

North Dakota Ethics Commission Meeting

Minutes of August 12, 2020

Live Stream MS Teams

1. The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair, Cynthia Lindquist, at 9:02 a.m. The following members of the Ethics Commission were present: Cynthia Lindquist, Paul Richard, David Anderson and Ward Koeser. Chair Ron Goodman joined at approximately 9:05. Also present was the Ethics Commission legal counsel, Allyson M. Hicks, Dave Thiele, Executive Director, and Holly Gaugler, Office Manager. Also present was Karilynn Berger, Information Technology Program Administrator for NDI.
2. The agenda was discussed for this meeting with no additions.
3. The minutes of the 23 July meeting were discussed with no changes.

Motion: Koeser moved to approve the minutes of July 23, 2020 with no corrections. Motion was seconded by Anderson. Vice Chair Lindquist called for a voice vote on the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

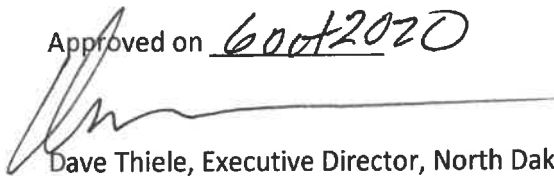
4. Executive Director, Dave Thiele reported that there had been no news on the Request for Opinion from the Attorney General, dated July 23, 2020.
5. Office Manager, Holly Gaugler provided a budget update as of July 31, 2020. Gaugler reported July expenditures at \$21,759 and biennium to date expenditures of \$186,623 with a remaining budget of \$330,532. Gaugler also reported projected expenditures for the remainder of the biennium (August 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021) are estimated at \$271,790 leaving an ending balance of \$58,742 on June 30, 2021.
6. The Commission, led by Richard further discussed the July 23, 2020 draft gift rules. The Commission continued to address proposed changes by the North Dakotans for Public Integrity dated July 17, 2020. The Commission agreed to add an additional section, 115-03-01-04 Public or Private Event Notice.

Motion: Richard moved that the proposed gift rules as modified at this meeting, August 12, 2020, be approved; this was seconded by Goodman. Vice Chair Lindquist called a roll call vote. The roll call vote unanimously approved.

7. Other business: Thiele discussed the purchase of a printer/scanner for Gaugler to telework. This had prior approval from Chair Goodman. Thiele continues to work from the office. Richard and Hicks discussed additional rules that may be drafted by the Commission at future meetings. Lindquist pointed out September was the one-year anniversary of the Ethics Commission and it would be important to have a news event to educate and familiarize the public on the Commission and their work. Chair Goodman asked that Lindquist and Thiele work on a plan to educate the public.

Commission, having no further business, was adjourned at 10:30 a.m. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for September 23, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. by MS Teams.

Approved on 6 Oct 2020

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dave Thiele', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Dave Thiele, Executive Director, North Dakota Ethics Commission