State of Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission

P.O. BOX 95086 Lincoln, Nebraska 68509 www.nadc.nebraska.gov



Centre Terrace, 1225 L St. #400 Phone (402) 471-2522 Fax (402) 471-6599

Synopsis Case #20-39 Action Taken on April, 2021

Respondents: Bahr Vermeer Haecker, Architects Ltd

Bahr Vermeer Haecker, Architects Ltd is a Nebraska corporation which made a campaign contribution to a ballot question committee in September 2019. It was required to file a Report of Contribution of Corporation on or before October 10, 2019 disclosing the contribution, but failed to do so.

The required report was filed in March 2021. The parties entered into a settlement agreement by the terms of which the Commission finds that Bahr Vermeer Haecker, Architects Ltd failed to file a Report of Contribution of Corporation in violation of §49-1469 of the NPADA. The agreement provides that Bahr Vermeer Haecker, Architects Ltd will pay a late filing fee of \$750 and the Commission will assess no additional civil penalty.

The Commission approved the Settlement Agreement with seven Commissioners concurring, no Commissioners dissenting, and no Commissioners abstaining.

Violation: Pursuant to the Settlement Agreement, the Commission found that Bahr Vermeer Haecker, Architects Ltd failed to file a Report of Contribution of Corporation in violation section 49-1469 of the NPADA.

Civil Penalty: None. A late filing fee of \$750.00 has been paid by Bahr Vermeer Haecker, Architects Ltd.

Other: The required statement is now on file.

Synopsis Prepared by: Frank Daley

Executive Director

Nebraska Accountability & Disclosure Commission

P.O. Box 95086 Lincoln, NE 68509 402-471-2522

frank.daley@nebraska.gov

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA ACCOUNTABILITY AND DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

	,	
Bahr Vermeer Haecker)	Case #20-39
Architects Ltd)	
)	ORDER

Now on this 16th day of April 2021, this matter comes before the Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission. Commissioners Anderson, Callahan, Enenbach, Evnen, Hegarty, Peetz and Sullivan are present with Commissioner Peetz presiding. The Respondent is not present. The Commission notes the submission of a proposed Settlement Agreement.

Whereupon, the Commission, with seven Commissioners concurring, no Commissioners dissenting, and no Commissioners abstaining, finds that the attached Settlement Agreement should be and hereby is approved and incorporated into this Order. Pursuant to that Agreement, the Commission finds that the Respondent violated §49-1469 of the Nebraska Revised Statutes as more fully set forth in the attached Settlement Agreement. Pursuant to the terms of the Settlement Agreement, the Respondent will pay a late filing fee of \$750.00 and the Commission imposes no civil penalty in this case.

Issued this 16th day of April 2021

Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission

Frank J. Daley, Jr. Executive Director

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that a copy of this Order was sent by certified U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, return receipt requested on this day of April 2021, to the following persons at the following address:

Bahr Vermeer & Haecker, Architects, LTD Dennis Coudriet, Registered Agent 440 N 8th Street. Suite 100

Lincoln, NE 68508

rank J. Daley, Jr.

Executive Director

3/30/21

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA ACCOUNTABILITY AND DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

In the Matter of Bahr Vermeer)	CASE No. 20-39
& Haecker Architects, Ltd.	j	SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT
)	

- 1) Parties: The parties to this Settlement Agreement (hereinafter "Agreement") are the Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission, hereafter referred to as the "Commission" and Bahr Vermeer & Haecker, Architects, Ltd., hereafter referred to as the "Respondent."
- 2) <u>Jurisdiction</u>: The Respondent acknowledges that the Commission has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to the terms of Nebraska Statutes 49-1401 et seq., known as the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act ("NPADA").
- 3) <u>Intention:</u> The parties hereby agree and intend that this Agreement shall constitute a waiver of any further proceedings in this matter, thereby resolving the matter without further delay and expense to the parties.
- 4) The Alleged Violation: In its Notice of Preliminary Investigation in this case, the Commission has alleged that the Respondent failed to file a Report of Political Contribution of a Corporation, Form B-7, (hereinafter "Report") based upon a contribution which was made on or about September 20, 2019, which Report was required to be filed by Section 49-1469 of the Nebraska Statutes.
- 5) <u>Stipulation:</u> The Respondent and the Commission stipulate and agree that at the time of the alleged violation, the Respondent had an obligation to file the Report, as described above in Paragraph 4, and as detailed in the Notice of Preliminary Investigation in this matter.
- 6) The Alleged Violation, Agreement: The Respondent states that it was not its intent to violate the NPADA as alleged, but Respondent agrees and stipulates that if this matter proceeded to a Hearing, there is sufficient evidence from which the Commission could make a finding of a violation with respect to the alleged violation of Section 49-1469, as more fully described in Paragraph 4, above. The Respondent further agrees that the Commission may enter an order in accordance with said finding, and that the Respondent would not contest such a finding or order. The Respondent further states that the Report in question has now been filed, and that it has been accepted by the Commission.
 - 7) Waiver of Civil Penalty: The parties have agreed that, in view of the Respondent's willingness to resolve this matter, its filing of the required Report, and payment of accrued fees of \$750.00 for late filing of the Report, the Commission will waive a civil penalty in this matter.

- 8) The Commission must approve this Agreement in order for it to be effective: The parties agree that in order for this Agreement to become effective, the Commission must approve it, and the Commission shall, if it approves the Settlement, enter an Order in accordance with the terms of this Agreement.
- 9) Effective Date of Agreement: This Agreement shall not be binding upon the parties until the date it is approved by the Commission and the Commission issues an order in accordance with the terms of this Agreement. The date upon which the Commission enters its Order approving this Agreement shall be deemed its effective date. If this Agreement is not approved in whole by the Commission, this Settlement Agreement shall be void and may not be used in this or any other proceeding. The parties acknowledge that this Settlement Agreement and any subsequent Order shall be announced at an open public meeting of the Commission. The parties further acknowledge that, upon adoption, this Settlement Agreement, the Order, and the Commission's file pertaining to this matter shall become open and public.
- 10) Right to Address the Commission: The Respondent has a right to address the Commission on the matter of the approval of this Settlement Agreement.

11) Advice of Counsel: The Respondent acknowledges that it has had an opportunity to seek the advice of an attorney in connection with the terms of this agreement.

Bahr Vermeer & Haecker

Architects, Ltd., - Kris Turner, Manager of Finance

Frank J. Daley, Jr.,/Executive Director

Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Comprission

Date