

To advocate for the success of our members in partnership with our local Associations and the National Association of REALTORS®

Government Affairs Committee Minutes

Tuesday, February 20, 2024 12:45 pm CT – Courtyard by Marriott Bismarck North

Chair Kristin Oban called the meeting to order at 12:45 pm. She welcomed everyone and thanked them for serving.

A motion was made to approve the minutes from June 13, 2023 & January 18, 2024. M/S/C

The committee then reviewed the goals from the planning retreat, which include:

- 1. Defeat the proposed property tax measure.
- 2. Reach 100% participation in RPAC/Issues from Board of Directors and committee members, and to encourage investment from all members.
- 3. Have all membership understand what the leaders know and the importance of RPAC.

Three new members were approved as additions to the committee, including Kyle Kuntz, Maureen Bartelt, and Arlin Fisher.

Communications Committee Vice Chair Katie Johansen then shared the creation of the Property Tax Measure Task Force, which will have representatives from both the Communications Committee and the Government Affairs Committee. She asked for volunteers to serve on the task force and volunteers include: Shawn Ostlie, Bill Dean, Greg Larson, Ross Powell, Todd Fettig, and Angela Cymbaluk.

Jill Beck then reminded attendees that the Property Tax Rebate deadline is March 31, 2024.

Lobbyist Lisa Feldner then gave the Legislative Update.

She shared that there are two districts where a judge has redrawn the district lines of, including District 9 and District 15.

Lisa then gave an update on the legislative races. Jill Beck reminded local boards to complete their interviews by June 30, 2023, so that they can distribute funding to candidate races. She reminded boards that a candidate must be endorsed by the board before the state will fund that candidate.

Lisa shared that April 8 is the deadline to have a name on the Primary ballot, and June 12 is the date of the North Dakota Primary Election.

Lisa then gave an update on Foreign Land Ownership. She pointed out that there were bill drafts from the Ag & Natural Resources Committee included in the meeting packet. Lisa shared that South Dakota will be voting this week on a bill that restricts land purchase on individuals from 6 countries.

The committee then discussed other possible legislative items. Jeanne Prom shared that there is currently a study of all licensing boards by the Labor Commission. She invited attendees to join the next NDREC meeting on March 21st at 10:00 am where the Labor Commissioner will be present.



Lisa Feldner shared that Representative Scott Louser is introducing a tax reform bill for the next session. This bill details that the state would cover public education costs up to \$60 million, it would cap local subs at 3% appraisal value, and give private schools an option to opt in to public funding.

Jill Beck gave an update on 40-year-listings, sharing that 8 states are being sued as a result of their ban of 40-year-listing. Jill clarified that North Dakota did not interrupt the active practice of this business practice, which is why these states are being sued.

Jill also shared that National Flood Insurance will expire in early May and NAR hopes to continue the extension of this program.

Jill shared that she will be checking with Representative Josh Boschee to see if he is interested in pursuing the Condo Documentation bill he was interested in last session.

For the NAR Federal Update, attendees were directed to handouts that were distributed as part of their meeting materials.

Lisa then pointed out that there are three initiated ballot measures that they are aware of, concerning property tax, age limit to serve in D.C., and the electoral process.

Jill Beck then pointed attendees to NDAR's Public Policy, which was given as a handout. She asked that the committee review the policy and bring any proposed changes to the June committee meetings.

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:34 pm.

Respectfully submitted: Sarah Caldwell, Communications Director