



Wisconsin Ethics Commission

Campaign Finance | Lobbying | Ethics
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Wisconsin Ethics Commission

212 E. Washington Avenue
Board Room
Madison, Wisconsin
April 24, 2018
9:00 a.m.

Open Session Minutes

Present: Katie McCallum, Mac Davis, Pat Strachota, Timothy Van Akkeren,
Jeralyn Wendelberger, and David Halbrooks (via telephone)

Staff present: Colette Reinke, David Buerger, and Julie Nischik

A. Call to Order

Commission Vice Chair Katie McCallum called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

B. Report of Appropriate Meeting Notice

Staff Counsel David Buerger reported that appropriate notice of the Commission meeting had been given to the public and news media.

C. Approval of Minutes of Prior Meetings

- 1. Minutes of the February 27, 2018 Meeting**
- 2. Minutes of the April 6, 2018 Meeting**

MOTION: Approve the February 27, 2018 and April 6, 2018 minutes. Moved by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Van Akkeren. Motion carried unanimously.

D. Personal Appearances

There were no personal appearances by a member of the public.

E. Review of Lobbying-Related Opinions of Previous Boards

Administrator Colette Reinke presented the memo starting on page 11 of the meeting materials.

Wisconsin Ethics Commissioners

Mac Davis | David R. Halbrooks | Katie McCallum | Pat Strachota | Timothy Van Akkeren | Jeralyn Wendelberger

Administrator
Colette C. Reinke

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MOTION: To withdraw Eth. Bd. Op. 91-07. Moved by Commissioner Strachota, seconded by Commissioner Van Akkeren. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: To withdraw Eth. Bd. Op. 92-02. Moved by Commissioner Strachota, seconded by Commissioner Van Akkeren. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: To withdraw Eth. Bd. Op. 92-11. Moved by Commissioner Strachota, seconded by Commissioner Wendelberger. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: To withdraw Eth. Bd. Op. 97-05. Moved by Commissioner Van Akkeren, seconded by Commissioner Davis. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: To withdraw Eth. Bd. Op. 99-02, Eth. Bd. Op. 03-14, and Eth. Bd. Op. 06-09. Moved by Commissioner Van Akkeren, seconded by Commissioner Strachota. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: To approve revisions to Eth. Bd. Op. 93-10, Eth. Bd. Op. 97-10, and Eth. Bd. Op. 92-16. Moved by Commissioner Strachota, seconded by Commissioner Davis. Motion carried unanimously.

F. Administrative Rule Update and Public Hearing on ETH 16

Staff Counsel Buerger presented the memo starting on page 29 of the meeting materials.

MOTION: For ETH 1, the Commission directs staff to begin drafting the proposed rule and associated documents for submission to the legislative council's rules clearinghouse. Moved by Commissioner Wendelberger, seconded by Commissioner Van Akkeren. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: The Commission directs staff to draft a scope statement as identified in item II of the memo, to include items 1 through 4 within that section. Moved by Commissioner Wendelberger, seconded by Commissioner Van Akkeren. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: The Commission requests staff provide examples of "Specifying the distance at which an attribution must be readable" from other states. Moved by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Strachota. Motion carried unanimously.

A public hearing was held regarding Chapter ETH 16 (Lobbying). No members of the public were present to provide public comments.

MOTION: For ETH 16, the Commission approves the draft rule and directs staff to submit the rule to the Governor for approval. Moved by Commissioner Strachota, seconded by Commissioner Wendelberger. Motion carried unanimously.

G. Attribution Statements Guideline

Staff Counsel Buerger presented the memo starting on page 55 of the meeting materials.

Discussion of the drafted guideline. Commission McCallum suggested removing the sentence under Contents of an Attribution Statement, "The attribution statement may also include the name of the treasurer or other authorized agents of the committee."

MOTION: To approve the guideline with the changes as suggested by Commissioner McCallum, and post to the public website. Moved by Commissioner Wendelberger, seconded by Commissioner Van Akkeren. Motion carried unanimously.

H. Advisory Opinion Public Hearing – Use of Cryptocurrency for Campaign Contributions and Disbursements

Commission Administrator Colette Reinke presented the memo starting on page 59 of the meeting materials.

The Commission discussed the information presented in the memo.

A public hearing was held, with one member of the public who provided comments.

Phillip Anderson, chair of the Libertarian Party of Wisconsin, provided comments on the use of cryptocurrency for campaign contributions and disbursements. Mr. Anderson requested clarification of the Federal Elections Commission (FEC) definition and be allowed to accept cryptocurrency as an in-kind contribution, which would be immediately liquidated. Mr. Anderson argued the same requirements of cash donations would apply to donations of cryptocurrency. If the Commission were to adopt the FEC definition, it would enable people to express their political wishes through cryptocurrency.

I. Staff Report

Commission Administrator Colette Reinke presented the memo starting on page 63 of the meeting materials.

J. Consideration of Future Agenda Items

Commissioner McCallum discussed the length of the regularly scheduled meetings, suggesting an end time of either 4 or 5 pm. The Commissioners agreed regularly scheduled meetings should be noticed to start at 9:00 am, and end at 5:00 pm.

K. Closed Session

MOTION: The Commission went into closed session pursuant to WIS. STAT. §§ 19.50, 19.55(3), 19.85(1)(g), (h). Moved by Commissioner Wendelberger, seconded by Commissioner McCallum. Motion carried unanimously.

1. Complaints and Investigations
2. Requests for Advice
3. Personnel Matters
4. Litigation Update

L. Adjourn

MOTION: To adjourn. Moved by Commissioner Van Akkeren, seconded by Commissioner Wendelberger. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 4:26 p.m.

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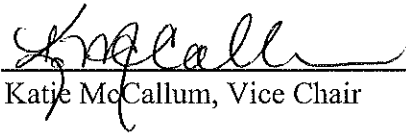
April 24, 2018 Wisconsin Ethics Commission meeting minutes prepared by:



Julie Nischik, Office Management Specialist

June 19, 2018

April 24, 2018 Wisconsin Ethics Commission meeting minutes certified by:



Katie McCallum, Vice Chair

June 19, 2018