

FISCAL UPDATE Article

Fiscal Services Division July 24, 2017



IOWA ETHICS AND CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE BOARD MEETING - JULY 2017

Meeting. The Iowa Ethics and Campaign Disclosure Board met on July 19, 2017, in Des Moines. The Board took the following action:

Election of Officers. The Board unanimously voted to elect Board member James Albert of Urbandale as Board Chair and John Walsh of Dubuque as Board Vice Chair. The Board has jurisdiction over administering campaign laws in Iowa Code chapter <u>68A</u> as applied to candidates for State and local office, and ethics laws in Iowa Code chapter <u>68B</u> as applied to candidates for statewide office as well as officials and employees of the Executive Branch of State government. The Board also administers lobbying laws pursuant to Iowa Code chapter <u>68B</u> and investigates complaints received from the State Commissioner of Elections.

Consideration of Complaints. Two complaints regarding the use of government resources for political purposes were discussed and ruled upon at the July meeting. The Board dismissed a complaint against Scott Kibby of Iowa City, who allegedly misused Iowa City Community School District resources to express support for the defeat of a pending bond issue. The Board also directed Megan Tooker, Executive Director, to further investigate a complaint against Skip Moore of Des Moines for allegedly expressing support of the election of another individual during a public meeting.

Waiver of Civil Penalties. The Board unanimously voted to waive several civil penalties for one State committee, one county central committee, one county local committee, and one personal financial disclosure statement. Three civil penalty waivers were denied (one State committee and two county local committees). The Board also voted to accept two penalty payments totaling \$147.

FY 2017 Financial and Session Recap. Director Tooker provided the Board with an update of the Board's current financial position. At the close of FY 2017, the Board was approximately \$16,000 over its expenditure limit. The Board has received status quo funding for FY 2018 and discussed concerns about increasing health care premium payments beginning January 2018.

Director Tooker provided a recap of proposed legislation during the most recent legislative session, stating that the Board intends to revisit various issues including campaign finance and gift disclosures, as well as technical Iowa Code cleanup, in the 2018 Legislative Session.

Next Meeting. The next meeting of the Board has not been scheduled at this time.

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