### Report of the Minnesota Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board



## **Covering the Biennium for Fiscal Years 2012 and 2013**

July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2013

Issued: November 5, 2013 CAMPAIGN FINANCE and PUBLIC DISCLOSURE BOARD Suite 190, Centennial Building 658 Cedar Street St. Paul MN 55155-1603

Telephone: (651)539-1180 or (800)657-3889 Fax: (651)539-1196 or (800)357-4114 Email: cf.board@state.mn.us Website: <u>http://www.cfboard.state.mn.us</u>

This document is available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by calling (651)539-1180, (800)657-3889, or through the Minnesota Relay Service at (800)627-3529.

#### Minnesota Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

DATE: November 5, 2013

- TO: The Honorable Mark Dayton, Governor The Honorable Sandra Pappas, President of the Senate The Honorable Thomas Bakk, Senate Majority Leader The Honorable Paul Thissen, Speaker of the House The Honorable Erin Murphy, House Majority Leader The Honorable David Hann, Senate Minority Leader The Honorable Kurt Daudt, House Minority Leader
- FROM:Deanna Wiener, ChairCampaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

#### **SUBJECT:** Report for the Biennium July 1, 2011, through June 30, 2013

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes chapter 10A.02, subdivision 8 (a), the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board submits this report of the Board's activities during the 2012 – 2013 biennium.

The Board, consistent with its objectives and administrative procedures, provided guidance to the thousands of individuals and associations whose disclosure of certain political, economic interest and lobbying activities is regulated by the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Act, Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 10A.

Included in this report is information about the campaign finance disclosure associated with the 2012 election cycle, the filing of lobbyist disbursement and lobbyist principal reports, and the filing of statements of economic interest by public officials.

Throughout its activities the Board strives to accomplish its mission; which is to promote public confidence in state government decision-making through development, administration, and enforcement of disclosure and public financing programs and ensure public access to and understanding of information filed with the Board.

We recognize the importance the State of Minnesota places on public disclosure laws and the regulation of campaign finance activity and appreciate the trust placed in the Board and its staff by the Legislature and the Office of the Governor.

#### TABLE OF CONTENTS

| EXECUTIVE SUMMARY  | 1  |
|--|----|
| INTRODUCTION TO THE BOARD  | 4  |
| Board Member Qualifications  | 6  |
| Board Members - July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2013                                       | 6  |
| Summary of Board Activities  | 10 |
| PROGRAM REVIEWS  | 13 |
| CAMPAIGN FINANCE PROGRAM   | 13 |
| Program Overview   | 13 |
| Legislative Action Impacting the Campaign Finance Program                                | 14 |
| Advisory Opinions Issued Related to the Campaign Finance Program                         | 19 |
| Campaign Finance Disclosure Reports Filed  | 22 |
| Electronic Filing of   | 22 |
| Campaign Finance Reports   | 22 |
| Public Subsidy Payments  | 24 |
| Payments Made for the 2012 State General Election  | 24 |
| Political Party Payments   | 25 |
| Campaign Finance Enforcement Actions   | 26 |
| LOBBYIST PROGRAM   | 27 |
| Program Overview   | 27 |
| Legislative Action   | 27 |
| Advisory Opinions Issued Related to the Lobbying Program                                 | 28 |
| Lobbyist Disbursement Reports  | 28 |
| Principal Expenditures   | 29 |
| Lobbyist Program Enforcement Actions   | 29 |
| ECONOMIC INTEREST PROGRAM  | 30 |
| Program Overview   | 30 |
| Legislative Action   | 30 |
| Advisory Opinions Issued   | 31 |
| OTHER BOARD PROGRAMS   | 32 |
| STAFF DUTIES   | 33 |
| Staff Salaries   | 35 |
| BOARD FINANCIAL INFORMATION  | 35 |
| Board Operating Budget   | 36 |
| Penalties Paid for Late Filing of Disclosure Reports and other Violations of Chapter 10A | 37 |

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board is charged with the administration of the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Act, Chapter 10A of Minnesota Statutes. During the fiscal years 2012 and 2013 biennium the Board faced challenges in the administration and enforcement of Chapter 10A. In particular the redistricting of legislative boundaries for the 2012 election; and the reporting and compliance issues for committees and funds making expenditures in support or opposition to two constitutional amendments on the 2012 ballot were issues that required large amounts of the Board's resources for the biennium.

The effect of legislative redistricting on both candidates and political party units registered with the Board was significant. Candidate committees and political party units based on legislative districts routinely elected new officers after redistricting and often changed the party unit's name to reflect the new district boundaries. Board staff worked hard to ensure that all needed amendments and registrations were filed and that the Board had up-to-date treasurer contact information so that the 2012 election year reports were filed in a timely manner. During the 2012 election the Board also made \$1,949,951 in public subsidy payments to 348 legislative candidates.

The proposed constitutional amendments on the definition of marriage and voter identification created a great deal of interest and activism in the 2012 election. It also brought individuals and associations not usually involved with elections into the registration and reporting requirements of Chapter 10A. This influx of new people into the regulated community was complicated by disclosure requirements in Chapter 10A that had not kept up with recent court decisions on the disclosure that may be required from an association that has a primary purpose other than to influence the election or defeat of candidates. It became clear to the Board that applying the existing Chapter 10A political committee registration and disclosure requirements to non-profit corporations and other associations that wished to have a voice in the debate on the constitutional amendments was at best constitutionally questionable because contributions to ballot questions do not have the potential for corruption or the appearance of corruption of elected officials.

As a result, the Board spent much of late 2011 and early 2012 deliberating on how it could interpret Chapter 10A so that the public was provided the highest constitutionally permitted level of disclosure of the use of money used to support or oppose the amendments. As a result of those deliberations the Board issued statements of guidance for use by associations spending funds to promote or defeat the constitutional amendments. The guidance did not have, and was not intended to have, the effect of law. Therefore, the guidance did not impose any new requirement or standard on individuals, associations, or political committees or funds. Instead, the guidance increased the amount of contributions that could be

1

accepted or the amount of expenditures that could be made before the Board would take action for failure to register a political fund. The Board also applied the existing disclosure provisions for independent expenditure political funds to ballot question political funds. As a result of the Board's recommendation, the 2013 legislature took the provisions of the Board's guidance on ballot questions and committees and codified them into Chapter 10A.

With the Board guidance on registration and reporting for ballot question funds and committees in place the Board further assisted groups active in constitutional amendment campaigns by issuing six advisory opinions on the disclosure required of ballot question committees and funds. The Board also investigated five complaints based on the activities of an association spending money to promote or defeat the constitutional amendments during the FY 2012 - FY 2013 biennium.

While the Board faced challenges in administering the campaign finance provisions of Chapter 10A the lobbyist program remained relatively stable. About 1,450 lobbyists were registered with the Board at any one time throughout the two-year period. The lobbyists represented about 1,300 principals. The principals reported total expenditures of \$ \$65,241,174 in 2011. In 2012 principals were for the first time required to break out the amount spent to influence administrative action by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission from all other lobbying in the state. In 2012 the principals reported spending \$2,749,590 to influence the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission and \$59,060,155 on all other lobbying expenditures, for total expenditures of \$61,809,745.

The economic interest disclosure program for public officials grew from about 2,200 individuals required to file economic interest statements with the Board in in FY 2012 to 2,273 at the end of FY 2013. This number will grow significantly as legislation passed in FY 2013 will eventually add judges and county commissioners for all 87 counties to the list of public officials who file with the Board.

During the biennium the Board held twenty-three scheduled meetings and one special meeting to review legislative proposals. During the meetings the Board issued fifteen advisory opinions; reviewed and approved fifty findings of probable cause that resolved investigations based both on complaints filed with the Board and on inquiries initiated by the Board from the staff review of disclosure reports; and offered fifty-one conciliation agreements to resolve contribution and spending limit violations of Chapter 10A.

During the 2012 – 2013 biennium the Board's budget was sufficient to maintain only 7.6 full-time equivalent staff positions. Based on its current and historical workloads, the Board requested an increase in its budget sufficient to employ nine staff members. This request was made so the Board could provide the levels of professionalism and service expected by its clients and the public. The Board thanks the Legislature and the Governor's office for recognizing the importance of its work and approving an

2

appropriation increase for the upcoming 2014 – 2015 biennium that will allow the Board to maintain a staff of nine, and which will support technology projects that the Board will use to better serve the regulated community and the general public.

#### INTRODUCTION TO THE BOARD

#### **Authority**

The Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board was established by the state legislature in 1974 through enactment of Chapter 10A of the Minnesota Statutes. Throughout its history the Board has enforced the provisions of Chapter 10A, promulgated and enforced Minnesota Rules 4501 through 4525, and issued advisory opinions to guide clients in meeting the chapter's requirements.

New authority was given to the Board in Laws of 2013, Chapter 138, Article 1, which extended the Board's jurisdiction to three sections of Chapter 211B. Those sections are (1) 211B.04, which governs the "prepared and paid for" form of disclaimer, (2) 211B.12, which specifies the purposes for which campaign money may be legally used, and (3) 211B.15, which governs corporate contributions. The new authority is limited to those individuals and associations already under the Board's jurisdiction under Chapter 10A. The Board's new jurisdiction means that it may conduct investigations of possible violations of these statues and may also issue advisory opinions on these provisions. Article 1 of Chapter 138 went into effect on May 25, 2013.

 
 Mission Statement
 To promote public confidence in state government decision-making through development, administration, and enforcement of disclosure and public financing programs which will ensure public access to and understanding of information filed with the Board.

| Functions            | <ul> <li>Core functions of the Board include administration and management of the:</li> <li>registration and public disclosure by state legislative, constitutional office, and judicial office candidates, political party units, political committees, and political funds;</li> <li>state public subsidy program that provides public funding to qualified state candidates and the state committees of political parties;</li> <li>registration and public disclosure by lobbyists and principals attempting to influence state legislative action, administrative action, and the official action of metropolitan governmental units;</li> <li>disclosure of economic interest, conflicts of interest, and representation of a client for a fee under certain circumstances for designated state and metropolitan governmental unit officials.</li> </ul> |
|----------------------|--|
| Goals and Objectives | <ul> <li>Create better compliance with the Campaign Finance and<br/>Public Disclosure Act by moving to an educational model in<br/>which providing easy to access information and training<br/>reduces the number of violations.</li> <li>Provide fair and consistent enforcement of the Act.</li> <li>Help citizens become better informed about public issues<br/>related to the Act.</li> </ul>   |
| Board and Staff      | • The Board consists of six members, none of who may be an active lobbyist, a state elected official, or an active candidate for state office. The Board is not non-partisan; rather it is multipartisan, with no more than three of the members of the Board supporting the same political party. Additional information about Board composition and members is found below.  |
|                      | <ul> <li>The Board was able to maintain only 7.6 full time equivalent<br/>positions during the 2012 – 2013 biennium. Additional<br/>information about Board staff is found beginning on page 33.</li> </ul>  |

#### **Board Member Qualifications**

The Board consists of six citizen members who are responsible for the administration of the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Act. Members of the Board are appointed by the Governor to staggered four-year terms. Their appointments must be confirmed by a three-fifths vote of the members of each body of the legislature. Two members must be former members of the legislature who support different political parties; two members must be persons who have not been public officials, held any political party office other than precinct delegate, or been elected to public office for which party designation is required by statute in the three years preceding the date of their appointment; and the other two members must support different political parties. The Board holds regular monthly meetings, which are open to the public and executive session meetings which are closed to the public.

#### Board Members - July 1, 2011, through June 30, 2013



#### George Beck

George Beck was appointed to the Board in February of 2012 by Governor Mark Dayton for a term ending in January of 2016. He fills a Board position requiring a member who has not been a public official, held any political party office other than precinct delegate, or been elected to public office for which party designation is required by statute in the three years preceding the member's appointment. Judge Beck is a retired administrative law judge who served in that position for nearly 30 years. He presently works as an arbitrator with the American Arbitration Association and also serves on the Hennepin County Human Resources Board. Judge Beck holds a BA degree from the University of Chicago and a JD degree from the University of Minnesota Law School.



#### Hilda Bettermann - Left Board February 2012

Hilda Bettermann was appointed in April 2004 by Governor Tim Pawlenty and reappointed in January 2008 for a term ending that ended in January 2012. Ms. Bettermann served through the February 14, 2012, Board meeting. She is a former member of the legislature from the Republican Party where she served in the Minnesota House of Representatives for eight years. Ms. Bettermann is currently a Board member of the Brandon History Center and the Douglas County Hospital Board. She is also a former member of the Central Lakes Area Sanitary District Advisory Council, Rural Health Advisory Council, the Workers Compensation Council and the MNSCU Trustee Advisory Council.



#### Andy Luger – Board Chair Calendar Year 2013

Andy Luger was appointed in March 2011 by Governor Mark Dayton for a term ending in January 2015. He fills a Board position requiring a member who supports a political party but otherwise has no restrictions on previous political activities. Mr. Luger is a partner at the Minneapolis law firm of Greene Espel, PLLP where he practices business litigation and white collar criminal defense. Previously, he was an Assistant United States Attorney in Minnesota and New York focusing on white collar criminal matters. He graduated from the Georgetown University Law Center magna cum laude and is a summa cum laude graduate of Amherst College.

#### Greg McCullough – Board Chair Calendar Year 2012 Left Board June 2013

Greg McCullough was appointed in May 2009 by Governor Tim Pawlenty for a term ending in January 2013. Mr. McCullough served through the June 10, 2013, Board meeting. He filled a Board position requiring a member who has not been a public official, held any political party office other than precinct delegate, or been elected to public office for which party designation is required by statute in the three years preceding the member's appointment to the Board. Mr. McCullough is a communications leader at GE. In previous roles, he led marketing operations for Fortune-class companies in the information technology, chemical, and commercial real estate industries. He earned BA and MS degrees from Northwestern University and an MBA from the University of Minnesota.





#### **Neil Peterson**

Neil Peterson was appointed in February of 2012 by Governor Mark Dayton for a term ending in January of 2016. He fills the position of a former RPM legislator and served as a state representative from 2005 - 2008. Mr. Peterson is active in the second half of his business career in commercial/industrial real estate, client advisory and property management. The first half of his business career was in commercial banking. Concurrently, he was elected to public office in Bloomington, serving four terms on the city council and three terms as mayor; his last term overseeing the construction and opening of the Mall of America. He was appointed to the Metropolitan Council by Governor Carlson and served 4 years before withdrawing from public office in 1999. During his two terms in the state legislature Mr. Peterson was recognized for involvement in passage of legislation for the new Twins Stadium, Smoke Free Minnesota, and transportation funding. He has a degree in economics from Hastings College, Hastings Nebraska, and Stonier Graduate School of Banking. Rutgers University. He is married to his high school sweetheart Patricia, and they enjoy their three daughters and eight grandchildren.

#### John Scanlon - Board Chair Calendar Year 2011

John Scanlon was appointed in October 2008 by Governor Tim Pawlenty to fill an unexpired term and reappointed in January 2010 for a term ending in January 2014. He fills a Board position requiring a member who has not been a public official, held any political party office other than precinct delegate, or been elected to public office for which party designation is required by statute in the three years preceding the member's appointment to the Board. Mr. Scanlon is an assistant general counsel with 3M Company. He currently provides general legal counsel to several 3M divisions and U.S.-based subsidiaries in a variety of substantive areas of law including contract, antitrust, product liability, product representation, and distribution. Previously he was an attorney with Dorsey and Whitney in Minneapolis and a law clerk to U.S. District Court Judge Paul A. Magnuson. He is a graduate of the University of Notre Dame and Notre Dame Law School.





#### **Deanna Wiener**

Deanna Wiener was appointed in March 2011 by Governor Mark Dayton for a term ending in January of 2015. She fills the position of a former DFL legislator and served as a state senator from 1993-2003. Ms. Wiener has been a Realtor since 1977 and is currently a Broker and Co-owner of Cardinal Realty Co. She is also a partner in land development businesses. Currently she serves as a director to the National Association of Realtors and is a board member of the St. Paul Association of Realtors and serves on the board of the Friends of Mississippi. She is a graduate of St. Mary's Jr. College, now St. Catherine's, with an associate degree in nursing.

#### David Swenson – Left Board February 2012

David Swenson was appointed in December 2010 by Governor Tim Pawlenty, to complete a term ending in January 2012. Mr. Swenson served through the February 14, 2012, Board meeting. He filled a Board position requiring a member who supports a political party but otherwise has no restrictions on previous political activities. He grew up in New Hope, MN, attended Boston College, then earned his law degree from the University of Minnesota Law School and his Masters in Public Affairs from the University's Humphrey Institute. After school, Mr. Swenson clerked for the Minnesota State Court of Appeals. followed by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit in Washington, D.C., then practiced law in Washington for ten years. He returned to Minnesota in 2007, and is a partner at the law firm of Robins, Kaplan, Miller & Ciresi LLP, practicing in the area of patent litigation and appeals. Mr. Swenson also serves on the Community Board of the Blaisdell YMCA.



#### **Summary of Board Activities**

MeetingsThe Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board held 23 scheduled<br/>meetings, and one special meeting at which the Board's legislative<br/>recommendations for 2013 were finalized. Minutes of Board meetings are<br/>published on the Board's web site.

Advisory OpinionThe Board is authorized to issue advisory opinions on the requirements of the<br/>Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Act (Minn. Stat. chapter 10A),<br/>Minnesota Statutes sections 211B.04, 211B.12, and 211B.15 if the requestor is<br/>under the jurisdiction of Chapter 10A, and the Hennepin County Disclosure<br/>Law (Minn. Stat. §§ 383B.041 - 383B.058). Individuals or associations may ask<br/>for advisory opinions based on real or hypothetical situations to guide their<br/>compliance with these laws.

A request for an advisory opinion and the opinion itself are nonpublic data. The Board provides Consent to Release Information forms to individuals requesting opinions as part of the procedures under this law. If the requester does not consent to the publication of the requester's identity, the Board generally publishes a public version of the opinion, which does not identify the requester.

A written advisory opinion issued by the Board is binding on the Board in any subsequent Board proceeding concerning the person making or covered by the request and is a defense in a judicial proceeding that involves the subject matter of the opinion and is brought against the person making or covered by the request unless: 1) the Board has amended or revoked the opinion before the initiation of the Board or judicial proceeding, has notified the person making or covered by the request of its action, and has allowed at least 30 days for the person to do anything that might be necessary to comply with the amended or revoked opinion; 2) the request has omitted or misstated material facts; or 3) the person making or covered by the request has not acted in good faith in reliance on the opinion.

A total of fifteen advisory opinions were issued in fiscal years 2012 and 2013. A summary of each advisory opinion issued during the biennium is provided in the review of programs administered by the Board.

#### Education and Training Outreach

To accomplish the goal of educating clients and the interested public on the compliance and reporting requirements of Chapter 10A Board staff conducted the following training during the biennium:

- 16 compliance training sessions for candidates and treasurers and chairs of principal campaign committees, political party units, and political committees and funds
- 26 computer lab training classes for clients who use the Campaign Finance Reporter software
- 1 seminar for lobbyists prior to the 2013 legislative session.

Recognizing the cost and inconvenience for clients to attend training in St. Paul the Board provided, for the first time, web based training to clients. The Board also maintains nine videos on specific topics related to using Campaign Finance Reporter. The videos are available on the Board's web site. Based on favorable client feedback both of these training tools will be used more extensively in the future.

Additionally Board staff participated in numerous panels, presented at many continuing legal education courses, and spoke to interested groups of the public on the requirements of Chapter 10A.

Use of Technology The Board has long recognized the value of receiving disclosure reports in electronic format. Electronic reports may be moved directly into Board databases where the records are analyzed for compliance issues and then exported to the Board's website for faster disclosure to the public. Electronic filing eliminates the cost and errors associated with data entry of paper reports.

To facilitate electronic filing the Board developed web based applications for filing lobbyist disbursement reports, lobbyist principal reports, and the annual certification by public officials of the economic interest statement. Use of these web based applications is optional, clients may still file a paper report, but all three applications have participation rates of over 90%, which indicates that clients also prefer electronic filing.

The Board increasingly turns to the internet to provide the point of access for clients and the general public to Board applications and information. The Board's website monitoring tools are by calendar year, not fiscal year.

11

Nonetheless, the number of discrete, separate visits to the Board's website tripled between 2010 and the end of 2013.



The Board website offers

- Board meeting notices and minutes;
- Board enforcement actions findings and conciliation agreements;
- Advisory Opinions;
- Lists of lobbyists and associations, candidate committees, political committees, political funds, party units, and public officials;
- Copies of all campaign finance and lobbyist reports;
- Electronic filing for lobbyists and lobbyist principals;
- Electronic filing of the Annual Statement of Economic Interest for public officials;
- All Board publications and forms;
- Searchable databases of campaign finance contributions;
- Searchable database of independent expenditures;
- Campaign Finance Summaries;
- Lobbyist Disbursement Summaries;
- Annual Report of Lobbyist Principal Expenditures;
- Training videos on the use of Campaign Finance Reporter

#### **PROGRAM REVIEWS**

The Board administers three major and several minor programs as authorized by Minnesota Statutes Chapter 10A. The major programs are campaign finance, lobbying, and economic interest disclosure. The review of each major program includes a general description of the program, a review of legislation passed during the biennium that affects the program, a review of any Board advisory opinions issued during the time period for the program area, and an overview of administrative activity that occurred during the biennium.

#### **CAMPAIGN FINANCE PROGRAM**

 Program Overview
 The Board administers the provisions of Chapter 10A of the Minnesota

 Statutes that govern campaign finance laws for principal campaign
 committees, political committees, political funds, political party units, and

 independent expenditure committees and funds.
 Independent expenditure committees and funds.

During a non-election year these committees and funds file one year-end report disclosing receipts and expenditures to the Board. During the 2012 election year candidates and political party units filed three reports; all other committees and funds filed six reports. Information on the number of reports filed is found on page 22.

Each filed report is reviewed by Board staff for compliance with the disclosure law requirements, including accurate accounting and reporting, and adherence to applicable contribution and expenditure limits. Violations of contribution and expenditure limits are resolved through either a conciliation agreement or in some cases a Board finding of probable cause. Information on Board investigations and enforcement actions is found on page 26.

As a part of the campaign finance program the Board administers and regulates the distribution of payments for the state's public subsidy program, which provides public funding to qualified state candidates and the state committees of political parties. Payments are made following the state primary election to candidates and monthly to the state committees of political parties. Information on the payments is found on page 24.

Legislative Action The Board proposed a broad package of legislative recommendations to the 2013 legislature. The Board developed the recommendations based on extensive experience with real campaign finance and public disclosure issues. The recommendations were designed to strengthen Minnesota's regulation and disclosure of money used to influence elections. The Board's recommendations were drafted to provide Minnesota with disclosure that is more rigorous, yet remains consistent with the limits that the First Amendment places on public disclosure systems.

Not all of the Board's recommendations were passed into law, and some amendments were made the Board's recommendations. Nonetheless, a majority of the Board's recommendations were passed and became Laws of 2013, Chapter 138, when signed by the Governor on May 22, 2013. Chapter 138 amended Minnesota Statutes Chapter 10A in the following ways:

Ballot question political committees and funds

Ballot question political committees and funds are defined for the first time. A registration threshold of \$5,000 is established. Contributions of more than \$500 per donor must be itemized. Ballot question political committees and funds may accept corporate contributions under the same terms as are applicable to independent expenditure political committees and funds.

#### Board jurisdiction

The Board's jurisdiction is extended to three sections of Chapter 211B. Those sections are (1) 211B.04, which governs the "prepared and paid for" form of disclaimer, (2) 211B.12, which specifies the purposes for which campaign money may be legally used, and (3) 211B.15, which governs corporate contributions. The new authority is limited to those individuals and associations already under the Board's jurisdiction under Chapter 10A. Complaints under the Board's new jurisdiction must be filed with the Board rather than with the Office of Administrative Hearings. The Board may also issue advisory opinions related to these three provisions.

#### Board authority to recover money used for prohibited purposes

The Board is given the authority to recover money that originated from political contributions and that was used for purposes not permitted by law. The Board will first have to complete an investigation and make a finding that funds were misused. The association would have an opportunity to recover the funds in its own name. If the association was not at fault, funds recovered by the Board would go to the association after payment of the Board's actual costs and payment for the time spent by the Office of the Attorney General. In other cases, the recovered funds would be deposited in the general account of the public subsidy program for later distribution to candidates.

### Recordkeeping requirement expanded and sanctions provided

The recordkeeping requirement is expanded beyond the treasurer to individuals who have accepted the recordkeeping responsibility. A civil penalty is created in addition to the existing misdemeanor penalty.

#### • Certification Penalty extended

It is a violation of Chapter 10A to sign and certify a report if the signer knows that the report is inaccurate or is missing required information. This violation is extended to a person who provides inaccurate or incomplete information to the treasurer with the intent that the treasurer rely on that information in certifying a report.

#### Registration thresholds increased

The threshold for registering a candidate committee, a general purpose political committee or fund, and a party unit are increased from \$100 to \$750. The registration threshold for an independent expenditure political committee or fund is increased from \$100 to \$1,500. A new registration threshold for ballot question political committees or funds is set at \$5,000.

#### • Clarifications and changes for political funds

A political fund is an account through which a non-majorpurpose association records and reports its political spending. The legislation codifies the existing interpretation that an association that uses only its general treasury money for independent or ballot question expenditures does not need to establish a separate depository for its political spending. The legislation also provides for a political fund to elect inactive status without terminating its registration and provides that a political fund does not need to file a report for a period in which it has no financial activity.

#### • Extension of time to return problem contributions

The time within which a treasurer may return a contribution to eliminate a violation is increased from 60 to 90 days.

#### Expansion of election year reporting

Political committees or funds file six reports in an election year. The new legislation expands that requirement to include constitutional office candidates, state party units, and the party unit caucus committees.

#### Increased itemization thresholds

The threshold above which aggregate contributions or expenditures must be itemized is changed from \$100 to \$200. The itemization requirement for contributions to ballot question political committees or funds is set at \$500.

#### Termination of registration simplified

The process to terminate a registration with the Board is simplified. The requirement that all outstanding bills be paid prior to termination is repealed and language is added to clarify that any obligation for a debt is not affected by an association's termination of its registration with the Board.  Contribution and spending limits increased and made applicable over two-year segments

Contribution and spending limits are made applicable over a two-year period rather than over individual calendar years. Contribution and spending limits are increased for legislative and constitutional offices. Spending limits for a four-year election cycle are higher in the two-year segment that includes the election year.

Political contribution refund program reinstated
 In other legislation not proposed by the Board the state's
 program of refunding the first \$50 of an individual donor's
 political contribution is reinstated. The program is available to
 candidates who sign a public subsidy agreement and to minor
 and major political party units. The program has historically
 cost the state about \$12 million per biennium.

# Campaign Finance<br/>LitigationIn 2013, the Board settled MCCL et. a/. v. Wiener et. The plaintiffs<br/>(Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life, Inc.; The Taxpayers League of<br/>Minnesota; and Coastal Travel Enterprises, LLC) filed the suit on July 7, 2010,<br/>in U.S. District Court as a broad First Amendment challenge to Minnesota<br/>Statutes Chapter 10A. MCCL challenged Minnesota's prohibition on corporate<br/>political contributions to candidates and the state's overall system of registration<br/>and disclosure for political funds. The Board was represented by the Office of<br/>the Attorney General.

Initially the Board prevailed in federal district court, but upon appeal the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit determined that one very small part of Chapter 10A did not withstand constitutional scrutiny and ordered the issuance of an injunction against enforcement of that part. The injunction prohibited the Board from requiring a "no-change" report from a political fund that has no activity in the subject reporting period.

After the Court of Appeals ruling, the parties agreed that the injunction that had been ordered would be permanent and that all other issues raised by MCCL's complaint would be dismissed. The 2013 legislature subsequently repealed that portion of Chapter 10A covered by the injunction.

Because the plaintiffs prevailed on the "no-change" reporting provision for political funds the state was liable for a portion of the attorney fees incurred by MCCL. After extensive negotiations a payment of \$100,000 for attorney fees was agreed to and made by the Board using funds from the Governor's 2013 contingency fund.

Advisory Opinions Issued Related to the Campaign Finance Program

- Advisory Opinion 418 considered the statute that prohibits use of Board data for commercial purposes. The opinion provided that a nonprofit noncommercial association could use data gathered from reports and filings submitted to the Board to distribute issue advocacy material, solicit membership in the association, and solicit contributions. The opinion also provided that an association could, for a fee, assist a nonprofit noncommercial association in the use of the data for a noncommercial purpose.
- Advisory Opinion 419 concerned an association with a ballot question political fund. The opinion discussed the disclosure requirements for contributions received by the ballot question political fund and the disclosure requirements when the association transfers general treasury money to the ballot question political fund.
- Advisory Opinion 420 answered questions about when a ballot question political committee is required to obtain underlying source disclosure from contributors who are not registered with the Board. The opinion described the statutory disclosure requirements under the various scenarios presented by the requester.
- Advisory Opinion 421 answered questions about how an association that has a ballot question political fund should disclose its own ballot question expenditures and its contributions to other ballot question committees and funds.
- Advisory Opinion 422 considered the registration and disclosure requirements applicable to an association engaging in educational activities to promote a ballot question. The opinion described the statutory registration and disclosure requirements applicable to the various scenarios presented by the requester.

- Advisory Opinion 423 concerned in-kind donations to ballot question political committees and funds from associations.
   Some of the associations had their own ballot question political funds and others had no political funds. The opinion described the statutory disclosure requirements applicable to the various scenarios presented by the requester.
- Advisory Opinion 424 provided that costs paid by a candidate's principal campaign committee for a reception given in honor of the candidate's retirement from public office could be reported as noncampaign disbursements. The opinion stated that this characterization could be used for only one event and that the event had to occur during an election year for the office for which the candidate created the principal campaign committee.
- Advisory Opinion 425 provided that a "conduit fund" organized and administered by a union, but otherwise in accordance with the express and implied provisions of Minnesota Statutes section 211B.15, subdivision 16, was not a political committee or fund under Minnesota Statutes Chapter 10A, and was not required to register with the Board. The opinion also stated that a union may contract with an individual for the administration of its sponsored conduit fund.
- Advisory Opinion 426 concerned an association with a ballot question political fund. The opinion reiterated much of the discussion in Advisory Opinions 419 through 423 as it described the disclosure requirements applicable to the various scenarios presented by the requester.
- Advisory Opinion 427 considered whether an association that was accepting contributions from individuals into its political fund for the purpose of making its own contributions to Minnesota candidates could allow the individual donors to indicate their preferences for which candidates the association should support. The opinion provided that if the

donor preferences were not a direction or the equivalent of a direction to the association regarding the candidates to whom it should donate, earmarking had not occurred.

- Advisory Opinion 428 provided that an association other than a principal campaign committee, party unit, or political committee, was not required to register and provide disclosure of communications naming candidates unless those communications used words of express advocacy.
- Advisory Opinion 433 considered whether a candidate's terminating principal campaign committee could donate its funds to the state general fund or to a county obligated to incur special election expenses due to that candidate's resignation. The opinion provided that these donations could be made and that the Board would use the opinion to create a new category of noncampaign disbursements for these donations.
- Advisory Opinion 434 stated that a company that provides internet-based contribution processing and delivery services for a fee paid by visitors who use the company's website to make contributions to candidates was not, through that service activity, making a contribution to the recipient candidates. The opinion provided that, as a result, the registration requirements of Chapter 10A and the restrictions on contributions from associations not registered with the Board did not apply to the company.

| Campaign Finance                |
|---------------------------------|
| <b>Disclosure Reports Filed</b> |

Number of Reports of Receipts and Expenditures filed by candidates, political party units, political committees, and political funds during the biennium.

| 2012 Election Year                                       | Paper<br>Reports<br>Filed | Electronic<br>Reports<br>Filed | Total |
|--|---------------------------|--------------------------------|-------|
| Candidate Committee                                      | 387                       | 1,388                          | 1,775 |
| (3 reports)  |                           |                                |       |
| Political Party Unit                                     | 347                       | 683                            | 1,030 |
| (3 reports)  | 101                       | 4 000                          | 0.444 |
| Political Committee or                                   | 461                       | 1,980                          | 2,441 |
| Fund (6 reports)<br>2012 Totals                          | 1,195                     | 4,051                          | 5,246 |
| 2012 10(a)S  | 1,195                     | 4,051                          | 5,240 |
| 2011 Nonelection Year                                    |                           |                                |       |
| Candidate Committee<br>(1 report)                        | 478                       | 343                            | 821   |
| Political Party Unit                                     | 207                       | 114                            | 321   |
| (1 reports)<br>Political Committee or<br>Fund (1 report) | 302                       | 123                            | 425   |
| 2011 Totals  | 987                       | 592                            | 1,567 |

#### Electronic Filing of Campaign Finance Reports

Principal campaign committees, political committees, political funds, and political party units have been using the Campaign Finance Reporter software since 1998. The Board provides the software to registered committees without charge. The maintenance, upgrade, training, and helpdesk support of the software is provided by Board staff.

The software provides compliance checks and warning as records are entered, generates electronic reports for filing that reduce the data entry demands on Board staff, and provides contact management tools for the committees that use the software.

In 2010 the legislature acknowledged the advantages of electronic filing in promoting disclosure to the public and passed a Board recommendation that electronic filing be mandatory for campaign finance reports beginning with the 2012 election cycle. The Board may grant a waiver from the requirement to file electronically if the total financial activity of a committee is less than \$5,000, or if there are

technical or other valid reasons why the electronic filing requirement would be an unreasonable burden to the committee.

In 2012, Board developed and distributed a XML schema that is the standard for the electronic filing of campaign finance reports using a third party vendor's software. A total of sixteen committees filed electronically using the XML standard. The use of XML is also being incorporated into Campaign Finance Reporter so that the Board only needs to support one electronic file format.

| Number of Committees Filing<br>Electronically | Reporting<br>year | Principal campaign committees | Political committees,<br>political funds, and<br>political party units |
|---|-------------------|-------------------------------|--|
|   | 2012              | 581                           | 594  |
|   | 2011              | 327                           | 237  |
|   | 2010              | 376                           | 174  |
|   | 2009              | 292                           | 154  |
|   | 2008              | 278                           | 135  |
|   | 2007              | 201                           | 114  |
|   | 2006              | 228                           | 126  |
|   | 2005              | 174                           | 75   |

## Public Subsidy Payments The Board administers the distribution of payments for the state's public subsidy program, which provides public funding to qualified state candidates and the state committees of political parties.

#### Payments Made for the 2012 State General Election

To be eligible to participate in the public subsidy program, a candidate must sign and file a public subsidy agreement with the Board in which the candidate agrees to abide by statutory campaign expenditure limits and to limit contributions by the candidate to the candidate's principal campaign committee. A candidate must also raise a specified amount in individual contributions and file an affidavit stating that this requirement has been met. Overall 383 of the 446 candidates who filed for a legislative office in 2012 (or 85%) voluntarily signed public subsidy agreements.

The Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board distributed \$1,949,951 in public subsidy payments to 348 candidates in 2012 (fiscal year 2013). The 348 candidates who received a public subsidy payment represent 86% of the 404 major or minor party candidates who were on the general election ballot.

Public subsidy payments made by office and party in 2012 were as follows:

| Office       | DFL         | RPM       | IPMN    |
|--------------|-------------|-----------|---------|
| State Senate | \$634,470   | \$348,792 | 0       |
| State House  | \$592,136   | \$365,447 | \$9,106 |
| Total        | \$1,226,606 | \$714,239 | \$9,106 |

#### Political Contribution Refund Program

By statute candidates who sign the public subsidy agreement and political parties are allowed to give political contribution refund receipts to individual contributors. The political contribution refund program was not funded in fiscal years 2012 and 2013.

| Political Party Payments | The state committees of political parties receive 10% of the tax check-<br>offs to the party account of the State Elections Campaign Fund.<br>Based on monthly certification from the Department of Revenue for the<br>2012 – 2013 biennium payments to political parties were as follows: |          |          |
|--------------------------|--|----------|----------|
|                          | Party  | FY 2012  | FY 2013  |
|                          | Democratic Farmer Labor  | \$43,801 | \$42,304 |
|                          | Green Party of Minnesota   | \$2,631  | \$467    |
|                          | Independence Party of Minnesota  | \$5,210  | \$5,474  |
|                          | Grassroots Party   | \$411    | \$435    |
|                          | Republican Party of Minnesota  | \$22,928 | \$21,726 |
|                          | Total Payments to State Party Committees:  | \$74,983 | \$70,407 |

#### Campaign Finance Enforcement Actions

The Board conducts investigations of possible violations of the provisions of Chapter 10A. An investigation is started in response to a complaint filed with the Board, or may be initiated by staff based on information disclosed on documents filed with the Board.

Investigations of possible violations of the contribution limits for a candidate, or the expenditure limit for a candidate who signs the public subsidy agreement, are typically resolved with the Board offering a conciliation agreement. The conciliation agreement will set the terms under which excess contributions are returned, and provide for a civil penalty to the committee for exceeding the contribution or expenditure limit.

Investigations of other possible violations of Chapter 10A are resolved through the issuing a Board finding. The Board issues findings if there is probable cause to believe that a violation of Chapter 10A occurred, and will issue a finding stating that there is no probable cause to believe a violation occurred if warranted.

During fiscal year 2012 the Board issued thirty seven conciliation agreements to resolve violations of Chapter 10A. In fiscal year 2013 an additional fourteen conciliation agreements were offered.

In fiscal year 2012 the Board issued nineteen findings to conclude investigations. Of that total ten were in response to a complaint filed with the Board. In fiscal year 2013 the Board issued thirty-one findings, with seventeen of that total in response to complaints filed with the Board.

To ensure compliance with disclosure deadlines Chapter 10A provides for late fees applied at the rate of \$25 dollars a day for year-end Reports of Receipts and Expenditures, and \$50 a day for pre-primaryelection and pre-general-election Reports of Receipts and Expenditures. Disclosure reports that are filed after a \$1,000 late fee has accumulated may also be subject to an additional \$1,000 civil penalty. Civil penalties and late fees collected by the Board are deposited in the state general fund. A breakdown of late fees and civil penalties collected through enforcement of the campaign finance program is provided on page 37.

#### LOBBYIST PROGRAM

# Program Overview The Board administers the provisions of Chapter 10A that govern registration and public disclosure by lobbyists and principals attempting to influence state legislative action, administrative action, and the official action of metropolitan governmental units.

Lobbyists are required to report disbursements for lobbying purposes to the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board two times each year (January 15 and June 15). On the June 15<sup>th</sup> report the lobbyist must provide a general description of the subject(s) lobbied on during the previous 12 months.

Individuals or associations that hire lobbyists or spend \$50,000 or more to influence legislative action, administrative action, or the official action of certain metropolitan governmental units, are principals and are required to file an annual report disclosing total expenditures on these efforts. The report is due March 15<sup>th</sup>, and covers the prior calendar year.

Legislative ActionDuring the biennium the legislature passed the following changes to<br/>statutes regulating lobbyists and principals.

- Principals must report the amount spent to influence administrative action by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission separately from all other lobbying expenditures in Minnesota.
- Lobbyists and principals may provide legislators and legislative staff food and beverages at a meal, reception, or event if all legislators are invited to the event and the invitation is made not less than five days prior to the event.

• If a lobbyist or principal fails to file a report required by Chapter 10A the board may impose a late fee of \$25 per day, starting on the day after the report was due. The maximum late fee that may accrue for a report was raised from \$100 to \$1,000.

#### Advisory Opinions Issued Related to the Lobbying Program

 Advisory Opinion 429 considered a situation where a principal hired a law firm under an annual retainer agreement to provide a wide range of government affairs services over the course of a year. The opinion answered questions about what costs must be reported on each lobbyist disbursement report and what costs should be included in the total amount reported on the annual principal report.

#### Lobbyist Disbursement Reports

The Board has developed a web based reporting system for lobbyists. Use of the system is voluntary, but as shown below it is used by most lobbyists as the reporting method of choice. Lobbyist disbursement reports are available for review on the Board web site.

| Reporting year | Reports filed | Electronically filed |
|----------------|---------------|----------------------|
| 2012           | 3,823         | 93%                  |
| 2011           | 3,959         | 94%                  |
| 2010           | 3,950         | 98%                  |
| 2009           | 4,028         | 93%                  |
| 2008           | 4,022         | 92%                  |
| 2007           | 3,798         | 90%                  |
| 2006           | 3,445         | 88%                  |

# Principal ExpendituresChapter 10A requires principals to file an annual report<br/>disclosing expenditures made in Minnesota to influence legislative,<br/>administrative, or official actions by a metropolitan governmental<br/>unit. The disclosure is a single number which may be rounded to<br/>the nearest \$20,000. Starting in 2012 principals were required to<br/>break out the amount spent influencing administrative action of the<br/>Minnesota Public Utilities Commission from all other lobbying.<br/>Principal expenditures for the last four calendar years are shown<br/>below.

|      | All Other Lobbying<br>in Minnesota | MN Public<br>Utilities<br>Commission | Total        |
|------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| 2012 | \$59,060,155                       | \$2,749,590                          | \$61,809,745 |
| 2011 | \$65,241,174                       |                                      | \$65,241,174 |
| 2010 | \$59,172,799                       |                                      | \$59,172,799 |
| 2009 | \$62,909,757                       |                                      | \$62,909,757 |

#### Lobbyist Program Enforcement Actions

The Board completed five investigations and issued five findings regarding the requirement to register as a lobbyist or report as a principal during the biennium. In addition during the biennium four lobbyists were penalized for making contributions to candidates during a legislative session and three lobbyists were fined for making a contribution without providing their lobbyist registration number.

Information on late fees and civil penalties paid by lobbyist and principals for missing a report filing deadline is found on page 37.

#### ECONOMIC INTEREST PROGRAM

| Program Overview   | The Board administers the provisions of Chapter 10A of the<br>Minnesota Statutes that govern disclosure of economic interests by<br>public officials and local officials in metropolitan governmental units.<br>There are 2,273 public officials who file with the Board. Local officials<br>use forms developed by the Board, but file with the local government<br>unit.   |
|--------------------|--|
|                    | Original statements of economic interest must be filed at the time of<br>appointment, or for candidates, when the candidate files for office. All<br>incumbent candidates and appointed officials must file annually by<br>April 15th of each year a supplemental statement if there are changes<br>to be reported from the previously filed statement. The Board has<br>developed a web based system for submitting supplemental<br>economic interest statements.   |
| Legislative Action | The 2013 legislative session produced the following change to the economic interest program.<br>• Expansion of definition of public officials<br>Public officials must file statements of economic interests with the Board and are subject to limited conflict of interest and representation disclosure provisions. The definition of public officials is expanded to include legislative fiscal, research, and legal staff. The definition is also expanded to include judges and all county commissioners (metropolitan area county commissioners were already defined as local officials and filed economic interest statements with their counties). Only the economic interest disclosure provisions are applicable to judges. Judicial conflicts of interest and conduct matters are regulated by the Board of Judicial Standards, not the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board. |
|                    | to include members of the Minnesota Sports Facilities<br>Authority, Minnesota Insurance Marketplace Board, Greater   |

30

Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission, the Destination Medical Center Corporation, and the Dairy

Research, Teaching, and Consumer Education Authority.

#### **Advisory Opinions Issued**

 Advisory Opinion 431 considered whether a school or park board member had a conflict of interest when the member was asked to vote on a matter that would substantially affect the financial interests of the school district or the park board. The opinion provided that under Chapter 10A, a conflict of interest exists only when the vote in question would substantially affect the official's own financial interests or those of an associated business. The opinion stated that a governmental entity was not a business or an associated business and therefore the vote presented no conflict of interest for the official.

#### **OTHER BOARD PROGRAMS**

| Potential Conflict of<br>Interest  | A public or local official who in the discharge of the official's duties would be required to take an action or make a decision that would substantially affect the official's financial interests or those of an associated business must under certain circumstances file a <i>Potential Conflict of Interest Notice</i> , or a written statement describing the potential conflict. If there is insufficient time to comply with the written requirements, oral notice must be given to the official's immediate supervisor of the possible conflict. If the official is not permitted or is otherwise unable to abstain from action in connection with the matter, the public official must file the notice with the Board and a local official must file with the governing body of the official's political subdivision. The statement must be filed within one week of the action taken. |
|--|---|
| Public Employees<br>Retirement Association<br>(PERA) Trustee<br>Candidates | Candidates for election as PERA Trustees are required to file certain campaign finance disclosure reports with the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board under Minn. Stat. § 353.03, subd. 1. Under this statute, the Board prescribes and furnishes to trustee candidates the reporting form and instructions for completing the form.  |
| Enterprise Minnesota, Inc.   | The agency name was changed from Minnesota Technology, Inc (MTI) to Enterprise Minnesota, Inc. in 2008. Minn. Stats. §§ 116O.03 and 116O.04 require certain disclosure by the board of directors and the president of Enterprise Minnesota upon appointment and annually thereafter during their terms in office. Under these statutes, the Board prescribes and furnishes to the directors and president the reporting form and instructions for completing the form.  |
| State Board of Investment<br>(SBI)   | Minn. Stat. § 11A.075 requires certain disclosure by SBI members upon<br>appointment and SBI employees upon hire and by both annually until<br>termination of appointment or employment. Under this statute, the Board<br>prescribes and furnishes to the members and employees the reporting<br>form and instructions for completing the form.   |
| Representation<br>Disclosure   | A public official who represents a client for a fee before any individual board, commission, or agency that has rule making authority in a hearing  |

conducted under Minnesota Statutes Chapter 14, and in the cases of rate setting, power plant and powerline siting, and granting of certificates of need under Minn. Stat. § 216B.243, must file a *Representation Disclosure Statement* within 14 days after the appearance has taken place, disclosing the official's part in the action.

Local Pension Plans Members of a governing board of a covered pension plan and the chief administrative officer of the plan are required to file certain statements of economic interest with the governing board under Minn. Stat. § 356A.06, subd. 4.

The Office of the State Auditor prescribes the statement and instructions for completing the statement. The chief administrative officer of each covered pension plan must submit to the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board a certified list of all pension board members who filed statements with the pension board no later than January 15th. Approximately 755 pension plans are required to file with the Board under this law. The Board does not have jurisdiction over enforcement of this certification requirement.

#### **STAFF DUTIES**

**Executive Director** Facilitate achievement of the Board's goals and objectives. Set agenda and prepare materials for Board and committee meetings. Direct all agency and staff operations. Draft advisory opinions for Board consideration. Serve as the Board's representative to the Legislature and the Executive Branch. Educate and assist clients in compliance with reporting requirements, limits, and prohibitions. Administer the preparation of the biennial budget.

Assistant Executive Director and assist in management of the operations for the agency. Conduct complex investigations and prepare drafts for Board consideration. Reconcile and report on the Board's financial systems. Supervise the agency's compliance programs and information resources. Administer the state public subsidy payment program.

33

**Management Analyst** Perform analysis, make recommendations, and assist in (1) agency administrative rulemaking; (2) performing legal analysis and drafting findings and orders for Board consideration; and (3) writing of handbooks and other materials for the Board's educational programs. Serve as an internal management consultant providing support and analysis to the Executive Director and Assistant Executive Director. **Compliance Officer** Investigate complaints and draft conciliation agreements and findings Investigator for Board consideration. Serve as investigative liaison to the Board, Executive Director, and Attorney General's office. Monitor cases for Revenue Recapture and Minnesota Department of Revenue Collections Division. Prepare and submit reports to the Department of Finance regarding civil penalties. Prepare and conduct training classes for clients on campaign finance reporting requirements. **Programs Administrator** Provide for distribution, collection, data entry, and filing of disclosure **Office and Administrative** required by Chapter 10A. Collect, store, and retrieve data for the **Specialist Principal** preparation and analysis of summaries of documents filed with the Board. Provide database advice and guidance to Board staff and clients. **Programs Assistant** Provide assistance with data entry and initial desk review for all filed Office and Administrative reports. Assist with mailing, copying, and filing of all documents filed **Specialist Intermediate** with the Board in all agency programs. Maintain agency receipts for deposit with the State Treasurer. Provide general administrative and program support. Develop, maintain, and manage complex database applications to Information Technology support administration of all Board programs and activities. **Specialist III** Provide technical service, assistance and training to Board staff. Develop, administer, and provide technical support for the Board's website. Provide client training and support in the use of the Campaign Finance Reporter Software. Information Technology Ensure that the technology resources of the Board support applicable Specialist III business rules and statutory obligations. Provide application design development and administration in response to management requests. Provide high-level programming. Design and support multiple complex

relational databases.

#### Staff Salaries

Fiscal Years 2012 and 2013

| Position  | Staff               | FY 2012   | FY 2013   |
|---|---------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Executive Director                                | Gary Goldsmith      | \$91,428  | \$103,737 |
| Assistant Executive Director                      | Jeffrey Sigurdson   | \$84,234  | \$86,985  |
| Management Analyst 2                              | Jodi Pope           | NA        | \$26,726  |
| Investigator                                      | Joyce Larson        | \$48,629  | \$51,690  |
| Information Technology Specialist 3               | Jon Peterson        | \$55,702  | \$60,196  |
| Information Technology Specialist 3               | Jon Glass           | \$5,276   | NA        |
| Information Technology Specialist 3               | Gary Bauer          | \$36,581  | \$52,729  |
| Office and Administrative Specialist Principal    | Marcia Waller       | \$38,259  | \$41,801  |
| Office and Administrative Specialist Intermediate | Elizabeth Schroeder | \$30,049  | \$23,605  |
| Total Salaries                                    |                     | \$390,158 | \$447,469 |

#### **BOARD FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

Biennial Budget Fiscal Years 2012 and 2013

| Income Summary  | FY 2012     | FY 2013     |
|---|-------------|-------------|
|   |             |             |
| Appropriation   | \$689,000   | \$689,000   |
| Carry forward from fiscal year 2012 to fiscal year 2013 |             | \$69,363    |
| Total   | \$689,000   | \$758,363   |
| Expenditure Summary                                     |             |             |
| Operating budget expenditures                           | (\$619,637) | (\$755,620) |
| Operating budget balance forward to fiscal year 2013    | (69,363)    |             |
| Returned to State General Fund at End of Biennium       |             | \$2,743     |

#### **Board Operating Budget**

The Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board is funded by a direct appropriation from the Minnesota Legislature. Over 80% of the Board's budget is used to pay the fixed costs of salary and benefits, rent, and postage for required mailings.

| Salary and Benefits                          | FY 2012   | FY 2013   |
|--|-----------|-----------|
| Full time staff (salary and fringe)          | \$530,206 | \$596,070 |
| Other Employee Costs                         | \$4,805   | \$2,187   |
| Per diem                                     | \$3,355   | \$3,245   |
| Salary and Benefits Sub Total                | \$538,366 | \$601,502 |
| Operating Expenses                           |           |           |
| Office rent                                  | \$39,474  | \$39,474  |
| Postage                                      | \$8,076   | \$9,598   |
| Photocopy machine leases                     | \$3,777   | \$3,724   |
| Travel                                       | \$3,272   | \$3,614   |
| Printing                                     | \$818     | \$1,214   |
| Board meeting expenses                       | \$2,667   | \$1,985   |
| Staff development                            | \$1,285   | \$2,140   |
| Subscriptions, Memberships                   | \$445     | \$445     |
| Supplies and Software                        | \$4,561   | \$14,161  |
| MNIT services                                | \$9,518   | \$8,336   |
| Court Reporter and Subpoena Costs            | \$4,333   | \$5,442   |
| Administrative Hearings                      |           | \$3,232   |
| Equipment                                    | \$2,357   | \$39,657  |
| Information technology professional services |           | \$15,776  |
| Other purchased services                     | \$688     | \$5,320   |
| Operating Expense Sub Total                  | \$81,271  | \$154,118 |
| Board Operating Budget Total                 | \$619,637 | \$755,620 |

#### Penalties Paid for Late Filing of Disclosure Reports and other Violations of Chapter 10A

The following is a listing of fees and fines paid during the biennium. Some fees and fines may have been assessed prior to fiscal year 2012, and some fees and fines assessed during the biennium were not paid by June 30, 2013.

| Late Filing Fees                 | FY 2012<br>Dollars Paid | Number of<br>Violations | FY2013<br>Dollars Paid | Number of<br>Violations |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Principal Campaign Committees    | \$6,044                 | 53                      | \$11,971               | 106                     |
| 24-Hour Notice                   | \$500                   | 2                       | \$3,500                | 16                      |
| Political Committees and Funds   | \$1,900                 | 17                      | \$14,875               | 136                     |
| Political Party Units            | \$1,375                 | 8                       | \$4,455                | 34                      |
| Economic Interest Statements     | \$345                   | 9                       | \$790                  | 31                      |
| Lobbyist Disbursement Report     | \$644                   | 20                      | \$590                  | 12                      |
| Lobbyist Principal Annual Report | \$890                   | 25                      | \$1,060                | 42                      |
| Total Late Fees                  | \$11,699                | 134                     | \$37,241               | 377                     |

| Civil Penalties  | FY 2012      | Number of  | FY2013       | Number of  |
|--|--------------|------------|--------------|------------|
| Or which where the second second states                                | Dollars Paid | Violations | Dollars Paid | Violations |
| Contribution from Unregistered association                             | \$3,750      | 9          | \$29,909     | 16         |
| Unregistered Association   | \$1,800      | 6          | \$1,839      | 5          |
| Political Committees and Funds   | \$0          | 0          | \$0          | 0          |
| Political Party Units  | \$1,950      | 3          | \$27,780     | 8          |
| Candidate  | \$0          | 0          | \$290        | 3          |
| Contribution limits violations   | \$16,605     | 48         | \$5,693      | 14         |
| Candidates accepted in excess of limit                                 | \$6,007      | 12         | \$500        | 2          |
| Special source (20%) aggregate limit                                   | \$9,478      | 28         | \$3,189      | 8          |
| PCF Contribution exceeded limits                                       | \$300        | 3          | \$1,000      | 2          |
| Excess lobbyist contributions  | \$300        | 1          | \$0          |            |
| Excess party unit contribution   | \$520        | 4          | \$1,004      | 2          |
| Candidate exceeded spending limit                                      | \$0          | 0          | \$0          | 0          |
| Prohibited contributions during session                                | \$1,600      | 5          | \$400        | 2          |
| Political Committee and Funds  | \$0          | 0          | \$0          | 0          |
| Terminating Candidates   | \$750        | 1          | \$200        | 1          |
| Lobbyist   | \$850        | 4          | \$200        | 1          |
| Failure to file disclosure report                                      | \$1,524      | 3          | \$2,500      | 2          |
| Candidate Committees   | \$724        | 1          | \$2,000      | 1          |
| Political Committees and Funds   | \$0          | 0          | \$0          | 0          |
| Political Party Units  | \$0          | 0          | \$0          | 0          |
| Lobbyist Principal   | \$800        | 2          | \$500        | 1          |
| Failure to file amended report   | \$0          | 0          | \$0          | 0          |
| Economic Interest Statement  | \$0          | 0          | \$0          | 0          |
| Certified False Information  | \$4,500      | 10         | \$3,000      | 1          |
| Total Civil Penalties  | \$27,979     | 75         | \$41,502     | 33         |
| Total Late Fees and Civil Penalties<br>Deposited in State General Fund | \$39,164     | 209        | \$78,744     | 410        |