STATE OF MINNESOTA CAMPAIGN FINANCE AND PUBLIC DISCLOSURE BOARD

CONCILIATION AGREEMENT

In the matter of the Wes Lund for MN House 25B committee (19093);

1. Wes Lund for MN House 25B is the principal campaign committee of Wes Lund, who was a candidate for House District 25B. The aggregate political party unit and terminating principal campaign committee contribution limit was \$10,000 for a candidate for state representative during the 2023-2024 election cycle. The committee's original 2024 year-end report of receipts and expenditures, filed on January 31, 2025, included a total of \$10,433.33 in contributions from party units. \$83.33 of that amount was an in-kind contribution that was incorrectly reported to have been made by a party unit rather than by the candidate. The remaining excess amount of \$350 was not returned within 90 days of deposit and is therefore deemed accepted under Minnesota Statutes section 10A.15, subdivision 3.

2. Mr. Lund provided documentation showing that his campaign committee exceeded the \$10,000 limit when he deposited two contributions from party units on October 29, 2024, and that a cashier's check refunding \$350 to a party unit was issued 99 days later on February 5, 2025, after Mr. Lund realized that the limit had been exceeded. The committee did not have sufficient funds to refund the \$350 excess amount, so Mr. Lund used his personal funds in order to issue the cashier's check. Mr. Lund explained that he had difficulty using the Board's campaign finance reporting system, that he attempted to track how much had been accepted from party units, and that the excess amount was promptly refunded after he realized the limit had been exceeded. Mr. Lund also stated that his committee's bank told him that the \$350 refund check has not been deposited.

3. The Lund committee and the Board agree that the committee inadvertently accepted excessive contributions from party units in violation of Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 2, during the 2023-2024 election cycle. The committee registered with the Board in March 2024 and has no prior violations 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 that it will terminate its registration with the Board.

5. Mr. Lund contacted Board staff for assistance both before and after realizing that his committee accepted excessive contributions from party units. Mr. Lund contacted Board staff as soon as he realized the limit had been exceeded, promptly issued a refund check, and used his personal funds in order to refund the excess amount. This was a first-time violation of the aggregate political party unit and terminating principal campaign committee contribution limit by a first-time candidate who has terminated his committee's registration with the Board. Considering those factors, the Board declines to impose a civil penalty.

6. The Lund committee also agrees to provide to the Board, within 60 days of the date the agreement is signed by both parties, documentation showing that the party unit to which \$350 was refunded has received and deposited the refund check.

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.

<u>/s/ Wes Lund</u> Wes Lund Wes Lund for MN House 25B Dated: <u>June 9, 2025</u>

/s/ Faris Rashid

Dated: <u>May 14, 2025</u>

Faris Rashid, Chair Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board