



State of Washington
PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

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March 19, 2025

Sent electronically to Conner Edwards at cg.edwards53@gmail.com

Subject: Complaints regarding Citizens for Support of Yelm Community Schools, PDC Cases 158177 & 166572

Dear Mr. Edwards:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its review of the complaints you filed on May 12, 2024 and February 6, 2025. Your complaint alleged that the Citizens for Support of Yelm Community Schools, a single year election education levy/bond committee participating in the April 2024 and February 2025 Special Elections, may have violated RCW 42.17A.235 and .240 for failure to timely and accurately file contribution (C-3) and expenditure (C-4) reports and RCW 42.17A.205 for failure to update the Committee Registration (C-1pc report), as required by law.

To determine whether a formal investigation or enforcement action is warranted, PDC staff reviewed the allegations listed in the complaint; the applicable statutes and rule(s); the August 15, 2024 and February 10, 2025 responses provided by Gina Coopridge, Treasurer; the applicable PDC reports filed by Citizens for Support of Yelm Schools (Committee); and other relevant information, to determine whether the record supports a finding of one or more violations.

Based on the staff's review, we found the following:

- The Committee failed to file a current Committee Registration (C-1pc) for the 2024 special election. The last C-1pc filed by the Committee was in 2019, for the February Special election.
- Staff noted that the Committee failed to file statutory reports of contributions and expenditures in the 2024 April Special Election, including the 7-Day pre-election and 21-Day pre-election (C-4) reports. These reports were due no later than April 2, 2024 and April 16, 2024, respectively, and were filed 219 days and 210 days late on November 7, 2024 and November 12, 2024, respectively.
- Staff also noted that the Committee failed to timely file a Post-Election C-4 report. This report was due no later than May 10, 2024, and was filed 186 days late/after the deadline on November 12, 2024.

- Additionally, the Committee was also required to file timely and accurate weekly C-3 reports, each Monday, for deposits made during the previous 7 days beginning December 4, 2023. Staff noted that the Committee received contribution on February 21, 2024, which was deposited on the same day, but a C-3 report was not filed until October 17, 2024, 263 days late.
- The Committee also failed to file a timely 7-Day pre-election C-4 report (covering January 21 – Feb 3, 2025) in the 2025 February Special Election. The Committee did not file its 7-Day pre-election C-4 report until February 11, 2025, 7 days after the February 4, 2025 deadline.
- On March 13, 2025, the PDC staff received an executed Statement of Understanding (SOU) signed and dated by the Committee's treasurer, Gina Coopridier, along with a \$300 electronic payment for the civil penalty payment. The signed SOU acknowledged violations of RCW 42.17A.235 and .240 for failure to timely and accurately file contributions (C-3 report) received and expenditures (C-4 report) undertaken by the Committee during the 2024 April and 2025 February Special Election cycles and RCW 42.17A.205 for failure to file an updated C-1pc.

Based on these findings, the staff has determined that, in this instance, the Committee's failure to timely file the statutory C-3 and C-4 reports during the 2024 April and 2025 February Special Election cycles, including an updated C-1pc in the April 2024 special election, does not amount to a violation warranting further investigation.

The Committee acknowledged the violations and took responsibility by filing the missing reports. The Committee also completed a SOU and paid a \$300 civil penalty.

Accordingly, the PDC finds that no further action is warranted and has dismissed this matter in accordance with RCW 42.17A.755(1).

If you have questions, you may contact Erick Agina, Compliance Officer at (360) 586-2869, toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by e-mail at pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

Endorsed by:

s/_____
Erick O. Agina, Compliance Officer

s/_____
Peter Frey Lavalley, Executive Director

cc: Citizens for Support of Yelm Schools