

Minutes
Kansas Public Disclosure Commission
901 S. Kansas Ave., Topeka, KS 66612
January 28, 2026
1:00 p.m.

Members' Present

Nick Hale- Virtual
Tess Ramirez- Virtual
Jerome Hellmer- In person
Beau Jackson- Virtual
Earl Glynn- In person
Samuel Klaasen- Virtual
Jaiden Soupene- Virtual
Jerry Wallentine- Virtual
Debra Billingsley- In person

Staff Present

Olivia Zacker- Office Manager
Jennifer Schneider, Acting Executive Director
Joseph Behzadi, Attorney General Office- In person
Jesse Burris, Attorney General Office- In person

The meeting of the Kansas Public Disclosure Commission was called to order at 1:02 p.m. by Chairman Hale.

Approval of Agenda & Minutes

Chairman Hale changed the current agenda to have two Executive Sessions. Chairman Hale asked for any other changes on agenda or for November 19th, 2025, meeting minutes. Commissioner Klaassen made a motion to approve agenda and previous meeting minutes. Commissioner Soupene seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner report

Chairman Hale welcomed new commissioner Debra Billingsley, who took Commissioner Burger's place on the commission. All commissioners introduced themselves. Commissioner Jackson announced this is his last meeting as commissioner.

Chairman Hale noted Jenn Schneider has been acting Executive Director since December 14th following Mr. Wiebe leaving Kansas Public Disclosure on December 9th, 2025, and asked for the Commission to ratify her appointment.

Commissioner Hellmer read the motion, "I move that the Commission ratify the appointment of Ms. Jenn Schneider as Acting Executive Director with service to continue until such time as a permanent Executive Director begins employment. Commissioner Klaassen second. Motion passed.

Executive session

provided on the agenda and here, in the meeting room at 901 S. Kansas Ave., Topeka, KS 66612."

Seconded, by commissioner Klaassen. Commission moved into executive session.

Commission meeting opened up to public at 1:45pm.

Staffing Update

Ms. Schneider introduced Cailyn Crosby former Auditor/ SSI coordinator as the new State Campaign Finance Supervisor following Karina Renna's retirement and welcomed Tara Kaberline as the new Auditor/ SSI coordinator coming from Secretary of State office.

Civil Penalty Assessments

Candidates and Treasurers

Julie Lyon, County Commissioner	Celisha Towers, Sheriff	Daniel Garrett, City Council
Jolie Lippitt, City Council	Travis Hitt, City Commissioner	Victoria Garrett, Treasurer for Daniel Garrett
Ken Rahjes, State Representative	Denis Miller, Treasurer for Ken Rahjes	Jordan Metcalf, Candidate for State Representative
Don Pyle, Treasurer for Jordan Metcalf		

Chairman Hale asked for commissioners to look over assessments.

Waiver Requests

- Colton Gibson
- Veronica Gillette

Commissioner Hale talked about the Colton Gibson medical waiver and Veronica Gillette Financial hardship waiver. Staff and commissioners waived both. Motion made by Commissioner Hellmer and seconded by Commissioner Glynn.

Civil Fine Hearings

- Complaint No. 791 – Richard Ramos, Treasurer
Firefighters Club 83 – Stay requested
- Complaint No. 794 – Carolyn Marie Fugit, Treasurer
Kansas 4th Congressional District Democratic Party Committee – Stay requested

Civil fine hearings are still requested, but reports have been filed.

STATUS OF FILINGS FOR JANUARY 10, 2026
RECEIPTS & EXPENDITURES REPORTS

CANDIDATES	Number Required to File	Past Due Notices sent out	Number of Failure to File Notices Sent	Number of Reports Outstanding
2024 State Candidates	82		1	1
2022 State Candidates	153		7	7
2020, 2018, 2016 Carryover Candidates	181		5	5
2014, 2012, 2010 Carryover Candidates	24		2	2
2008, 2006, 2004 Carryover Candidates	7		0	0
2002, 1994, 1992 Carryover Candidates	4		0	0
2025 City Candidates	146	12	9	4
County Carryover Candidates	24	2	1	1
2026 County Candidates	4	0	0	0
2024 County Candidates	88	5	4	3
City Carryover Candidates	92	9	3	1
TOTAL CANDIDATES	805	28	32	24
PARTY COMMITTEES				
State Party Committees	5	0	0	0
Recognized Party Committees	4	0	0	0
Democratic County Central Committees	65	8	6	4
Republican County Central Committees	99	9	3	3
Congressional District Committees	8	0	0	0
TOTAL PARTY COMMITTEES	181	17	9	7
POLITICAL COMMITTEES				
General	215	16	8	9
Democratic Women's Clubs	7	2	2	2
Republican Women's Clubs	5	1	1	1
TOTAL POLITICAL COMMITTEES	227	19	11	12

**KANSAS PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION
WAIVER REQUEST FORM**

Instructions

To be considered for a waiver request, this form and supplemental documentation must be completed and submitted within thirty (30) days of the assessment order pursuant to K.A.R. 19-4a-1. THIS FORM IS A PUBLIC DOCUMENT AND WILL BE INCLUDED IN PUBLIC MEETING MATERIALS. ANY PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION WILL BE REDACTED TO THE FULLEST EXTENT ALLOWED BY LAW, PURSUANT TO K.S.A. 45-215 THROUGH K.S.A. 45-223. The intentional filing of false information on this form is a class A misdemeanor. **NOTE:** The following reasons ARE NOT sufficient:

- No activity during the reporting period.
- Previous compliance or being a first-time filer.
- No longer with the committee, campaign, or organization.
- Loss of primary or withdrawal of candidacy.

Name Allison Mazzei	Position Former President, KAB
Associated Organization, Office Sought, or Lobbying Client(s) Kansas Association of Broadcasters	

Please select the appropriate form or report.

- Appointment of Treasurer (Candidate or Candidate Committee)
- Statement of Organization (Political Action or Party Committee)
- Receipts & Expenditures Report (Candidate or Committee)
- Employment & Expenditures Report (Lobbyist)
- Registration (Political Action Committee or Lobbyist)
- Statement of Substantial Interests (Public Officials)

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
Report Due
Failure to File Notice Sent
Report Received
Date Assessed
Amount Assessed

Please select all that apply and provide an accompanying explanation in the space provided.

Categories of Good Cause	Supplemental Documentation Examples
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Medical Circumstances</u> of a person essential to filing or their immediate family member that caused the delay in filing.	Doctor's statement with date(s), hospital bills, police incident report, death certificate/obituary, etc.
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Financial Hardship</u> - the assessed civil penalty creates an undue financial burden.	The financial hardship declaration <u>must</u> be completed.
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Natural Disaster or Theft</u> making timely filing impossible due to the unavailability of records.	Police incident, fire, or insurance report(s) with dates provided and the details of the loss or damage.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Other Unique Circumstances</u> not previously mentioned that did not arise from the filer's delay or negligence.	Any documentation that will substantiate the reason as to why the filing was delayed.

Complaint No. 791 - Mark Skoglund v. Richard Ramos
Complaint Record

Page numbers corresponding with the table of contents are indicated in the bottom right corner

September 23, 2024 – Complaint	2
October 9, 2024 – Complainant’s Memorandum in Support of a Finding of Probable Cause	6
Nature of the Matter Before the Commission.....	6
Statement of Facts	6
Applicable Burden of Proof	7
Legal Argument	8
Conclusion	8
Exhibit 1 – PAC’s Statement of Organization	11
Exhibit 2 – Affidavit of Denise Davis.....	12
October 25, 2024 – Letter Regarding Continued Probable Cause Determination	14
December 3, 2024 – Notice of Public Hearing	15
January 8, 2025 – Amended Notice of Public Hearing.....	19
January 14, 2025 – Prehearing Conference Order	23
February 13, 2025 – Motion to Continue Hearing	26
March 14, 2025 – Letter Requesting Stay of Hearing	29

Complaint No. 794 - Mark Skoglund v. Carolyn Marie Fugit
Complaint Record

Page numbers corresponding with the table of contents are indicated in the bottom right corner

September 23, 2024 – Complaint	2
October 9, 2024 – Complainant’s Memorandum in Support of a Finding of Probable Cause	6
Nature of the Matter Before the Commission.....	6
Statement of Facts.....	7
Applicable Burden of Proof.....	8
Legal Argument	8
Conclusion	9
Exhibit 1 – PAC’s Statement of Organization	12
Exhibit 2 – Affidavit of Denise Davis.....	13
October 25, 2024 – Letter Regarding Continued Probable Cause Determination	15
December 11, 2024 – Notice of Public Hearing	16
December 11, 2024 – Order of Dismissal (Count 1).....	19
January 8, 2025 – Amended Notice of Public Hearing.....	21
February 13, 2025 – Motion to Continue Hearing.....	25
March 14, 2025 – Letter Requesting Stay of Hearing	28