

**Minutes
Indiana Lobby Registration Commission
Public Session
December 18, 2024, 11:00 a.m., EST**

Members Present: Chairperson Beverly Gard; Commissioners Bill Friend, Joe Micon and Terry White

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Edward Ferguson, Executive Director and General Counsel;
Public Present: As per sign-in sheet

Call to Order and Opening Remarks

At approximately 11:07 a.m. EST on December 18, 2024, Chairperson Beverly Gard called to order the Regular Public Meeting of the Indiana Lobby Registration Commission. The meeting was conducted in person at the Market Tower Conference Room, 10 West Market Street in Indianapolis, Indiana. Before proceeding to the first item on the agenda, Chairperson Gard read the following statement:

“The Indiana Lobby Registration Commission met in executive session immediately before this public meeting to discuss job performance evaluations of employees as permitted under IC 5-14-1.5-6.1 (b)(9). No other subject matter was discussed during the executive session, and the Commission took no final action during the executive session.”

Review and Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the June 7, 2024 Executive Session were reviewed and unanimously approved upon motion made by Commissioner Terry White and seconded by Commissioner Bill Friend.

Minutes of the June 7, 2024 Regular Public Meeting were reviewed and unanimously approved upon motion made by Commissioner Joe Micon and seconded by Commissioner Bill Friend.

Executive Director’s Report

Mr. Ferguson gave a brief report highlighting staff activities since the last meeting of the Commission.

Report on Late Fees and Appeals

Ms. Nicholson gave a report on late fees and appeals filed since June 7, 2024 and settled administratively pursuant to ILRC policy. Commissioners received a list of late filers,

reasons for the late filings, and late fees assessed. No action was taken by the Commission.

Reports Filed by State Colleges and Universities

Ms. Nicholson reviewed a spreadsheet showing the annual reports filed by the state colleges and universities for Lobby Year 2024. She noted that all filings were in order with the exception of the filing submitted by Ball State University. She said that she had been in contact with BSU officials regarding its filing. No action was taken by the Commission.

Report on Compensated and Employer Activity Reports and Registrations

Ms. Nicholson reviewed a spreadsheet showing expenditures made by compensated and employer lobbyists for the second reporting period of Lobby Year 2024 and combined totals for the full Lobby Year, as well as registrations to date for Lobby Year 2025. There was some discussion regarding the reports, but no action was taken by the Commission.

Report on the ILRC Database and Website Upgrade and Improvement Project, Phases II and III

Ms. Nicholson gave an oral report concerning the ILRC Database and Website Upgrade and Improvement Project. She reported that she had been beta-testing new registration and reporting features with some lobbyists, and that the project is making good progress on the improvements. Work on the project continues. No action was taken by the Commission.

Proposed ILRC Budget for FY 2025-2026 and FY 2026-2027

Mr. Ferguson discussed the proposed ILRC budget for the upcoming biennial budget that will be presented to the appropriate legislators and staff prior to the convening of the 2025 session of the Indiana General Assembly. He said that the ILRC's proposed budget would be essentially a "hold the line" budget, given anticipated state revenue shortfalls. Lease costs will remain flat because of the smaller footprint of Suite 1919 as compared with our previous footprint on the twentieth floor. He said that he had had conversations with George Angelone of the LSA regarding their budget proposal, and that both agencies were holding the line on costs wherever possible. Following discussion by the Commission, Commissioner Bill Friend moved to approve the budget submission. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Terry White, and was approved unanimously.

Other Business, Comments from the Commissioners and Public Comments

There was no other business brought before the Commission, and there were no comments from the public attendees. Commissioners Friend, Micon and White each thanked Chairperson Gard for her year as Chairperson of the Commission.

Adjourn

There being no further business before the Commission, Commissioner White moved that the meeting be adjourned. Commissioner Friend seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:54 a.m. EST.

Respectfully submitted,

s/Edward Ferguson

Edward Ferguson
Executive Director and General Counsel