

## MINUTES – Special Meeting

Friday, January 2, 2026

Teams Meeting

The Education Standards and Practices Board (ESPB) meeting was called to order at 9:30am by Board Chair Cory Steiner. Present by video conference were Siri Coleman, Evan Kritzberger, Sarah Lerud, Patti Stedman, Cory Steiner, Dena Venneman and Superintendent Levi Bachmeier. Jenny Bladow, Dustin Hager, Angela Nagel, and Sheila Schlafmann were absent.

Also present were ESPB Executive Director Rebecca Pitkin, ESPB Assistant Director Mari Riehl, and Mark Openshaw from Office of Attorney General.

**Romans, Michael** – Before discussion began Sarah Lerud disclosed she believed Michael graduated from Valley City, but she didn't have any concerns with participating as she does not know Michael. Cory thanked her for disclosing but didn't feel the need to bring this to a vote.

The individual has been charged with offenses that, if convicted, would require revocation of their license under NDCC 15.1-13-26. At this time the board can offer a settlement agreement to suspend their license under NDCC 15.1-13-25(c)(j) and Administrative Rule 67.1-03-01-02(3)(4)(7) until the outcome of the case, as has been done with similar cases in the past. If this person pleads or is found guilty to any offenses based on the underlying facts of the case, their license would be revoked under NDCC 15.1-13-26.

Patti Stedman made a motion to issue a settlement agreement to suspend Michael Roman's license under NDCC 15.1-13-25(c,j) and Administrative Rule 67.1-03-01-02(3)(4)(7) until the outcome of their court case. If they plead or are found guilty of any offenses based on the underlying facts of the case, their license would be come back to the board to be revoked under NDCC 15.1-13-26. If found not guilty, the case would come back to the board for further review. Seconded by Evan Kritzberger. Board members who voted yes were Siri Coleman, Evan Kritzberger, Sarah Lerud, Patti Stedman, Cory Steiner, and Dena Venneman. None opposed. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:41am.

Chair 

Secretary/Executive Director 