## **MINUTES**

## HOUSE ETHICS AND HOUSE POLICY COMMITTEE

**DATE:** Thursday, January 27, 2022

TIME: 3:00 P.M.

PLACE: Room EW41

**MEMBERS:** Chairman Dixon, Representatives Horman, Crane, McCrostie, Gannon, Barbieri,

Young, Green, Chew

**ABSENT**/ Representative(s) Crane and Gannon **EXCUSED**:

GUESTS: The sign-in sheet will be retained in the committee secretary's office; following the

end of the session the sign-in sheet will be filed with the minutes in the Legislative

Library.

**Chairman Dixon** called the meeting to order at 3:16 p.m.

**MOTION:** Rep. McCrostie made a motion to approve the minutes of the Monday, December

6, 2021 and Tuesday, December 7, 2021 meetings.

**SUBSTITUTE Rep. Chew** mentioned in the minutes from December 7, 2021, her discussion on Page 3, paragraph 2 was more to the effect that the process for a witness exiting

Page 3, paragraph 2 was more to the effect that the process for a witness exiting a hearing be more secure and planned out and made a motion for more explicit language to be added to the minutes regarding the process of a witness exiting a hearing and it be more secure for witnesses as they exit a public hearing. **Motion** 

carried by voice vote.

MOTION: Rep. McCrostie made a motion to approve the minutes of the Monday, December

6, 2021 meeting as written. Motion carried by voice vote.

**Chairman Dixon** asked **Kristen Ford**, Legislative Services Office (LSO) to explain the three drafts she has compiled. He said **Rep. Young** also has some changes she has had drafted and **Rep. Chew** has some possible additions to review.

**Kristen Ford**, LSO, explained the first draft (089) was taken from discussions during the Committee meetings held in December 2021 and have been incorporated it into a new rule. She reviewed the changes in the draft she added from the committee's discussion. The second draft (090) are variations of the first draft that adds more language regarding the involvement of attorneys and having an attorney available for all parties. This draft also includes more language regarding specifics on financial assistance in case of an extreme financial burden which could be voted on by the Committee.

**Ms. Ford** said the alternate draft (091), adds language providing for contact information of the respondent be given to the Committee so service will be easier in getting information to the respondent.

The Committee discussed the striking out of language regarding expulsion that runs counter to what is in the Idaho Constitution and **Ms. Ford** mentioned it would be a good suggestion to reference the Constitution in this case. Committee members questioned the value of having the complaint being signed under oath which was a part of discussion in December and may deter frivolous complaints.

**Rep. Barbieri** mentioned his concerns with having both parties use the Attorney General's Office and he believed it would be a conflict. He said he did not think there was a need to involve the AG's office or the Executive Branch at all.

**Rep. Chew** reviewed the suggestions she had brought to the Committee, suggesting language be added regarding the redaction of the name and any identifying information of the person who may have brought or initiated a complaint. She said especially if the person is a third party.

**Rep. Young** reviewed her draft and the changes already made in the drafts from **Ms. Ford**. She said the language in the House Rule has been rearranged, and the investigative portion is made more clear and remains confidential. A new lists has been added with reasons why a complaint would be dismissed. She said some steps in the process run together, so those have been broken out for clarity. Rep. Young said redacting names in documents prior to their release has been added and she tried to redraft the rule to follow the process sequentially. She said language is added regarding using council for some things such as questions, but not for other things, but the committee and not council will conduct the hearing. Rep. Young said the rest of the sections deal with recommendations and committee reports, etc.

**Rep. Barbieri** mentioned he has substantial concerns with the rule, but would bring those up a later time. **Chairman Dixon** said he hoped this discussion would give the Committee some ideas and something to discuss at the next meeting.

**ADJOURN:** 

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 4:02 p.m.

Representative Dixon	Susan Werlinger
Chair	Secretary