

NORTH DAKOTA LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT

Minutes of the

LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT

Monday, June 10, 2019
Roughrider Room, State Capitol
Bismarck, North Dakota

Representative Chet Pollert, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Members present: Representatives Chet Pollert, Josh Boschee, Bill Devlin, Jim Grueneich, Karla Rose Hanson, Lawrence R. Klemin, Mike Lefor, Scott Louser, Karen M. Rohr; Senators Randy Burckhard, Joan Heckaman, Ray Holmberg, Jerry Klein, Donald Schaible, Ronald Sorvaag, Rich Wardner

Member absent: Erin Oban

Others present: Allen H. Knudson, Vonette J. Richter, Legislative Council, Bismarck
See [appendix](#) for additional persons present.

It was moved by Senator Holmberg, seconded by Representative Rohr, and carried on a voice vote that the minutes of the May 28, 2019, meeting be approved as distributed.

INTERIM COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

At the request of Chairman Pollert, the Director distributed a proposed committee structure list with [legislator preferences](#) and a summary of [legislator preferences](#). The Director said the initial response to the survey was excellent, and the Legislative Council staff sent followup messages and made phone calls to those who had not completed the survey.

Chairman Pollert said he will review each proposed committee membership and entertain any requests to revise committee memberships. He said if there is not a consensus on any change, he will request a roll call vote.

Senator Heckaman said there are no minority party senators chairing committees. She said she had requested Senator Oban be appointed chairman of the Education Policy Committee and Senator Larry J. Robinson be appointed chairman of the Higher Education Committee.

Representative Boschee said he was under the understanding the minority party would be granted three or four chairmanships.

Chairman Pollert said he offered a chairmanship to Representative Hanson, but she declined that appointment in favor of being appointed vice chairman of the Judiciary Committee. He said he also asked if Senator Oban would accept the chairmanship of a committee other than the Education Policy Committee and he was told she would not. He said Representative David Monson, who he has proposed to chair the Education Policy Committee, has extensive experience in education issues, including having served as a school superintendent. He said by appointing Representative Hanson to the vice chairman position for the Judiciary Committee, the chairman and the vice chairman will both be members of the House.

Representative Hanson said the vice chairman of a committee does not have the same level of responsibility as a chairman.

Senator Heckaman said because she gave up the opportunity to serve as a committee chair, Senator Oban and Senator Robinson should have an opportunity. She said Senator Oban did a good job chairing the Education Policy Committee during the last interim. She said rather than having one person chairing both the Higher Education Funding Formula Review Committee and the Higher Education Committee, Senator Robinson should chair the Higher Education Committee.

Senator Holmberg said there is precedent for having one person chair two similar committees when one of the committees includes a significant number of nonlegislator members.

It was moved by Senator Heckaman, seconded by Representative Boschee, and failed on a roll call vote that Senator Oban be appointed chairman of the Education Policy Committee and Representative David Monson be appointed vice chairman of that committee. Representatives Boschee and Hanson and Senator Heckaman voted "aye." Representatives Pollert, Devlin, Grueneich, Klemin, Lefor, Louser, and Rohr and Senators Burckhard, Holmberg, Klein, Schaible, Sorvaag, and Wardner voted "nay."

It was moved by Senator Heckaman, seconded by Representative Boschee, and failed on a roll call vote that Senator Robinson be appointed chairman of the Higher Education Committee and Representative David Monson be appointed vice chairman of that committee. Representatives Boschee and Hanson and Senator Heckaman voted "aye." Representatives Pollert, Devlin, Grueneich, Klemin, Lefor, Louser, and Rohr and Senators Burckhard, Holmberg, Klein, Schaible, Sorvaag, and Wardner voted "nay."

Chairman Pollert said he received recommendations for the appointment of the citizen members of the Natural Resources Committee. Based upon the submissions, he said, he recommends the appointment of Mr. David Dewald and Mr. Joe Schettler to represent agricultural landowners and Mr. Brian Schanilec and Mr. John Weinand to represent sportsmen organizations.

In response to a question from Chairman Pollert, Mr. Allen H. Knudson, Legislative Budget Analyst and Auditor, said the Legislative Assembly budgeted for 365 interim committee members. He said the total number of members assigned to committees as a result of appointments today is 377, including the four citizen members on the Natural Resources Committee.

In response to a question from Representative Boschee, Mr. Knudson said some interim committee cost-savings can be realized by committees with common members holding meetings on successive days. He said the amount budgeted for interim meetings contemplates an 87 percent attendance rate by committee members. He said starting meetings later in the morning also can save money by reducing the number of lodging nights used.

Senator Holmberg said the Legislative Management chairman generally receives updates throughout the interim from the Legislative Council staff regarding meeting costs.

The Legislative Council staff distributed a revised committee membership list entitled *Committee Structure* based upon the changes agreed upon by members of the Legislative Management.

It was moved by Senator Holmberg, seconded by Representative Rohr, and carried on a roll call vote that the revised committee membership list for the 2019-20 interim be approved. Representatives Pollert, Boschee, Devlin, Grueneich, Hanson, Klemin, Lefor, Louser, and Rohr and Senators Burckhard, Heckaman, Holmberg, Klein, Schaible, Sorvaag, and Wardner voted "aye." No negative votes were cast.

STATUTORY COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Chairman Pollert said the Legislative Management is statutorily required to make appointments to certain committees. He said the North Dakota University System Chancellor submitted recommendations for the Kansas State University Veterinary Medical Education Program Admissions Committee for the positions representing the North Dakota State University Department of Veterinary and Microbiological Sciences, a practicing veterinarian, and a livestock producer and for alternatives. He said the recommendations are Dr. Lisa Christenson, North Dakota State University, and Dr. Sheela Ramamoorthy (alternate) North Dakota State University; Dr. Sara Fridrych, practicing veterinarian, and Dr. Paul Motter (alternate); and Mr. Kevin Elliott, livestock producer, and Mr. Jeff Bunn (alternate).

It was moved by Representative Rohr, seconded by Representative Lefor, and carried that the recommendations by the Chancellor and Representative Jay Fisher be appointed to Veterinary Medical Education Program Admissions Committee.

It was moved by Senator Holmberg, seconded by Senator Wardner, and carried that Representative Dan Ruby and Senator David S. Rust be appointed to the Multistate Highway Transportation Agreement Cooperating Committee.

It was moved by Senator Holmberg, seconded by Senator Wardner, and carried that Representative Karen Karls and Senator Kristin Roers be appointed to the Committee on Protection and Advocacy.

It was moved by Representative Devlin, seconded by Senator Burckhard, and carried that Representative Rohr be appointed to the State Hospital Governing Body.

It was moved by Representative Rohr, seconded by Senator Schaible, and carried that Representative Klemin and Senator David Hogue be appointed to the Uniform Laws Commission.

It was moved by Senator Wardner, seconded by Senator Klein, and carried that Representative Corey Mock and Senator Kyle Davison be appointed to the State Information Technology Advisory Committee.

It was moved by Senator Wardner, seconded by Senator Burckhard, and carried that Representative Glenn Bosch and Senator Dwight Cook be appointed to the Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee.

RULES OF OPERATION AND PROCEDURE

At the request of Chairman Pollert, the Director reviewed the proposed [Supplementary Rules of Operation and Procedure of the North Dakota Legislative Management](#).

It was moved by Senator Schaible, seconded by Senator Holmberg, and carried that the proposed *Supplementary Rules of Operation and Procedure of the North Dakota Legislative Management* be approved.

LEGISLATION AFFECTING THE LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT AND THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

At the request of Chairman Pollert, Ms. Vonette J. Richter, Legal Division Director, reviewed a memorandum entitled [2019 Legislation Directly Affecting the Legislative Management and the Legislative Assembly](#).

EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

At the request of Chairman Pollert, the Director reviewed the employee assistance program. The Director said members of the Legislative Assembly, as well as the Legislative Council staff, have the ability to access services through an employee assistance program. He said the CHI St. Alexius employee assistance program has been the vendor for the Legislative Assembly and the Legislative Council staff during recent bienniums.

It was moved by Senator Holmberg, seconded by Senator Schaible, and carried that the Chairman be authorized to select an employee assistance program for the Legislative Assembly.

ADDITIONAL COMMITTEE DIRECTIVES

It was moved by Senator Wardner, seconded by Representative Devlin, and carried on a roll call vote that the interim Human Services Committee receive periodic reports from the Department of Human Services on the status of the department's administration of county social services programs, including the establishment of human service zones, human service zone budgets, and the indirect cost allocation plan; program changes and any "Family First" legislation initiatives; formula payments; and any county employees transferred to the department. Representatives Pollert, Boschee, Devlin, Grueneich, Hanson, Klemin, Lefor, Louser, and Rohr and Senators Burckhard, Heckaman, Holmberg, Klein, Schaible, Sorvaag, and Wardner voted "aye." No negative votes were cast.

It was moved by Senator Holmberg, seconded by Representative Grueneich, and carried on a roll call vote that the portion of the charitable gaming study relating to whether the state's charitable gaming laws regarding taxation are fair, adequate, and appropriate be moved from the Judiciary Committee to the Taxation Committee. Representatives Pollert, Boschee, Devlin, Grueneich, Hanson, Klemin, Lefor, Louser, and Rohr and Senators Burckhard, Heckaman, Holmberg, Klein, Schaible, Sorvaag, and Wardner voted "aye." No negative votes were cast.

TRIBAL TAXATION ISSUES COMMITTEE

It was moved by Senator Holmberg, seconded by Representative Grueneich, and carried on a roll call vote that Governor Doug Burgum be requested to serve as chairman of the Tribal Taxation Issues Committee. Representatives Pollert, Boschee, Devlin, Grueneich, Hanson, Klemin, Lefor, Louser, and Rohr and Senators Burckhard, Heckaman, Holmberg, Klein, Schaible, Sorvaag, and Wardner voted "aye." No negative votes were cast.

2021 LEGISLATIVE DEADLINES

At the request of Chairman Pollert, the Director distributed proposed [2021 Legislative Deadlines](#). The Director said the Legislative Procedure and Arrangements Committee typically is responsible for recommending session deadlines. He said that committee will review the proposed deadlines and make a recommendation to the Legislative Management next year.

No further business appearing, Chairman Pollert adjourned the meeting at 1:50 p.m.

John Bjornson
Director

ATTACH: 1