



The National Association for the Employment of People who are Blind

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING - EXECUTIVE SESSION
JANUARY 24, 2023
Tampa Airport Marriott**

Mr. Mittman called the executive session to order. He asked for nominations for NAEPB President. Ms. Watson nominated Mr. Mittman. Mr. Lafollette seconded. Mr. Mittman was reelected unanimously.

Mr. Mittman nominated Mr. Steiner for Secretary. Mr. Lafollette seconded. Mr. Steiner was reelected unanimously.

Mr. Mittman nominated Mr. Stueckrath for Treasurer. Mr. Lafollette seconded. Mr. Stueckrath was reelected unanimously.

The current Vice Presidents of the committee will continue in their positions for the 2023-2024 calendar year.

Mr. Mittman said that he and Mr. Katz had a conversation about potentially filing a conflict of interest regarding the lawsuit against GSA. Mr. Katz had a discussion with Tom Mikrut and he and Kevin Lynch agreed that there are definitely conflicts of interest. Two potential avenues are to go to OIG or to GAO. He feels like GAO has exacerbated the conflict of interest problem. One main problem is having the head GSA acquisition officer sitting as head of the AbilityOne Commission.

Ms. Branch said that this has been an issue for a number of years, as many Commission members have conflicts since they have worked for VA and GSA and haven't been in compliance with agencies. GAO is launching an investigation of the CPI program that could take two to three years. She has discussed this with Tom Lehigh regarding public policy and getting more visibility and documentation.

Mr. Katz said that Mr. Koses has to recuse himself from anything that has to do with CPI or the lawsuit.

Mr. Lafollette encouraged the board to push back against the conflicts. Mr. Katz explained that the federal regulations should be followed by commercial platforms and they should not buy ETS to be in compliance.

The action of board is to write a letter to the GSA IG. Mr. Mittman proposed that he compose a letter and send it to the board for review and to get a consensus and approval. There was no

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dissent. Mr. Katz will help shape the message. There should be a request for the GSA representative to recuse himself from case. The board agreed. The letter will be voted on at the next meeting.

Mr. Mittman asked if there were any other questions. There were none.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

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