



North Dakota Ethics Commission Special Meeting

Minutes of August 31, 2026

600 E Boulevard Ave, Room 321, Bismarck, ND and MS Teams

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Chair Pamela Sharp at 11:04 a.m. The following members of the Ethics Commission were also present: Vice Chair Jared Huibregtse, Commissioners Lisa Edison-Smith, Kelly Leben, and Mark Western, as well as Executive Director Rebecca Binstock, General Counsel Logan Carpenter, Operations Administrator Adilene Moos, Legal Interns Ashley Wohl and Faith Scheuer, and OMB Communication Specialist Victoria Nicholson.
2. **Human Resources Discussion:** ED Binstock reviewed the estimated budget needs for hiring an intern or temporary individual to help with administrative work. The total estimated amount is roughly \$11,700 and an additional \$1,500 for IT costs. A request for intern funding from OMB will be submitted for this position if an intern is hired. The estimated amount covers 600 hours, which is for the rest of the biennium. Duties for this intern would include answering phone calls, drafting minutes, printing out materials, maintaining the emails of the executive director and general counsel, and other administrative tasks. Commissioners discussed and agreed on the need to hire an additional intern.

Motion: Vice Chair Huibregtse moved to direct staff to move forward with pursuing an intern for this position. If staff is unable to fill the intern position, then staff is directed to move forward with filling the position as a temporary position. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Leben. Chair Sharp called for a roll call vote. The motion was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

3. **Review Annual Report:** ED Binstock walked through each page of the up-to-date draft of the 2026 Annual Report. The Commissioners provided feedback and updates. OMB Communication Specialist Nicholson made edits throughout the discussion and ED Binstock took notes of all other changes discussed during the meeting. After finalization of the report, it will become available on the Commission's website later today. A press release on the report will be published early next week.

Motion: Commissioner Western moved for the publication of the 2026 Annual Report as revised during the special meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Leben. Chair Sharp called for a roll call vote. The motion was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

4. **Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 12:29 p.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled for September 30, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. in person in Minot and livestreamed with MS Teams.

Approved on 9/30/2026



Rebecca Binstock, Executive Director, North Dakota Ethics Commission