

MINUTES
LEGISLATIVE ETHICS COMMITTEE
AUGUST 29, 2018 MEETING
{ Approved: October 9, 2018 }

The Legislative Ethics Committee (RSA 14-B:2) met on Wednesday, August 29, 2018, at 1:00 P.M. in Room 104 of the Legislative Office Building.

The following members were present: Honorable Donna Sytek, Chairman, Senator Sharon M. Carson, Vice Chairman, Representative Janet G. Wall, Representative David A. Welch, and Attorney David H. Bradley. Senator Martha Fuller Clark, and the Honorable David W. Hess was unable to attend. Also present: Richard M. Lambert, Executive Administrator.

The Committee's meeting consisted of the following items:

ITEM#1

Consideration of the draft *Minutes* from the Committee's meeting held on August 15, 2018.

Following review, Senator Carson moved to approve the *Minutes* as presented. Representative Welch seconded the motion and the Committee voted 5 to 0 to approve the *Minutes*.

ITEM#2

Public Hearing on an amendment to the *Ethics Guidelines* to comply with statutory changes resulting from 2018 SB 343 (Chapter 314).

Chairman Sytek summarized what the amendment would do. She then asked if anyone would like to speak to the Committee about the proposed amendment. No one wanted to speak to the Committee.

ITEM#3

Public Hearing on an amendment to the *Procedural Rules* regarding coordination with the Attorney General's Office when they are investigating matters which are also the subject of a complaint filed with the Committee, and regarding complaints filed by the chairman for failure to comply with the requirements to file a Financial Disclosure Form.

Chairman Sytek summarized what the amendment would do. She then asked if anyone would like to speak to the Committee about the proposed amendment. Representative Michael Brewster addressed the Committee.

ITEM #4

Consideration of an amendment to the *Ethics Guidelines*.

Representative Welch moved to adopt the amendment. Senator Carson seconded the motion, and the Committee voted 5 to 0 in favor of the motion.

ITEM #5

Consideration of an amendment to the *Procedural Rules* regarding coordination with the Attorney General's Office when they are investigating matters which are also the subject of a complaint filed with the Committee, and complaints filed by the chairperson for failure to file a Financial Disclosure Form.

Senator Carson moved to adopt the amendment. Representative Welch seconded the motion, and the Committee voted 5 to 0 in favor of the motion.

ITEM #6

Consideration of approval of a revised *Honorarium or Expense Reimbursement Report*.

Following review of the proposed revised form, Representative Wall suggested underlining the terms "Expense Reimbursement" and "Honorarium" in the section of the form where filers indicate the type of event they are reporting. Representative Welch then moved to adopt the revised form, as amended. Senator Carson seconded the motion, and the Committee voted 5 to 0 in favor of the motion.

ITEM #7

New/Other Business.

1) Discussion of *Advisory Opinion 2018-1*, issued on August 15, 2018. Representative Gregory Hill addressed the Committee and answered questions from the Committee members.

Following discussion, the Committee did not make any changes to the opinion, as previously adopted. They then voted 5 to 0 to submit the opinion for publication in the Senate and House calendars and to post it on the Committee's webpage.

2) Review of all previously-issued advisory opinions and interpretive rulings to determine if any are in need of revision or rescission as a result of changes to the ethics laws, guidelines, or rules during the 2018 legislative session.

Following review, Representative Welch moved to rescind *Interpretive Ruling 2017-1* and *Interpretive Ruling 2017-2*, and to revise *Interpretive Ruling 2016-4*. Senator Carson seconded the motion and the Committee voted 5 to 0 in favor of the motion.

ITEM #8

Scheduling of the next meeting.

The Committee's next meeting will be at the call of the chair.

The Committee's meeting adjourned at approximately 2:00 P.M.

{Prepared by: Richard M. Lambert, Executive Administrator}