

Andrew Saturn reported via email Wed, 17 July 2019 at 5:10PM
to: "PDC Support" <pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov>

Subject: re: 53838 response (clarification of my complaint and intention)

Description:

Ms. Meyers, Linda Oosterman's campaign manager from 2018, responded to my complaint at an unknown date (the file says "3 days ago" with no reference to a fixed time).

I am concerned that the PDC may have confused Ms. Meyers with the way the complaint is categorized (it mentions "using public facilities"). Ms. Meyers seems to think "facilities" means a building only, and that my complaint is not valid because Linda Oosterman misused PUD funds to attend an event at Hotel RL, not at the PUD offices in Lacey.

My complaint is that the Thurston PUD paid for Linda Oosterman's attendance at various Chamber of Commerce events, regardless of being held in non-government buildings. This is a misuse of PUD funds ("facilities"), as Linda Oosterman's attendance at these events was purely political, and she was not there on PUD business.

Ms. Meyers seems to admit that Linda Oosterman's attendance at one event was suspect since Linda Oosterman has recently paid back her attendance fee for one event (she does not mention which one, nor provide any evidence of the repayment). Committing the violation and then paying it back only after you're caught does not mean the violation didn't occur.

Ms. Meyers' claim that Linda Oosterman appearing at the October 2018 candidates forum (held at Hotel RL) and introducing herself is part of her PUD Commissioner duties. **The introduction segment was specifically for candidates to introduce themselves to voters. Only candidates were invited to speak. This was a political event for candidates. Linda Oosterman was there as a candidate, promoting her campaign.**

This aside, the events were still of no value to the PUD, and Linda Oosterman had no reason for the PUD to pay for her attendance at them. I have no idea why public agencies believe they're required to attend meetings of private clubs, and that paying the membership dues or entrance fees is a valid expense and use of tax dollars.

Ms. Meyers' response, in context clarified within this note and the evidence I provided in my original complaint (including the campaign literature Linda Oosterman distributed at the October 2018 event), should be all the PDC needs to determine that my complaint is completely valid and that Linda Oosterman's use of PUD funds to cover her attendance at Chamber of Commerce events, completely obvious violations of RCW 42.17A.555.

Thanks,

Andrew Saturn