



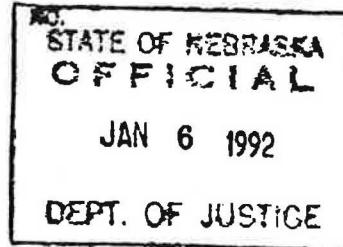
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#92002



DATE: January 2, 1992
 SUBJECT: Purchase of Meals for Volunteer Instructors
 REQUESTED BY: Rex Amack, Director
 Nebraska Game & Parks Commission
 WRITTEN BY: Don Stenberg, Attorney General
 Linda L. Willard, Assistant Attorney General

You have inquired whether the Nebraska Game & Parks Commission may pay for meals for volunteer hunter safety training instructors during the course of meetings. It is our determination that these volunteer instructors may be reimbursed for their meals to the same extent that volunteer members of boards and commissions are reimbursed.

The State of Nebraska has established several commissions, councils, committees and boards either through statute or in the constitution. Members of these bodies may be appointed, elected, hired, or may be volunteers. Neb.Rev.Stat. § 81-1178 (Reissue 1987) states "any member of any state commission, council, committee or board which has been created by statute shall be entitled to be reimbursed for expenses in the same manner as provided in §§ 81-1174 to 81-1177 for state employees whether or not specific reference is made to such sections."

Neb.Rev.Stat. § 37-104 (Reissue 1988) establishes a mandatory hunter safety program and directs the Commission to locate and train volunteer, non-paid hunter safety training instructors. Although it is not labeled as a committee or board, the use of volunteers and the functions of those volunteers are clearly

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Rex Amack, Director
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mandated by statute. Since the existence of a hunter safety program and use of voluntary instructors is mandated by the laws of the State of Nebraska, it is our determination that Neb.Rev.Stat. § 81-1178 would govern the provision and reimbursement of meals for volunteer hunter safety instructors.

Sincerely,

DON STENBERG
Attorney General



Linda L. Willard
Assistant Attorney General

28-12-7.15

APPROVED BY:



Don Stenberg, Attorney General