



North Dakota Ethics Commission Special Meeting

Minutes of January 22, 2026

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

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Chair Cynthia Lindquist at 9:06 a.m. The following members of the Ethics Commission were also present: Commissioners Pamela Sharp, Mark Western, and Jared Huibregtse, as well as Executive Director Rebecca Binstock, General Counsel Logan Carpenter, and Operations Administrator Adilene Moos. Vice Chair Ron Goodman joined the meeting at approximately 9:14 a.m.
2. **Discussion and Adoption of Proposed Complaint Rule Amendments:** General Counsel Carpenter walked through section by section of the proposed complaint rule amendments, discussing what the changes are and why they were made. The Commission had extensive discussion on whether to include sanctions for filing a complaint in bad faith in the rule. Several amendments were proposed throughout sections of the complaint rules in accordance with the discussion regarding penalties and complaints submitted in bad faith.

Motion: Vice Chair Goodman moved to authorize General Counsel Carpenter to amend the Complaint Rules pursuant to the discussion the Commission had during the special meeting on January 22, 2026. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Western. Chair Lindquist called for a voice vote. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

The Commission recessed at 10:58 a.m. and all Commission members reconvened at 11:12 a.m.

3. **Discussion of Public Priorities Survey:** Executive Director Binstock provided an overview of the public priorities survey. This survey will provide input to assist the Commission with its strategic planning. Commissioners reviewed the survey prior to publication and provided feedback. ED Binstock requested authorization to publish in all North Dakota County newspaper for a fee of approximately \$700-\$1200.

Motion: Commissioner Sharp moved to authorize the expense of publishing the QR code in the North Dakota newspapers and moved to approve the distribution of the public priorities survey. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Western. Chair

Lindquist called for a voice vote. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

4. **Annual Statement of Interest:** Executive Director Binstock briefly discussed the new Annual Statement of Interest electronic filing process with the through the Secretary of State's office. The deadline for filing the 2026 statements of interest is January 31, 2026.
5. **Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 11:32 a.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled for January 28, 2026, at 9:00 a.m., livestreamed with MS Teams.

Approved on 2/18/2026



Rebecca Binstock, Executive Director, North Dakota Ethics Commission