUD: Okay. Well, yeah -- the -
6 - the motion has been made and seconded. And
7 before the board votes, we determine the exact
8 statutory reasons for closing the session. No
9 other matters will be discussed during the
10 executive session, and I will now call the roll
11 for the vote. Chair McCarthy?

12 CHAIR MCCARTHY: Aye.

13 MS. STROUD: Member Greenfield?

14 MEMBER GREENFIELD: Aye.

15 MS. STROUD: Member Wakefield?

16 MEMBER WAKEFIELD: Aye.

17 MS. STROUD: Okay. So the motion to
18 enter into closed session passes unanimously.
19 And as we are at the end of the meeting, the
20 public portion of this meeting is now recessed,
21 and the board will move into executive session.
22 As required by law, a copy of this roll call

1 vote and the statutory closure statement will be
2 made available to the public in writing as well
3 as posted online. And the board is currently in
4 executive session, but the meeting is able to be
5 re-adjourned.

6 (Whereupon, the above-entitled matter
7 went off the record at 11:39 a.m.)
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C E R T I F I C A T E

This is to certify that the foregoing transcript was duly recorded and accurately transcribed under my direction; further, that said transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings; and that I am neither counsel for, related to, nor employed by any of the parties to this action in which this matter was taken; and further that I am not a relative nor an employee of any of the parties nor counsel employed by the parties, and I am not financially or otherwise interested in the outcome of the action.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Shresta Belede', is written over a horizontal line.

Shresta Belede

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