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Commissioner Kosinski: Morning. I'd like to welcome everyone to the June 5, 2026 meeting of the State Board of Elections. I am Peter Kosinski. I'm joined today by Commissioners Henry Berger, Tony Casale, Essma Bagnuola. Today's meeting is to consider petitions that were filed at the Board for independent nominating candidates, and we have three petitions that the staff has deemed to be facially invalid, and those are in front of the Board today. We have a sheet that was provided to us by the staff, but I'd ask the staff to just go through the three petitions that were filed and the basis for which the staff made their recommendations.

Raymond Riley: Would you prefer to go over them?

Brian Quail: Doesn't matter.

Raymond Riley: All right. Sure, Commissioner. So we have three filings on the calendar for today. Two of them would fall under the prima facie calendar. One of them would be just defective, and I'll go into the details on those. The first is an independent petition for the 22nd Congressional District. The body was the People's Party and the candidate was Will Staton. Based on the prima facie review, the maximum number of potential signatures that they could have had was 3,400, and the requirement is a minimum of 3,500.

Commissioner Kosinski: So can you just explain how you came to that conclusion?

Raymond Riley: Sure. So the Board, when the petition comes in, checks certain details to see if they comport with the statute on its face. One of those things is a calculation that we do where we take the number of page numbers and we times it by the number of signatures on a page to see if the candidate could, on their face, have the potential to meet the signature requirements as provided in the statute. In this case, the candidate had 170 pages with 20 maximum possible signatures per page, which gets them to 3,400, and for Congress they need 3,500.

Kristen Zebrowski Stavisky: Commissioners, if I might add, also this is what we call the "weight test," and we do this for all candidates. So this is part of the prima facie review. We take the first page. We don't treat any candidates differently. So for the record, just so that everyone knows, this is how we calculate the possible signatures when those petitions come in. We do not count each signature.

Commissioner Kosinski: Okay. Thank you. So the next one is a ...

Raymond Riley: The next petition...

Commissioner Kosinski: ... is a petition for Governor, I believe.

Raymond Riley: Yes. Governor Larry Sharpe and Shannon Joy Bones, Governor and Lieutenant Governor, Coalition Party. The petition contained a maximum potential of 1,615 signatures. The statutory requirement was 45,000.

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Peter Kosinski: I'm sorry. And you did the same calculation for that petition?

Raymond Riley: We did the same calculation for that petition, and for all petitions that came to the Board.

Commissioner Kosinski: Okay.

Raymond Riley: But yes, we did the same calculation. It was 323 pages, five maximum possible signatures per page. So we got to 1,615.

Commissioner Kosinski: Okay.

Raymond Riley: And that would be the two items for the prima facie calendar. Following that, earlier this week, which would've been late, we got a document that is best described as purporting to be an independent nominating petition. The document contained no names of any actual candidates. It listed "None of the Above." It listed candidates for all statewide offices. If the document were to be considered a petition, it would be invalid on its face because it bears one signature in total where 45,000 were required. It was filed after the mandatory filing period, so it was late. It did not include a distribution schedule for statewide petitions. They are required to essentially provide a roadmap to how they got the minimum requirements in one half of the congressional districts as required by law for statewide independent nominating petitions. In addition to the 45,000, candidates need to provide at least 500 signatures in at least half of the congressional districts. That distribution schedule wasn't provided, and there were no acceptances filed because there were no candidates.

Commissioner Kosinski: Okay. Thank you. The recommendation of the staff on all three of those petitions is to invalidate. I would entertain a motion to accept the report of the staff and the recommendations.

Commissioner Berger: So moved.

Commissioner Casale: Second.

Commissioner Kosinski: I have a motion and second. Are there any questions? Hearing none, all in favor, aye.

Commissioner Bagnuola: Aye.

Commissioner Casale: Aye.

Commissioner Berger: Aye.

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Commissioner Kosinski: Aye. Opposed? That's carried unanimously. All three petitions are invalidated. Is there any other business to come before the board today? Hearing none, I would entertain a motion to adjourn.

Commissioner Berger: Move to adjourn.

Commissioner Kosinski: Second?

Commissioner Bagnuola: Second.

Commissioner Kosinski: All in favor, aye.

Commissioner Bagnuola: Aye.

Commissioner Casale: Aye.

Commissioner Berger: Aye.

Commissioner Kosinski: Aye. The meeting is adjourned. Thank you very much.

Kristen Zebrowski Stavisky: Thank you, Commissioners. Have a good day.

Commissioner Bagnuola: You too.