## STATE OF MINNESOTA CAMPAIGN FINANCE AND PUBLIC DISCLOSURE BOARD

## **CONCILIATION AGREEMENT**

In the matter of the Neighbors for Dan (Wolgamott) committee (18168);

- 1. Neighbors for Dan (Wolgamott) is the principal campaign committee of Representative Dan Wolgamott. The aggregate special source contribution limit, which includes contributions from lobbyists, political committees and funds, and associations not registered with the Board, was \$13,700 for candidates for state representative during the 2019-2020 election cycle. The committee's amended 2019 and 2020 year-end reports of receipts and expenditures disclosed a combined total of \$15,100 in special source contributions. The \$1,400 in excess special source contributions 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, Tom Hergert, explained that the committee exceeded the aggregate special source limit as a result of his inexperience combined with miscommunication within the committee as to who was responsible for monitoring compliance with contribution limits. Mr. Hergert stated that \$1,300 of the excess amount has been refunded to special source contributors.
- 3. The parties agree that the committee inadvertently accepted excessive contributions from special source contributors in violation of Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 11, during the 2019-2020 election cycle. This is the committee's first violation of the aggregate special source limit.
- 4. To avoid a similar violation in the future, the committee agrees that it:
  - a. Will ensure that the committee's treasurer reviews and enters contributions into the committee's reporting software within 60 days of receipt; and
  - b. Will not accept a contribution from a special source contributor without first calculating the total amount of contributions accepted from those sources over the course of the two-year election cycle.
- 5. The committee agrees to the imposition of a civil penalty of \$1,400, one times the amount of the violation, for accepting contributions in excess of the limit imposed by Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 11. Of this amount, \$350 is due within 30 days of the date the agreement is signed by both parties. The remaining \$1,050 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 11, before January 1, 2023, the outstanding civil penalty is due immediately. If the committee does not violate Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 11, 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, copies of deposited checks or other documentation showing that at least \$1,400 has been refunded to special source contributors that contributed to the committee during the 2019-2020 election cycle.
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/ Dan Wolgamott	Dated: <u>November 23, 2021</u>
Depresentative Dep Welgemett	<del></del>

Representative Dan Wolgamott Neighbors for Dan (Wolgamott)

/s/ Stephen Swanson Dated: October 6, 2021

Stephen Swanson, Chair Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board