

Ethics Law Highlights For Non-Lawyers

Remember, all this applies not only to the official but also relatives and members of household

1. Financial benefit (or cost avoidance) other than compensation not allowed other than as described below.
2. Gifts are limited to \$50 per source per annum if “Legislative or administrative interest” exists (this is defined as an economic interest, distinct from that of the general public).
3. Even under \$50, do not solicit gifts from a party with a Legislative or administrative interest.
4. If a Director has a potential conflict of interest, immediately declare and describe for minutes before any action or discussion takes place regarding that item. They may then participate and vote.
5. If a Director has an actual conflict of interest, immediately declare that for minutes and describe the nature of the conflict, do not participate in discussion or vote on the matter.
6. If the vote of a Director with a declared actual conflict of interest is required for official action, they may vote but must not participate in discussion.
7. Reimbursement for reasonable expenses while on District business is allowable. (See District policy for procedures and restrictions).
8. Refreshment and entertainment that is incidental to the purpose of a meeting (like our sandwiches here tonight) is allowable.
9. SWCD Directors are not required to file financial disclosure statements.
10. Full text follows, consult the statute for any unusual circumstances or ask. If we can't figure out the answer we can ask our attorney.

<http://www.leg.state.or.us/ors/244.html>

Above is link to Oregon Revised Statutes, Chapter 244 — Government Ethics 2007 EDITION