

April 8, 2004

William S. Wiquist, Campaign Finance Analyst
Reports Analysis Division
Federal Election Commission
999 E Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20463

Re: Montana Republican State Central Committee C00008086
Amended October Monthly Report (9/1/03 through 9/30/03)

Dear Mr. Wiquist:

This letter is in response to your letter of March 10, 2004 regarding questions on our report noted above.

Schedule B supporting Line 21(b) Payments

The payments for Telemarketing and Business Reply Postage are all related to fundraising. None of them were payments to promote, support, attack or oppose a clearly identified candidate for Federal office. Telemarketing payments in this period were all for fundraising calls. Payments to the business reply account were for postage on "postage will be paid by addressee" envelopes used by contributors to mail in contributions.

Salaries and Wages for Federal Election Activity

During the period of this report only Christopher Wilcox--\$452.24--spent more than 25% of his time on federal election activity. The report will be amended to report these wages as federal election activity. The other employees of the Montana Republican State Central Committee spent less than 25% of their time during the month on federal election activity. For the election in 2004, Montana does not have an open U.S. Senate seat. The State has one Congressional seat. The incumbent Republican Representative has filed for reelection. Thus, for 2003 federal election activity was minimal as recruiting of federal candidates from within the state was not needed.

H-4 Disbursement for Salary/Wages, Payroll Taxes and Convention Expenses

We were not aware until receipt of your letters that net salary/wages and payroll taxes on those wages should not be allocated in the manner shown. After reading the Code of Federal Regulations we agree with your conclusion. We will amend our report to show these items on Schedule B for line 21(b).

Joint activity expenditures made between July 11, 2003 and September 19, 2003 total

\$20,552.54. Of this amount, \$11,656.32 was applied to the August 6th transfer from the non-federal account leaving a balance of \$8,896.22 for the September 4, 2003 transfer of \$25,000. Thus, a transfer back to the non-federal account of \$16,103.78 will be required. As recommended by the Commission this will be done as soon as possible.

Schedule H4-Year to Date Totals

The Year to Date totals will, of course, change when the report is amended for salary/wage and payroll taxes discussed above. From our telephone conversation, we understand this will correct the problem.

If you have questions or need additional information, please advise.

Very truly yours,

ETEXT ATTACHMENT

Shirley J. Warehime
State Treasurer

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