STATE OF MINNESOTA CAMPAIGN FINANCE AND PUBLIC DISCLOSURE BOARD

FINDINGS IN THE MATTER OF THE ACCEPTANCE OF A CONTRIBUTION DURING THE 2006 LEGISLATIVE SESSION BY THE NEIGHBORS FOR SCOTT KRANZ COMMITTEE

Summary of the Allegations and Responses

In a letter dated June 22, 2006, Tom Young, Treasurer for the Neighbors for Scott Kranz Committee ("the Committee"), notified the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board ("the Board") that the Committee accepted a \$300 contribution from the IBEW 110 PAC on March 7, 2006. The regular 2006 Legislative Session was held from March 1 until May 21, 2006.

Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.273, subdivision 1, prohibits candidates from soliciting or accepting a contribution from a political committee during a regular legislative session. A candidate who violates this section is subject to a civil penalty imposed by the board of up to \$1,000.

Mr. Young stated, "We have accepted a campaign contribution that we should not have and I am writing to inform you of this."

This matter was considered by the Board in executive session on August 15, 2006.

Relevant Statutes

Minnesota Statutes, section10A.273, subdivision 1. **Contributions during legislative session**. (a) A candidate for the legislature or for constitutional office, the candidate's principal campaign committee, or a political committee or party unit established by all or a part of the party organization within a house of the legislature, must not solicit or accept a contribution from a registered lobbyist, political committee, political fund, or dissolving principal campaign committee, or from a party unit established by the party organization within a house of the legislature.

Based on the above Summary of the Allegations and Responses and Relevant Statutes, the Board makes the following:

Finding of Probable Cause

There is evidence that the Neighbors for Scott Kranz Committee inadvertently accepted a \$300 contribution from a political committee during the 2006 regular legislative session. The Board finds probable cause to believe that the Committee violated Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.273, subdivision 1.

Based on the above Finding Concerning Probable Cause, the Board issues the following:

<u>ORDER</u>

- 1. The Board imposes a civil fine of \$300, one times the amount of the contribution, on the Neighbors for Scott Kranz Committee for acceptance of a prohibited contribution during the regular 2006 legislative session.
- The Board directs the Neighbors for Scott Kranz Committee to return the prohibited \$300 contribution to the IBEW 110 PAC. A copy of the letter and check returning the contribution must be forwarded to the Board.
- The Neighbors for Scott Kranz Committee is directed to send to the Board payment of the civil fine and a copy of the letter and check returning the contribution within thirty days after receipt of this order.
- If the Neighbors for Scott Kranz Committee does not comply with the provisions of this order, the Board's Executive Director shall refer this matter to the Ramsey County Attorney for civil enforcement pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.273.
- 5. The Board investigation of this matter is entered into the public record in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.02, subdivision 11, and upon payment by the Neighbors for Scott Kranz Committee of the civil fine imposed herein, the matter is concluded.

8/15/06 Dated:

Bob Milbert, Chair Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board