Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee March 24, 2014

[CONFIRMATION]

The Committee on Government, Military and Veterans Affairs met at 9:30 a.m. on Monday, March 24, 2014, in Room 1507 of the State Capitol, Lincoln, Nebraska, for the purpose of conducting a public hearing on gubernatorial appointments. Senators present: Bill Avery, Chairperson; Dave Bloomfield; Tommy Garrett; Jim Scheer; and Norm Wallman. Senators absent: Russ Karpisek; John Murante, Vice Chairperson; and Scott Lautenbaugh.

SENATOR AVERY: (Recorder malfunction)...a call in first and I want to have the committee convened when she calls in so I'm going to start now. My name is Bill Avery, I chair the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee. I'm going to introduce the members who are here. Senator Tommy Garrett over here on the end, Senator Dave Bloomfield there, Senator Norm Wallman here, and Senator Jim Scheer there. [CONFIRMATION]

CHUCK HUBKA: Lisa's on the phone. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR AVERY: Okay. Have her wait just a second. And the committee clerk is Sherry Shaffer. Goodness, it's too early. And Christy Abraham is the committee counsel. [CONFIRMATION]

SHERRY SHAFFER: It's Monday morning. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR AVERY: Yeah. This will be a fairly routine hearing. There are no people here to testify for or against. But usually we have a comment period after you speak to us. I'll start with the telephone call in. Lisa Burke. Can you hear me? [CONFIRMATION]

LISA BURKE: (Exhibit 1) Yes, I can, Senator Avery. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR AVERY: We are pleased to have you as a nominee to the Nebraska Tourism Commission. This is a new appointment, correct? [CONFIRMATION]

LISA BURKE: Yes, it is... [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR AVERY: All right. [CONFIRMATION]

LISA BURKE: ...for the Western Nebraska Tourism Coalition. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR AVERY: All right, let me ask you to tell us a little bit about yourself and why you think that you ought to be on this commission. [CONFIRMATION]

LISA BURKE: Okay. Actually, I was born and raised in Nebraska. I was raised on a

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ranch north of North Platte. And I have been in the position as the director for the North Platte Visitors Bureau for 12 years now and went through a lot of changes here at our visitors bureau, have grown it from a one-person...a part-time individual helping me to now, we have 4 full-time individuals, probably 6 part-time, and then about a 10- to 12-member staff of volunteers that help us here at the bureau. We've more than doubled our lodging tax revenues that we bring in. And...but with that, that 12 years of history, I have learned to work with all facets of the tourism industry from the small mom and pop, helping them develop their attraction and market it properly, to working with the hotel operators, and the restaurants. Basically, I'm the conduit who gets their name out there to the whole, entire industry and the state and the nation. And very eager to help grow Nebraska tourism and make it bigger and better. It has come leaps and bounds in the last few years. And I hope my...what things I have learned in the past can help continue to make Nebraska grow in tourism. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR AVERY: Thank you. Looking over your resume here, it looks to me as if you've done nothing but work with travel. [CONFIRMATION]

LISA BURKE: For the...yes. For the last 12 years, yep. I do...I shouldn't say that's the only thing I've done because my husband and I have a farm and ranch. So I put on my ranch hat, my dirty jeans and go home and do that on my off time. So I have a good history in, you know, agriculture and appreciation for that and how that works in tourism, as well. Telling our story is something that travelers across the nation and world are really intrigued in, how we...that's our main source of income in this state. So they like to learn about that, so. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR AVERY: Well, you said that you live north of North Platte. Are you neighbors to Senator Tom Hansen? [CONFIRMATION]

LISA BURKE: Actually, that was where I was born. I actually live east of North Platte. But I have known Senator Hansen since I was probably ten years old. He was good friends with my mom and dad so, yes. I know Senator Hansen very well. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR AVERY: I have been out there. It's beautiful country. [CONFIRMATION]

LISA BURKE: And actually, my son has been helping them off and on last summer move and work cattle, so. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR AVERY: Well, he needs help. [CONFIRMATION]

LISA BURKE: Yeah. Yeah. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR AVERY: All right, I'm going to open it up to questions from the committee.

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Any questions from my colleagues? Senator Scheer. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR SCHEER: No questions, Senator Avery. But looking at her resume and listening to her, it seems that she's acutely aware of the needs of tourism in the state of Nebraska, especially, in her position as a western Nebraska representative and would wholeheartedly support her. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR AVERY: Anyone else? Senator Bloomfield. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR BLOOMFIELD: Thank you, Senator Avery. I note that in 2008 you said it looked like you doubled the lodging tax. Can you tell me how that was done? [CONFIRMATION]

LISA BURKE: Well, in...I believe in 2001...no, actually, it was probably 2003, there became a bill that came before you guys to double the lodging tax that we were able to bring to our community. One was a promotional fund and that's something that we've had since the tourism act has been instated. And then in 2002, I believe--and I could be wrong--or '03, we added an additional 2 percent tax that was collected at the hotels. So there was a total of 5 percent collected. Lincoln County did not endorse that collection until 2008 and it was quite a tough battle for us to make that happen. But...so we doubled then. But our tracking has come up to...since we take out that doubling, we have increased our lodging tax about 33 percent since I became director in 2002. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR BLOOMFIELD: Okay, thank you. [CONFIRMATION]

LISA BURKE: Uh-huh. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR AVERY: Anyone else? I don't see any. Thank you, Ms. Burke. We will make a decision today and we will inform you what that decision is. The procedure is that after we have made a recommendation, it goes to the Legislature for approval or disapproval. [CONFIRMATION]

LISA BURKE: Okay. Okay. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR AVERY: But we haven't seen that happen in a long time. But there was an attempt last week for a disapproval, which failed. Anyway, thank you for your time. [CONFIRMATION]

LISA BURKE: Thank you very much. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR AVERY: Okay. Now we go to those who are present. And we'll start with Roger Jasnoch. And this is a new appointment so we'll follow the same procedure as

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we did with the previous one. Just tell us something about yourself. [CONFIRMATION]

ROGER JASNOCH: (Exhibit 2) Chairman Avery, committee members, thanks for the opportunity to visit with you this morning. I am a fellow Nebraskan, grew up in Loup City and I went to school at, then, Kearney State College. First job was in York, Nebraska, running the chamber and development group. I was there for about five years. Moved to North Platte, was the chamber development group there and started the first lodging tax committee, if you will. Was there for about five years. Happy to report that I started my 28th year in Kearney, September 1. Been at the visitors bureau full-time. For about 10, 12 years, I did the chamber, both. And then about six years ago, I went back to the visitors bureau full time. I have worked with a number of visitor bureaus across the state in many projects throughout those years. Have worked with tourism people across the state. Many I know on a first-name basis. As we all know, life is about relationships and if I need something or they need something, they know to pick up the phone or send an e-mail. And so, I guess, I would bring the years of experience in the industry to the table, to the Tourism Commission, and work cooperatively together to continue tourism's importance in the state of Nebraska. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR AVERY: Thank you. Questions from the committee? [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR SCHEER: Senator, I guess I would, I guess, basically, ditto what I said on our first, Ms. Burke's comments. You know, obviously, he's been involved in tourism the greater portion of his life, either from a chamber of commerce standpoint or actively in Kearney's tourism development. And I just think the state of Nebraska is fortunate to get people such as yourselves to provide and dedicate your time to provide service to these commissions. And I wish you well. [CONFIRMATION]

ROGER JASNOCH: Senator Scheer, thank you for the endorsement. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR AVERY: I see that you are currently a board member of the Great Platte River Road Archway. [CONFIRMATION]

ROGER JASNOCH: Yes, sir. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR AVERY: Can you give us a little brief update on the financial status of that project? [CONFIRMATION]

ROGER JASNOCH: Sure. Having a great month, a great year. We did close it for a couple of months to do some behind-the-scenes repairs. As you may remember, the new interchange opened last August, I guess it was, after tourism season was over. Even in September and October, we showed an increase of over 500 people per month with the new interchange. And so we're seeing similar results right now. And so we

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hope that that's going to help make a big difference. The other big difference that we've made is the State Tourism Commission put a state visitors center in the arch. And so we're having people stop at the arch to pick up information that, hopefully, we can get them to do other things in Kearney. And more importantly from the state, we can help not only people going both directions down the interstate in terms of letting them know what's going on, but quite frankly, all four directions from the standpoint of getting people off the interstate and going up Highway 2 and to McCook on their way to Denver. And so we're very optimistic as far as that work is paying off, paying dividends. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR AVERY: I had a feeling that interstate exchange would make a difference because I've been out there several times and going farther west and circling back was never very attractive. [CONFIRMATION]

ROGER JASNOCH: Yeah. And we just lose people, but now we have a solution. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR AVERY: Yeah. That's good. Senator Wallman. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR WALLMAN: Thank you, Senator Avery. Yeah, I, too, was impressed with that visitors center in there. I just came from there. My wife wanted to see the birds, the cranes. [CONFIRMATION]

ROGER JASNOCH: Good. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR WALLMAN: And all the people that were going through there were impressed. [CONFIRMATION]

ROGER JASNOCH: We have a group of 25 travel writers from all over the United States that came in last night. And that was our opening event, is to take them through the arch. And some of these people have been all over the world and they were impressed that this was in Kearney, Nebraska. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR AVERY: I think the last time I visited was when Bill Clinton was in Kearney. That's a long time back. [CONFIRMATION]

ROGER JASNOCH: That's a long time ago. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR BLOOMFIELD: I've driven under the thing a thousand times and never slowed down for it. [CONFIRMATION]

ROGER JASNOCH: Senator, we're going to have to have you slow down one of these times. [CONFIRMATION]

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SENATOR BLOOMFIELD: I suppose we'll have to work on that. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR AVERY: Any other questions or comments? Thank you, sir. [CONFIRMATION]

ROGER JASNOCH: Very good. Senator, thank you. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR AVERY: All right. Now we will move to a hearing on John Chapo, who is a reappointment to the Tourism Commission. Welcome, sir. [CONFIRMATION]

JOHN CHAPO: (Exhibit 3) Thank you. Thank you very much. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR AVERY: Go ahead and give us an opening statement. [CONFIRMATION]

JOHN CHAPO: Okay. Well, I'm a Hoosier born and raised and so I apologize, okay? And I came to Nebraska 28 years ago for a couple, three years, you know, because Nebraska was one of those states out there when you're from Indiana. And I was just going to come to Lincoln and get the heck out of Dodge, okay? Well, number one, I fell in love with Lincoln and I fell in love with Nebraska and I fell in love. And my wife and I have been married 26 years and we said, Nebraska is where we're raising children. And I've been involved...I'm your attractions guy. I'm not your convention and visitors bureau person, I'm attractions guy. I've been doing zoo work for over 40 years and darn proud of it, I've accomplished a lot of great things. And the wonderful attraction, the Lincoln Children's Zoo, is one of the top attractions in our state of Nebraska. No, we're not the big guys down east of here, okay? But we're in the top...about top three when it comes to numbers for cultural attractions in Nebraska. So we're very proud of our attendance numbers. It's a private attraction, receiving no tax dollars of support, completely private. We sustain the zoo based upon earned revenues and contributions. I have...I've served long-term on the Lincoln Convention and Visitors Bureau working along with Jeff Maul and bringing folks here to the Lincoln area. I've traveled the state of Nebraska. I was just out mowing a couple of days ago watching prairie chickens and the grouse out there. I've been all the way out to the lunar landscape of the northwest. Ponca, Omaha, you name it, I love our great state of Nebraska. Always got to catch the cranes too, you're absolutely right. So I bring administration from a business perspective and bring a lot of folks to the zoo from out of the state of Nebraska and really believe in what the economic development is, that tourism is for our great state of Nebraska. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR AVERY: Thank you. [CONFIRMATION]

JOHN CHAPO: Thank you. [CONFIRMATION]

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SENATOR AVERY: So you've been with the zoo for quite a while, haven't you? [CONFIRMATION]

JOHN CHAPO: Twenty-eight years... [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR AVERY: Yeah. [CONFIRMATION]

JOHN CHAPO: ...I've been here in Lincoln, Nebraska. Like I said, I came here as a single guy with a black beard and no wife and no kids and, darn it, I fell in love. And it's just a...you know, Nebraska is a great place to be. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR AVERY: It's a great place for kids. [CONFIRMATION]

JOHN CHAPO: It is. It's an awesome place for kids. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR AVERY: My wife always says that Lincoln is relentlessly kid friendly. [CONFIRMATION]

JOHN CHAPO: It is. It's...my boys are now 21 and 22 and so they're Nebraskans born and raised and we're darn proud of it. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR AVERY: Questions from the committee? Senator Wallman. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR WALLMAN: Senator Avery. I noticed you're on the Mayor's Water Conservation Task Force. [CONFIRMATION]

JOHN CHAPO: Yes. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR WALLMAN: Did you feel we're moving fast enough as far as water issues? [CONFIRMATION]

JOHN CHAPO: You know, Lincoln is moving pretty quickly on water issues...well, on water runoff and watershed. Lincoln, I think, is pretty progressive with it, Senator, to be very honest with you. I'm really proud. The zoo has received some grants for improvement regarding our watershed. We're retaining all of our water on the zoo grounds now, having it percolate down so it's not...we're not adding to runoff, helping with the vegetation on the zoo grounds, so. And we've got another grant, too. Recently we were highly recommended from the Environmental Trust to work on some more green initiatives and watershed initiatives at the zoo. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR WALLMAN: Thank you. And I just have one complaint. We didn't get many attractions in Gage County in District 30. You know we have Homestead National

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Monument, the Welsh museum in Wymore. I'd appreciate if that was on the list. Thank you for what you do. [CONFIRMATION]

JOHN CHAPO: Well, but I'll tell you. I am a founder of the Nebraska Museums Association for all those museums (inaudible) to get together and build ourselves stronger. So that's what it's about. You know out in Mullen, Mitch Glidden's got a pretty small...you know, he's got a great operation with a county of 750. So we do try to...you know, I never thought the word "big guy" but our zoo is a big guy and a big player in Nebraska so we work with others to help build them. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR WALLMAN: Okay. [CONFIRMATION]

JOHN CHAPO: So you got that. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR WALLMAN: Thank you. [CONFIRMATION]

JOHN CHAPO: You're welcome. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR AVERY: Well, you, obviously, have been busy with all these boards. [CONFIRMATION]

JOHN CHAPO: I love Nebraska. I love Lincoln. It's just a...and I try to show my sons that when you're a citizen, you participate and you help and you build. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR AVERY: If I call Jim Abel is he going to say good things about you? [CONFIRMATION]

JOHN CHAPO: I think so. Jim's a pretty nice guy. He's a good supporter of the zoo and we can have pretty frank conversations. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR AVERY: Senator Bloomfield. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR BLOOMFIELD: I just want to thank you for doing something without spending taxpayer money. [CONFIRMATION]

JOHN CHAPO: Well, you're more than welcome. And, you know, the tourism improvement funds have benefited the zoo. We have, you know, worked with Jeff Maul at convention, you know, visitors bureau. And that's what...the reason I came to Lincoln was, I worked at a municipal zoo for over ten years. And I wanted to work at a private zoo where my efforts could help build it. And there are very few that receive no tax dollars of support. So we work hard. And we get strong support because of community. We work with community and we collaborate with community, Senator.

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[CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR AVERY: Senator Garrett. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR GARRETT: Thank you, Senator Avery. I, too, wanted to applaud you for all your involvement here. Your resume is very impressive and your activities are very impressive. And it's because of people like you that help make Nebraska the great place it is to live. [CONFIRMATION]

JOHN CHAPO: You're kind. Thank you, Senator. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR GARRETT: Thank you. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR AVERY: I can't help but notice that Hoosiers don't know how to spell Pottawattamie. [CONFIRMATION]

JOHN CHAPO: They kind of chop it up a little bit, you're right. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR AVERY: Senator Scheer. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR SCHEER: Thank you, Senator Avery. I notice you were appointed in 2012. What could you tell me in the last two years that you're particularly proud of that the commission has been able to do or start a direction trying to achieve? [CONFIRMATION]

JOHN CHAPO: Well, you know, the strategic plan has been very guiding for the commission in its almost two years of existence. You know, the state birthed a new baby with that commission and we've accomplished a lot. Just like Roger made reference to the travel guides that are...the travel writers that are in Grand Island and Kearney area as we speak, covering the cranes and other great destinations, we have generated hundreds of thousands of dollars of great media across this country and across the world regarding getting people to, I mean, learn about Nebraska, visit Nebraska. We're working on branding the state of Nebraska better. We're just...we've got a lot of wheels in motion for the commission. We've got some new signs across I-80. As you drive down I-80, you see some great, colorful ones that are a little bit more up to date, shall we say. So we're prioritizing and trying to spend our money wisely regarding what's our best return on our investment. So I'm very proud of what we have accomplished. Like I said, bringing in those travel writers, building that small staff that we've been able to build with our resources. And what we've brought...the numbers and with being...we're able to provide more and more numbers and research now and data back to senators to show that our work, our efforts, that is a good return. [CONFIRMATION]

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SENATOR SCHEER: Okay. Thank you very much and thank you for your service. [CONFIRMATION]

JOHN CHAPO: Thank you, Senator. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR AVERY: You have a good, new director, too, Kathy McKillip. [CONFIRMATION]

JOHN CHAPO: Kathy is a doer. She's...dust doesn't settle long on that lady. You know, she's always moving and she brings great energy to the commission. And so I'm really, really proud. And I hope to be reappointed because I'm currently the vice chair of the commission and I've got a lot more things to do. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR AVERY: And you will then become chair? [CONFIRMATION]

JOHN CHAPO: Yes, sir. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR AVERY: Okay. Well, I've known Kathy a long time. She's a constituent, too. Any more questions? Thank you, sir. [CONFIRMATION]

JOHN CHAP: Thank you, Senators. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR AVERY: All right, we'll move now to our last one, Debra Nelson-Lose-ek (phonetically)? [CONFIRMATION]

DEBRA NELSON-LOSEKE: (Exhibit 4) Low-ski (phonetically). [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR AVERY: Low-ski (phonetically). All right, welcome. You are a reappointment as well. [CONFIRMATION]

DEBRA NELSON-LOSEKE: Yes, I am. I have been on the commission since its birth, for two years. I was born and raised north of Genoa on a family farm. I currently live in Columbus, so I haven't wandered too far from the family. I have been the director of the Columbus Tourism Convention and Visitors Bureau for eight and half years now, going on nine. Previous to that, I had experience in marketing. I worked for <u>The Columbus</u> <u>Telegram</u> and Three Eagles Communications, radio stations...local radio stations. So that marketing experience definitely moved over into the convention and visitor bureau director position. I'm very proud of what I've done over the eight and a half years. I have gotten very involved statewide. I have been the president of the Nebraska Travel Association for the last four years. And that organization represents CVBs, hotels, motels, small attractions, family-owned attractions. We represent a wide range of tourism business. So that has helped me learn the business from all of those different facets. And I've also been very involved--along with Roger--legislatively, through the

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Nebraska Travel Association. We have a lobbyist and we've been very instrumental in bringing tourism forward. And that just rolls over into being a commissioner. That experience, that background knowledge, that knowing what tourism needs to grow has helped me, definitely, over the past four years. As a commissioner, I have chaired a committee that, with the Nebraska improvement dollars, the extra 2 percent tax, and along with the strategic plan, it was decided...the strategic plan told us to make guidelines for how to use the improvement tax dollars that counties can enact, the extra 2 percent. So I was the committee chair of that committee. Along with four other people, we sat down, we took examples throughout the state of Nebraska from people who have the improvement tax now. How do you do it? What guidelines do you use? And we used the state statute and those guidelines throughout the state and we came up with specific guidelines that counties should use to grant out improvement tax dollars to make sure everyone is using those tax dollars according to the state statute. So that was a project that I'm very proud of. And the commissioners approved that in October. We have sent that out to all the committee...to the counties to all the supervisors so everyone is aware how to use those improvement tax dollars. So that's one accomplishment as a commissioner that I'm very proud of. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR AVERY: Questions? Senator Bloomfield. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR BLOOMFIELD: Thanks for your service, Debra. I talked two or three different times to the tourism group about being more inclusive of the Indian tribes and their powwows and such things. Is...are we making any progress with them? I know they're a tough bunch to communicate with. [CONFIRMATION]

DEBRA NELSON-LOSEKE: They are. They are. It's learning how they relate and how we can relate together. So we've made, you know, small steps. But a lot of communities have been very successful in getting them involved. I can speak for Kearney. The Archway has had...powwow. I don't know why I didn't think of that word, but. So some communities have been very successful in including them. And that's just something we're going to keep working forward to in the future. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR BLOOMFIELD: Okay, thank you. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR AVERY: Any...Senator Scheer. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR SCHEER: I guess I'd be remiss not to endorse somebody from northeast Nebraska, certainly fully qualified and articulate and is doing an excellent job. So I can't imagine we could expect much more. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR AVERY: It sounds like you've got everybody's support... [CONFIRMATION]

DEBRA NELSON-LOSEKE: Well, that's good. [CONFIRMATION]

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SENATOR AVERY: ...at least those present. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR SCHEER: That's all that counts. [CONFIRMATION]

DEBRA NELSON-LOSEKE: That's right, you've got a quorum. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR AVERY: Thank you very much. [CONFIRMATION]

DEBRA NELSON-LOSEKE: Thank you. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR WALLMAN: Wait a minute. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR AVERY: Oh, I'm sorry. I... [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR WALLMAN: That's all right. [CONFIRMATION]

DEBRA NELSON-LOSEKE: Yes, sir. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR WALLMAN: Yeah, I got a very large contractor in my district and he has the neatest stuff. How do I get him involved in tourism? I mean, he has a sawmill, he has log cabins, and different wild animals. But I get invited whenever I want to go but that's pretty well it, you know. [CONFIRMATION]

DEBRA NELSON-LOSEKE: Uh-huh. Uh-huh. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR WALLMAN: So if you could give me any ideas how to get him involved because it'd be really a neat stop for Beatrice. [CONFIRMATION]

DEBRA NELSON-LOSEKE: I will do that. I will check to...you have some representatives in Beatrice and we can also talk to the tourism staff... [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR WALLMAN: Sure, yep. [CONFIRMATION]

DEBRA NELSON-LOSEKE: ...and have someone come down there and so I can represent the Nebraska Travel Association. So I'll definitely send you that information. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR WALLMAN: Thank you. [CONFIRMATION]

DEBRA NELSON-LOSEKE: Uh-huh. [CONFIRMATION]

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SENATOR AVERY: Anybody else? All right, thank you very much. [CONFIRMATION]

DEBRA NELSON-LOSEKE: All right, thank you. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR BLOOMFIELD: I make a motion we go into Exec Session quickly. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR AVERY: Okay. Let me just finish by saying that we will handle these today and you'll hear from us soon. All right. We have a motion to convene in Exec Session. Is there a second? [CONFIRMATION]