

OPEN SESSION
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
NEBRASKA ACCOUNTABILITY AND DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

Friday, April 11, 2025
State Capitol Room 1507

Lincoln, Nebraska

Call to Order – Chairman Davis called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and announced the location in the meeting room of a copy of the Open Meetings Law. He stated that notice of the meeting was posted on the Commission’s website and on the State’s Public Meeting Calendar.

Roll Call –

- Roderic Anderson – Present
- Janet Chung – Excused for Late Arrival
- Jeffery Davis – Present
- Mike Gloor - Present
- Robert Evnen – Present
- Andrew Reuss – Present
- Kate Sullivan – Present

Approval of the Open Session Minutes of the January 24, 2025 Meeting – Chairman Davis referred the Commissioners to their copies of the Open Session minutes of the previous meeting.

Secretary of State Evnen indicated Commissioner Chung was present.

Motion by Evnen, second by Gloor, that the Open Session Minutes of the January 24, 2025 meeting be approved - Roll Call Vote: Commissioners Chung, Davis, Evnen Gloor, Reuss, and Sullivan voted yes. Commissioner Anderson abstained. Motion carried (6-0-1).

Report on late filing fees and requests for relief: Jeffrey N. Davis - Executive Director Hunter reported that Mr. Davis had contacted him and stated that he would mail in the late fee payment and that he had taken steps to insure that filing late would not be happening again. Consequently, there is no late fee request.

Discussion followed.

Executive Director’s Report (includes personnel activity, budget status, budget process and litigation status) – Executive Director Hunter reported to the Commission that there were two vacancies on the Commission to be selected

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by the Secretary of State. Mr. Hunter indicated that the 1st vacancy is for an Independent Party member from the 2nd Congressional District, and filling the vacancy was in progress. The other vacancy is for an Independent Party member or a Democrat from the 1st Congressional District and remains open.

The term of Rod Anderson expires on June 30, 2025. He is not eligible for reappointment and his successor will be appointed by the Secretary of State,

The confirmation hearing for Commissioner Mike Gloor was held on January 24, before the Government Military and Veterans Affairs Committee, and his appointment was confirmed by the Legislature on February 3, 2025.

The Executive Director reported that on February 20th he went before the Appropriations Committee with the proposed budget for the upcoming biennium. He noted that the hearing went relatively well.

Executive Director Hunter announced the opening for a Staff Auditor. This would be a new and additional position which requires the approval of the Budget Office and State Personnel. This would increase the Commission staff to 9 employees.

The Director reported that the scheduled zoom meeting with the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) was cancelled due to technical problems. The meeting was to cover campaign finance and how to navigate the Commission's electronic website. A new date has not been scheduled.

Executive Director Hunter indicated that nine months into the current fiscal year the Commission had expended approximately 43% of the agency budget.

The Executive Director indicated that it was the Agency's turn for audit by the Auditor of Public Accounts, The last audit was in 2016.

Executive Director Hunter indicated that Lobbyist and Principal 4th Quarterly Reports were due January 30, 2025. 1st Quarter Reports are due April 30, 2025. All reports that are filed will be available for review on the Clerk of the Legislature's website.

The Executive Director indicated that the Omaha Primary Election was held on April 1, 2025. The Lincoln Primary Election was held on April 8, 2025. The Lincoln General Election will be held on May 6th. The Omaha General Election will be held on May 13th.

The Omaha 2nd Primary Campaign Statements were due March 24th. The Lincoln 2nd Primary Campaign Statements were due March 31st. All filed statements are available for review on the FirstTuesday website.

Executive Director Hunter indicated that there is no significant pending litigation.

The Executive Director indicated that upcoming meeting dates are June 6, 2025 and August 15, 2025.

Discussion followed.

Legislative Update including consideration of position on new legislative bills – Executive Director Hunter stated that the Legislature convened on January 8, 2025. It is scheduled to adjourn Sine Die on June 9th, 2025. Mr. Hunter next discussed Legislative bills in which the Commission has an interest. There were no new bills to be discussed, that were not covered from the last meeting.

LB 32 – A bill by Senator Hunt would add the option of using a P.O. Box instead of a street address to satisfy the political advertisement disclaimer requirements. An amendment has been filed to make the option only apply to candidates. This appears to be per suggestion by Executive Director Hunter at the hearing on LB32. This bill is currently on General File.

LB 644 – This is a bill by Senator Bostar referred to as the Foreign Adversary and Terrorist Agent Registration Act. It has not made it out of committee but it is a priority bill of Senator Bostar. At the hearing, Executive Director Hunter did mention a concern with the Commission having to pay the \$50,000 reward prior to collecting the \$100,000 civil penalty, and Senator Bostar mentioned he would file an amendment to specify the reward payment would occur after collection of the civil penalty.

Evaluation of the Interim Executive Director/Deputy Director and performance approval for Calendar Year 2024 - The Executive Director explained to the Commission that according to the Personnel Division of the Dept. of Administrative Services, he is currently a Deputy Director serving in the capacity of Interim Executive Director. The Deputy Director and all of the employees with the exception of the Executive Director, require a review by July 1st of every year in order to qualify for the Pay for Performance raise. This review covers calendar year 2024. Mr. Hunter indicated to Chairman Davis and the Commission that they could use the provided evaluation form as a guide for making their decision on his performance review.

Discussion followed.

Motion by Reuss, second by Anderson, that the Commission find that Mr. Hunter has met or exceeded all standards of performance at a level of satisfactory or greater – Roll Call Vote: Commissioners Anderson, Chung, Davis, Evnen, Gloor, Reuss, and Sullivan voted yes. Motion carried (7-0-0).

Determination of process for June election of officers – Chairman Davis indicated the need to elect a Chair, a Vice-Chair and Secretary for the next year. The Chairman asked Commissioner Anderson to put together a slate of officers to present at the June meeting.

Report of Conflicts Committee – Chairman Davis announced that there were no objections or concerns to report.

Report of Executive Committee – Chairman Davis indicated that there are no issues to report.

Closed Session - Motion by Gloor, second by Reuss, that the NADC go into Closed Session pursuant to the confidentiality provisions of the NPADA – Roll Call Vote: Commissioners Anderson, Chung, Davis, Evnen, Gloor, Reuss, and Sullivan voted yes. Motion carried (7-0-0).

The NADC went into Closed Session at 9:21 a.m.

The NADC returned to Open Session at 10:25 a.m.

Announcements from Closed Session - Executive Director Hunter indicated that there was one report from closed session.

In the matter of Executive Director v. Douglas Steffensmeier (#25-20) - The Commission approved and ratified the settlement agreement. The Commission found a violation of §49-14,103.01 of the NPADA. The Commission assessed a civil penalty of \$100. The action was taken with seven Commissioners concurring, none dissenting, and none abstaining.

Adjournment – Motion by Sullivan, second by Reuss, that the NADC adjourn. Roll Call Vote: Commissioners Anderson, Chung, Davis, Evnen, Gloor, Reuss, and Sullivan voted yes. Motion carried (7-0-0).

Chairman Davis declared the meeting adjourned at 10:25 a.m.