In the matter of the Doria Drost For House committee (18536);

1. Doria Drost For House is the principal campaign committee of Doria Drost. Ms. Drost was a candidate for state representative in 2020. The aggregate political party unit and terminating principal campaign committee contribution limit was $10,000 for a candidate for state representative during the 2019-2020 election cycle. The committee’s 2020 year-end report of receipts and expenditures initially included a total of $9,300 in contributions from those sources. An amended 2020 year-end report was filed on March 15, 2021, showing that an additional $1,000 contribution was received from a party unit in 2020 and the committee thereby exceeded the $10,000 limit by $300. The excess amount was not returned within 90 days of deposit and is therefore deemed accepted under Minnesota Statutes section 10A.15, subdivision 3.

2. The committee’s treasurer, Edwin Yerka, explained that the excess amount initially went undetected due to a deposit that was missing from the original 2020 year-end report. Mr. Yerka stated that the committee will refund $300 to a party unit that contributed to the committee in 2020.

3. The parties agree that the committee inadvertently accepted excessive contributions from party units and terminating principal campaign committees in violation of Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 2, during the 2019-2020 election cycle. This is the committee’s first violation of the limit on contributions from party units and terminating principal campaign committees.

4. To avoid a similar violation in the future, the committee agrees to ensure that the committee’s treasurer reviews and enters contributions into the Campaign Finance Reporter software within 30 days of receipt.

5. The committee agrees to the imposition of a civil penalty of $300, one times the amount of the violation, for accepting contributions in excess of the limit imposed by Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 2. Of this amount, $100 is due within 30 days of the date the agreement is signed by both parties. The remaining $200 of the penalty is, by the terms of this agreement, stayed until January 1, 2023. If the committee violates Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 2, before January 1, 2023, the outstanding civil penalty is due immediately. If the committee does not violate Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 2, before January 1, 2023, the outstanding civil penalty is waived.

6. The committee also agrees to provide to the Board, within 60 days of the date the agreement is signed by both parties, a copy of the deposited check or other documentation showing that $300 has been refunded to a party unit that made a contribution to the committee in 2020.
7. If the committee does not comply with the provisions of this agreement, this matter may be reopened by the Board and the Board may take such actions as it deems appropriate.

/s/ Doria Drost ____________________________ Dated: August 4, 2021
Doria Drost
Doria Drost For House

/s/ Stephen Swanson ____________________________ Dated: July 28, 2021
Stephen Swanson, Chair
Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board