May 28, 2024

Bobbie Ormonde Deputy General Manager – Finance & Administration Westlands Water District 286 W. Cromwell Avenue Fresno, CA 93711

Re: Your Request for Advice

Our File No. A-24-059

Dear Ms. Ormonde:

This letter responds to your request for advice on behalf of Broadview Water District regarding the campaign provisions of the Political Reform Act (the "Act"). 1

QUESTION

May the committees involved in the District's August 27, 2024, election combine the semi-annual statement with the first pre-election statement due July 18, 2024?

CONCLUSION

In connection with the August 27, 2024, election, committees may use a filing schedule that combines the semi-annual campaign statement with the first pre-election statement. The combined statement will be due on July 18, 2024, covering the period January 1, 2024, through July 13, 2024.

ANALYSIS

Candidates and committees are required to file two pre-election campaign statements during an election, disclosing contributions received and expenditures made in connection with that election. These statements are generally due 40 days before the election and again 12 days before the election (Section 84200.8). Semi-annual statements are due January 31 and July 31, respectively (Section 84200).

The Broadview Water District is holding a special election on August 27, 2024. The first semi-annual report for 2024, covering the period January 1 through June 30, is due on July 31, 2024. The first pre-election statement filed in connection with this election would then cover the period of July 1 through July 13. It would be due on July 18, 2024, before the deadline for the semi-

¹ The Political Reform Act is contained in Government Code Sections 81000 through 91014. All statutory references are to the Government Code, unless otherwise indicated. The regulations of the Fair Political Practices Commission are contained in Sections 18104 through 18998 of Title 2 of the California Code of Regulations. All regulatory references are to Title 2, Division 6 of the California Code of Regulations, unless otherwise indicated.

annual statement. The second pre-election statement is due on August 15, 2024, and covers the reporting period of July 14 through August 10.

There is a mechanism in the Act that permits combining statements when an overlapping reporting period occurs, or the filing of the semi-annual statement would be an additional, unnecessary filing to the two pre-election statements. (Section 84205.) Combining the first pre-election statement with the semi-annual statement would be appropriate for the District's August 27, 2024, election.

Accordingly, candidates and their controlled committees appearing on the August 27, 2024, ballot may combine the semi-annual statement with the first pre-election statement. The statement will cover the period of January 1 through July 13 and be due on July 18, 2024. A campaign statement filing schedule that outlines the due dates for filing statements is enclosed for your convenience.

If you have other questions on this matter, please contact me at (916) 322-5660.

Sincerely,

Dave Bainbridge General Counsel

By: Erika M. Boyd

Senior Counsel, Legal Division

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