## STATE OF MINNESOTA CAMPAIGN FINANCE AND PUBLIC DISCLOSURE BOARD

## **CONCILIATION AGREEMENT**

In the matter of the Rarick (Jason) for Senate committee (18406);

1. Rarick (Jason) for Senate is the principal campaign committee of Senator Jason Rarick. The aggregate special source contribution limit, which includes contributions from lobbyists, political committees and funds, and associations not registered with the Board, is \$7,300 for candidates for state senate during the 2023-2024 election cycle segment. The committee's amended 2023 year-end report of receipts and expenditures disclosed a total of \$7,427.45 in special source contributions. The \$127.45 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 original 2023 year-end report included a non-itemized in-kind expenditure of \$129.45 with no corresponding in-kind contribution received from a lobbyist. As a result, when the original report was filed, the report reflected that the committee was \$2 below the aggregate special source limit. After being contacted by Board staff, Senator Rarick did not understand why the original report did not include the \$129.45 in-kind contribution from a lobbyist and stated that he would have returned the excess amount had he known that the limit had been exceeded.

3. The committee states that it has returned \$129.45 to the lobbyist after notification of this investigation. The committee agrees to provide a copy of the deposited check used to return the contribution to the Board within 60 days of when this agreement has been signed by both parties.

4. The parties agree that the committee inadvertently accepted excess contributions from special source contributors in violation of Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 11, during the 2023-2024 election cycle segment. The committee registered with the Board in 2019 and this is its first violation of the aggregate special source limit.

5. To avoid a similar violation in the future, the committee agrees that it will view a tutorial video available on the Board's website demonstrating how to enter an in-kind contribution received and a corresponding in-kind expense within Campaign Finance Reporter Online.<sup>1</sup>

6. The committee agrees that it will not accept any contributions from special sources in 2024.

7. The committee agrees to the imposition of a civil penalty of \$100 for accepting contributions in excess of the limit imposed by Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 11. The amount of the civil penalty was determined in part by the fact that this was a first-time violation of the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> <u>cfb.mn.gov/html/training/CFR/CFRO\_In-kind\_Contributions/In-kind\_Contributions.html</u>

aggregate special source limit. A civil penalty of \$100 is generally the minimum civil penalty imposed by the Board.

8. 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.

<u>/s/ Jason Rarick</u> Senator Jason Rarick Rarick (Jason) for Senate Dated: September 16, 2024

/s/ David Asp

Dated: September 4, 2024

David Asp, Chair Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board