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December 20, 2010 Meeker County HRA Meeting 1:15PM at the Dassel Apartments.

I'd like to thank the Commissioners for giving me the opportunity to speak today. As a Meeker County resident I am compelled to remind this board of several issues coming to my attention.

At last month's meeting we met Marlys Houk, who alerted this board of her pending lawsuit involving the mishandling of the RFP to replace the Executive Director. I find that the circumstances appear to involve the passing of private data information from Wilde to Ms. Kotila, a news reporter for the Dassel Enterprise Dispatch. Wilde's careless malfeasance appears to be motivated by her political needs without any conscience or care for the privacy of others. As a consequence, Meeker County is now exposed to yet another lawsuit.

It was reported to me that right after last month's meeting, Ms. Kotila was in the HRA office, at some points unsupervised, making copies from documents, which included pages from this board's minute book. I confronted Commissioner Wilde about the matter via an email exchange and confirmed that it was not only true, but that she did not even know what Kotila took. Wilde then threatened to blame me for the any legal fees resolving the matter. What seemed to escape Ms. Wilde is that I had no desire to see documents. My investigation was to discover her understanding of the duties of a Data Information Officer. Based on her response, I can demonstrate that she did not and could not have properly redacted the minutes or any other documents prior to surrendering them to Ms. Kotila. The damages attributable to her malfeasance cannot be calculated at this time.

I was also threatened by Wilde when I asked to pay exactly what Kotila paid for copies. In fairness, what Kotila was charged (nothing) is in accordance with the policy of the HRA. Wilde made it very clear to me that it was her intention to get direction from the board to charge me for any information I requested. This was a clear political tactic designed to use Data Information charges to impose restraints on me through the imposition of policy. This by itself is an illegal act and evidence of additional malfeasance. I have no desire to start collecting documents from this HRA. The Meeker HRA is properly audited by the State Auditor and I have little concern over documents located here. Any imposition of a "charge for copies" policy would be a significant burden on the residents that live here. For many residents, a modest charge of a few dollars may represent a significant percentage of their monthly spendable income. I would encourage the board to consider this before allowing Strand and Wilde to formulate a policy designed to penalize me and inadvertently create an unreasonable burden on them. To do so would be a blatant act of malice against the very people they are charged with representing.

Commissioner Wilde should be severely rebuked by this board and stripped of her duties in any capacity involving the administration of data privacy matters. Her repeated assaults and acts of malfeasance rise to a level where this HRA Board must act swiftly to demand her resignation before additional lawsuits begin.

On December 15, 2010, I provided Meeker County's executive management an outline of Minnesota law involving the administration of election to incompatible offices. Considerable funds and energy have already been wasted on legal fees involving the presence of County Commissioners on this HRA board. The HRA's former legal counsel resigned over the handling of this matter. The day acting Chairman Strand accepts his election certificate to serve another 4 years as County Commissioner is the very same day he will be deemed to have officially resigned from this board. I demand that he act in accordance with state law, recognize his own resignation, and take steps to appoint suitable replacements for the vacancies on this board. If confused, request County Attorney Beckman to make a request the MN Attorney General Swanson to provide her opinion without legal fee.

Thank you..

Ford Peterson