



# Nominating Committee for Commissioner of Political Practices

## 65th Montana Legislature

### SENATE MEMBERS

SCOTT SALES  
JON SESSO

### HOUSE MEMBERS

AUSTIN KNUDSEN  
JENNY ECK

### COMMITTEE STAFF

SUSAN FOX, Executive Director  
LAURA SHERLEY, Secretary

## MINUTES LOG

February 24, 2017  
Room 335, Capitol Building  
Helena, Montana

**Please note:** This document is a Minutes Log and provides a notation of the time elapsed between the beginning of the meeting and the time at which the item was presented or discussed, a motion was made, or a vote was taken. The narrative presented here is provided only as a guide to the audio or video record of the meeting. The official discussion, motion, or vote is available on the audio or video archive of this meeting. The Legislature does not prepare a transcript of meeting activities. The time designation may be used to locate the referenced discussion on the audio or video recording of this meeting.

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### COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

SEN. SCOTT SALES  
SEN. JON SESSO

REP. AUSTIN KNUDSEN  
REP. JENNY ECK

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS EXCUSED

NONE

### STAFF PRESENT

SUSAN BYORTH FOX, Executive Director  
LAURA SHERLEY, Committee Secretary

### VISITORS' LIST ([Attachment 1](#))

### COMMITTEE ACTION

### CALL TO ORDER and ROLL CALL

00:00:02 Sen. Sales called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m. The committee secretary recorded the quorum. ([Attachment 2](#))

## **REVIEW OF COMMISSIONER OF POLITICAL PRACTICE POSITION APPLICANTS**

- 00:00:20 Sen. Sales opened the floor for committee comment on the applicants for the Commissioner of Political Practice position.
- 00:01:01 Sen. Sesso commented on the number of applicants for the position and recommended setting up a date and time for the applicants to present themselves to the committee.
- 00:02:06 Rep. Knudsen joined the meeting at 10:07 a.m.
- 00:02:58 Rep. Eck voiced her agreement to Sen. Sesso's comments and commented on the importance of becoming familiar with the applicants.

## **SCHEDULING OF COMMITTEE MEETING TO MEET POSITION APPLICANTS**

- 00:03:13 Sen. Sales recommended scheduling the meeting in the morning of Tuesday, March 7, 2017.
- 00:03:36 Sen. Sesso suggested the date be moved to Wednesday, March 8, 2017 for an extra day after transmittal break in case of urgent business.
- 00:04:19 Rep. Knudsen reminded the committee that he and Sen. Sales have a 9:30 a.m. meeting on Wednesday, March 8, 2017. He voiced his agreement to Sen. Sesso's comments regarding Tuesday, March 7, 2017 and recommending holding the meeting on Wednesday, March 8, 2017 after his and Sen. Sales morning meeting.

## **ELIMINATION OF APPLICANTS**

- 00:04:50 Sen. Sesso recommended eliminating some applicants due to not meeting basic criteria the committee agreed upon for the position.
- 00:06:01 Sen. Sales suggested reviewing each applicant before the committee votes to eliminate.
- 00:06:20 Sen. Sesso recommended eliminating applicants Jon Nettleton ([Exhibit 1](#)) and James King ([Exhibit 2](#)).
- 00:06:31 Rep. Eck voiced her agreement to Sen. Sesso's comments.
- 00:06:44 Sen. Sales voiced his agreement and the committee voted to eliminate applicants Jason Nettleton and James King. Sen. Sales instructed Ms. Fox to contact and alert the remaining applicants of the Tuesday, March 8, 2017 meeting.

## **DISCUSSION OF SCHEDULED MEETING TO MEET REMAINING POSITION APPLICANTS**

- 00:07:05 Sen. Sesso recommended that if an applicant can not make the Tuesday, March 8, 2017 meeting, the committee should be flexible and willing to accommodate another meeting date and time with that applicant.
- 00:07:36 Rep. Knudsen voiced his agreement to Sen. Sesso's comments.
- 00:07:55 Ms. Fox suggested the committee consider a teleconference option got for applicants that are unable to meet either on March 8th or in person.
- 00:08:02 Sen. Sales agreed to Ms. Fox suggestion of a teleconference option.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

- 00:08:10 Sen. Sales adjourned the meeting at 10:14 a.m.