

# IOWA ETHICS AND CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE BOARD

An Independent Agency of the Executive Branch

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**BOARD MEMBERS:**  
James Albert, Chair  
Janet Carl, Vice Chair  
Gerald Sullivan  
Betsy Roe  
John Walsh  
Patricia Harper

## IOWA ETHICS AND CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE BOARD MINUTES August 15, 2005 OPEN SESSION

HELD BY PHONE FROM: Jessie Parker Building, 510 East 12<sup>th</sup>, Suite 1A, Des Moines, IA

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Jim Albert, Janet Carl, Gerald Sullivan, John Walsh, Patricia Harper

STAFF PRESENT: W. Charles Smithson, Sandy Reier

A. CALL TO ORDER – The meeting was called to order by Chair Albert at 4:00 p.m.

Pursuant to the open meetings law, the reason the meeting was held telephonically rather than in person, was it was impractical to hold an in-person meeting for these matters; however, they were timely enough to be done by phone.

B. RULES FOR NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION – It was moved by Carl and seconded by Harper to approve for Notice of Intended Action the following proposed rules. Motion carried unanimously.

1. Adds Iowa Code section 8.7 to our jurisdiction and that a Board advisory opinion constitutes a defense to a complaint involving the same facts and circumstances as discussed in the opinion after changing “chapter 68” to “chapter 68A”.
2. Allows committee expenditures by debit and credit card. The fourth sentence will include, “e.g., concession stand cash drawer”.
3. Rescinds and reserves the rule on filing session reception reports with the Board.

It was moved by Walsh and seconded by Harper to adopt the following proposed rules. Motion carried unanimously.

4. The Board communicates with the chair of a political committee and the candidate of a candidate’s committee rather than the treasurer.
5. Legislative ethics and legislative lobbying requests are to be directed to the House and Senate Ethics Committees.
6. Moves the Board’s election of officers to the first meeting after April 30.

### C. PROPOSED ADVISORY OPINIONS

1. Requirements for Registering Campaign Committee/Filing Statement of Organization – It was moved by Sullivan and seconded by Walsh that the opinion be approved after “threshold” is added after \$750 in the first and second paragraphs under New Committees Filing Before Reaching Financial Threshold and it is made clear that reports are required after the \$750 threshold has been crossed. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Procedure for the Dissolution of Campaign Committee – It was moved by Walsh and seconded by Sullivan that the opinion be approved as written. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Applicability of Campaign Laws to Recounts/Contested Elections – It was moved by Carl and seconded by Harper that the opinion be approved as written. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Contributors to State Party Building Funds Not Required to File Separate Reports – It was moved by Harper and seconded by Walsh that the opinion be approved as written. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Acceptance of Post State Employment – It was moved by Sullivan and seconded by Harper that the opinion be approved as written. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Use of Equipment/Office Space and Reporting of Agency Gifts – It was moved by Sullivan and seconded by Carl that the opinion be approved as written. This motion was withdrawn.

It was moved by Sullivan and seconded by Walsh that a preliminary, informal letter be sent stating the Board believes the situation as described in the request may be okay but that additional information be requested and a formal opinion to be issued later. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Sponsor/Vendor Fees for Conference and Reporting of Agency Gifts – It was moved by Carl and seconded by Harper that the opinion be approved after correction of typographical errors. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion was held regarding whether Board members should represent the Board and give presentations before groups of people requesting information and seeking advice. The Executive Director will continue to do.

At 4:35 p.m. the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Sandra Reier  
Secretary