

MINUTES
LEGISLATIVE ETHICS COMMITTEE
August 20, 2019 MEETING
{Approved: October 18, 2019}

The Legislative Ethics Committee (RSA 14-B:2) met on Tuesday, August 20, 2019, at 3:00 P.M. in Room 104 of the Legislative Office Building.

The following members were present: Representative Edward M. Gordon, Chairman, the Honorable Donna Sytek, Vice Chairman, Senator Sharon M. Carson, Representative Janet G. Wall, Attorney David H. Bradley, and the Honorable David W. Hess. Senator Martha Fuller Clark 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 June 24, 2019.

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

ITEM #2

Continuation of the Preliminary Investigation of *Complaint 2019-2*. {Confidential}

Representative Wall moved to enter nonpublic session pursuant to RSA 14-B:3, I(d) to conduct a Preliminary Investigation of *Complaint 2019-2*. Senator Carson seconded the motion and the Committee voted as follows:

Vice Chairman Sytek		(not yet present)
Attorney Bradley	Yea	
Chairman Gordon	Yea	
Senator Carson	Yea	
Representative Wall	Yea	
Mr. Hess	Yea	

{MOTION ADOPTED}

{NONPUBLIC SESSION}

Senator Carson moved to exit nonpublic session. Representative Wall seconded the motion and the Committee voted as follows:

Vice Chairman Sytek		(not yet present)
Attorney Bradley	Yea	
Chairman Gordon	Yea	
Senator Carson	Yea	
Representative Wall	Yea	
Mr. Hess	Yea	

{MOTION ADOPTED}

Chairman Gordon stated: “The Committee has come out of nonpublic session. Having considered *Complaint 2019-2*, the Committee has decided to continue its Preliminary Investigation.”

ITEM #3

Initial Review of Complaint 2019-4. {Confidential}

Representative Wall moved to enter nonpublic session pursuant to RSA 14-B:3, I(d) to conduct an Initial Review of *Complaint 2019-4*. Senator Carson seconded the motion and the Committee voted as follows:

Vice Chairman Sytek		(not yet present)
Attorney Bradley	Yea	
Chairman Gordon	Yea	
Senator Carson	Yea	
Representative Wall	Yea	
Mr. Hess	Yea	

{MOTION ADOPTED}

{NONPUBLIC SESSION}

Senator Carson moved to exit nonpublic session. Representative Wall seconded the motion and the Committee voted as follows:

Vice Chairman Sytek		(not yet present)
Attorney Bradley		(not present)
Chairman Gordon	Yea	
Senator Carson	Yea	
Representative Wall	Yea	
Mr. Hess	Yea	

{MOTION ADOPTED}

Chairman Gordon stated: “The Legislative Ethics Committee has come out of nonpublic session and, as a result, has elected to dismiss *Complaint 2019-4* and has authorized the chair to so notify the complainant.”

ITEM #4

Discussion about the status of *Complaint 2017-3*. {Confidential}

Representative Wall moved to enter nonpublic session pursuant to RSA 14-B:3, I(d) to deliberate on the status of *Complaint 2017-3*. Senator Carson seconded the motion and the Committee voted as follows:

Vice Chairman Sytek		(not yet present)
Attorney Bradley		(not present)
Chairman Gordon	Yea	
Senator Carson	Yea	
Representative Wall	Yea	
Mr. Hess	Yea	

{MOTION ADOPTED}

{NONPUBLIC SESSION}

Senator Carson moved to exit nonpublic session. Representative Wall seconded the Committee voted as follows:

Vice Chairman Sytek		(not yet present)
Attorney Bradley		(not present)
Chairman Gordon	Yea	
Senator Carson	Yea	
Representative Wall	Yea	
Mr. Hess	Yea	

{MOTION ADOPTED}

Chairman Gordon stated: “We came out of nonpublic session on *Complaint 2017-3*. We are still in the Initial Review and will continue the Initial Review until our next hearing.”

ITEM #5

Update on the Status of HB 122, “An Act allowing gifts, grants, and donations on behalf of state and national legislative association events.”

- a. Consideration of adopting a revised “Honorarium or Expense Reimbursement Report.”
- b. Discussion of amending the *Ethics Guidelines* to conform with the statutory changes.

Mr. Lambert informed the Committee that HB 122 had been signed by the governor and enacted as Chapter 206 of the 2019 NH Law, with an effective date of July 12, 2019. He distributed copies of the law, a draft revised “Honorarium or Expense Reimbursement Report,” and a draft amendment to the Ethics Guidelines for the Committee’s consideration.

After reviewing the draft revised form, Senator Carson moved to adopt it. Representative Wall seconded the motion and the Committee voted 4 to 0 in favor of the motion.

After review of the draft amendment to the *Ethics Guidelines* and brief discussion, Senator Carson moved to adopt the amendment. Representative Wall seconded the motion and the Committee voted 4 to 0 in favor of the motion.

ITEM #6

New/Other Business.

{There was no new or other business.}

ITEM #7

Scheduling of the next meeting.

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

The Committee’s meeting adjourned at approximately 4:40 P.M.

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