

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

Friday, August 15, 2025

State Capitol Room 1525

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 –

Adam Christensen - Present
Janet Chung – Excused
Jeffery Davis – Present
Robert Evnen - Present
Mike Gloor – Present
Andrew Reuss – Excused
J.L. Spray – Present
Kate Sullivan – Present

Introduction and welcome to new commissioner J.L. Spray – Chairman Davis introduced new Commissioner J.L. Spray. Commissioner Spray stated that he has practiced law for 39 years and resides in Lincoln. He has previously served on the Commission before. Commissioner Spray has also been a member of the Equal Opportunity Commission, and the Commission of Industrial Relations. Currently, he is at the Law Firm of Mattson Ricketts. Chairman Davis welcomed Commissioner Spray on behalf of the Commission.

The Executive Director indicated that the Commission had received requests from the Legislature for information regarding Commissioner Spray's background to assist in his Confirmation. The Confirmation Hearing will be in the early part of the new year.

Approval of the Open Session Minutes of the June 6, 2025 Meeting – Chairman Davis referred the Commissioners to their copies of the Open Session Minutes of the previous meeting.

Motion by Evnen, second by Gloor, that the Open Session Minutes of the June 6, 2025 meeting be approved - Roll Call Vote: Commissioners Christensen, Davis, Evnen, Gloor, Spray, and Sullivan voted yes. Motion carried (6-0-0).

Report on late filing fees and requests for relief: The Executive Director indicated there were no requests for relief.

Executive Director's Report (includes personnel activity, budget status, budget process and litigation status) – Executive Director Danigole stated that the term of Commissioner Rod Anderson expired on June 30, 2025. His successor, J.L. Spray, was selected by the Secretary of State from a list provided by the Republican Party, his term will expire on June 30, 2031. He noted there is currently one vacancy on the Commission.

The Executive Director noted that the Commission has an opening for a Staff Auditor. That position has been re-posted. Mr. Danigole indicated there are currently seven candidates for the auditor position.

Executive Director Danigole reported that on July 11, 2025, Deputy Director David Hunter and he attended a presentation by former Executive Director Frank Daley at the Nebraska College of Law for the annual Government and Administrative Practice Seminar.

The Executive Director mentioned that on July 17, 2025, a C-1 filer informed the Commission that his confidential information had been posted on the Commission website. The filer had attached his brokerage statement to the Form C-1; it included confidential account numbers, specific holdings and dollar values. Including it with the C-1 filing made it public information. It was suggested that he file an amended C-1 to remove the sensitive information. We have since added a notification on our website that materials submitted with or attached to the C-1 become part of the official filing.

The Executive Director stated that on October 1, 2025, NADC staff will give a presentation in Grand Island at the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center to County Sheriffs. The presentation will address provisions of the Nebraska Political Accountability & Disclosure Act (NPADA). Topics will include restrictions on doing business with the county, conflicts of interest, nepotism, and use of public resources.

Executive Director Danigole reported that on October 3, 2025, Commission staff will testify at the Legislative Resolution 194 (LR194) hearing. LR194 is the Interim study to review credentialing requirements for lobbyists in furtherance of the Occupational Board Reform Act. He noted that the NADC is an agency required to provide testimony every five years.

The Executive Director reported that LB 644, the Foreign Advisory and Terrorist Agent Registration Act, was approved by the Governor on June 4, 2025. Due to a late amendment, fines collected go to the State's Permanent School Fund while

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the NADC is still responsible for a \$50,000 reward. Funding was not included in the agency budget for such a reward. The NADC will seek additional funding through a General Fund appropriation deficit request to accommodate any potential payouts.

Executive Director Danigole noted that the appropriated General Funds for the next fiscal year are approximately \$110,000 less than the current year appropriation. Therefore, the agency plans to ask for a General Fund appropriation deficit request for FY 2027.

The Executive Director mentioned LR217 was introduced to study NADC fees and penalties. He explained that, for the most part, these were set in 1999 by LB 416. In 2025 dollars these amounts represent half of the 1999 value. The plan is to work with a Senator to introduce new legislation updating fees and penalties. This would thereby increase NADC Cash Fund reliance and reduce General Fund reliance.

Discussion followed.

Executive Director Danigole indicated that one month into the current fiscal year the Commission had expended approximately 5% of the agency budget.

Executive Director Danigole stated that Lobbyist Statements of Activity were due July 17, 2025; Lobbyist and Principal 2nd Quarterly Reports were due July 30, 2025; and, the Lobbyist and Principal 3rd Quarterly Reports are due October 30, 2025. All reports filed will be available for review on the Clerk of the Legislature's website.

The Executive Director reported that the Lincoln General Election was held on May 6, 2025. The Omaha General Election was held May 13, 2025.

The Executive Director mentioned that the Lincoln Post-General Election Campaign Statements were due June 16, 2025. The Omaha Post-General Election Campaign Statements were due June 23, 2025. All filed statements are available for review on the NADC FirstTuesday website.

The Executive Director indicated there was nothing to report regarding litigation matters.

Executive Director Danigole stated that upcoming meeting dates are October 17, 2025, and December 5, 2025.

Discussion followed.

Consideration and adoption of proposed meeting dates for 2026 – Chairman Davis referred the Commission to the proposed meetings dates for 2026.

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Secretary of State Evnen requested the Commission table the matter until the next meeting. There were no objections.

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

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

Closed Session - Motion by Gloor, second by Christensen, that the NADC go into Closed Session pursuant to the confidentiality provisions of the NPADA – Roll Call Vote: Commissioners Christensen, Davis, Evnen, Gloor, Spray, and Sullivan voted yes. Motion carried (6-0-0).

The NADC went into Closed Session at 9:13 a.m.

The NADC returned to Open Session at 9:37 a.m.

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

In the matter of Cynthia Hartley v. Senator Robert Hallstrom (#25-144) - The Commission approved the settlement agreement. The Commission found one violation of §49-1455(d) of the NPADA. The Commission assessed a civil penalty of \$150. The action was taken with six Commissioners concurring, none dissenting, and none abstaining.

Adjournment – Motion by Evnen, second by Spray, that the NADC adjourn. Roll Call Vote: Commissioners Christensen, Davis, Evnen, Gloor, Spray, and Sullivan voted yes. Motion carried (6-0-0).

Chairman Davis declared the meeting adjourned at 9:38 a.m.