

Legislative Ethics Board

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BOARD MEMBERS:
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SEN. CHRIS GILDON
REP. DAVID HACKNEY
LARRY HOFF
STEVE O'BAN
SEN. JAMIE PEDERSEN
PAM TAJIMA PRAEGER
REP. MIKE STEELE



LEGISLATIVE ETHICS BOARD MINUTES December 16, 2024

Present were: Tom Hoemann, Chair; Pam Tajima Praeger, Vice-Chair (virtual); Sen. Jamie Pedersen; Sen. Chris Gildon; Rep. David Hackney (virtual); Rep. Mike Steele (virtual); Larry Hoff; Steve O'Ban (virtual); Jennifer Strus, Board Counsel; Jeannie Gorrell, Senate Counsel; Ohad Lowy, House Counsel (virtual)

The chair called the meeting to order at 10:05 am.

The minutes for the November 4, 2024 Board meeting were approved.

There was one Employment Disclosure form to review. Robert Lathrop, House security disclosed that his wife, Diana Lathrop works for the Department of Transportation as a Transportation Planning Technician. The Board found no conflict with which it was concerned.

The Board discussed whether it should digitize the old files that have been archived with the State Archives. Board counsel stated that, according to an estimate by the State Archives, it would cost approximately \$19,000 to have all those files digitized. The Board then discussed whether it should start digitizing the newest files. The Chair suggested that if the Board moves to do that, that it should amend its rules to indicate the process for doing so. Board counsel was directed to delve into this issue in more detail and bring it back for discussion at the next Board meeting.

The Board discussed the newest version of the bill to amend the Ethics Act. Board counsel raised the issue of immunity for Board members, especially the citizen members of the Board. Counsel was directed to draft immunity language and send to the Board members for approval before adding it to the draft. There was a motion and a to go forward with the draft bill including the immunity language once it is approved by the Board members. The Board approved the motion unanimously.

Board counsel discussed meeting dates for 2025. The Board approved January 29, 2025 and March 19, 2025 from 12 to 1:30.. The remaining proposed dates are to be sent to the members for their consideration.

There was no public testimony.

The public portion of the meeting was adjourned at 10:40 am.

Executive session began at 10:47 am and adjourned at 11:00 am.



Larry Hoff, Chair

Date: 2/2/25

**The entirety of the public portion of this meeting can be viewed on TVW at the attached link
<https://tvw.org/video/legislative-ethics-board-2024121072/?eventID=2024121072>**