

Dear PDC,

I appreciate this opportunity to explain who we are and why I believe that that complaint is invalid. Although I understand that today's hearing is not judiciary hearing do understand that this letter may become part of the public record on this complaint.

Citizens for Stanwood-Camano Schools was formed, I believe about 8 years ago, shortly before I became its Chair. I current hold physical records back to 2014.

Formed to be an advocate for students in our community our primary purposes is to function as a political action in the support of levies and bonds proposed by the Stanwood-Camano School District.

The committee has been made up over the years by various volunteers in the community. I have remained in a leadership role to provide continuity and institutional knowledge. I have never served as treasurer, instead relying on volunteers to take over that role.

Activities of the committee worked in ebbs and flows depending on the upcoming schedule of elections. The Stanwood-Camano School District published well in advance their schedule for levies and bond as part of their financial planning. This was disseminated regularly to the community.

As best we could we tried to file and maintain ourselves as an ongoing group rather than organizing and disbanding between elections. We thus tried to keep our corporate filing, in which we described ourselves as a PAC with the state current, and we tried to maintain our filings with the PDC.

Unfortunately, with volunteer groups sometimes things fall through the cracks. During the election for the Bond the treasurer at the time didn't complete the filings. When the file box was handed over to a new treasurer the instructions weren't given at PDC filings. Three treasurers down the road, with a two hiatus from in-person meetings led to gap I am immediately trying to remedy with my limited ability.

All accounting, including record of donations, deposits, and expenditures are intact and even available for outside review. I currently hold them in my possession. I am trying to start today to upload into the ORCA system.

My tardiness has been nothing more than my procrastination to sit down and do the work.

I maintain that we have always identified ourselves as Political Action Committee and past documentation supports that. We need to bring our filings up to date so that the PDC can make a fair decision on the consequences for delinquent filings, although we are hoping for a measure of leniency. We feel confident we can show that there was no intent at deception nor

were we trying to gain any advantage in any election in which we participated.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

John Russell

Chair – Citizens for Stanwood-Camano Schools