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FRIESEN: OK. Welcome, everyone, this morning to the Transportation and Telecommunications hearing. We're doing gubernatorial appointments this morning. Just a few things. We'll silence all your cell phones, please. And other than that, we're going to skip all of the long, drawn-out yakking that I do up here, and Mr. Gorynski, come on up front. There'll be some others joining us as time goes by and we'll see if the other Senators can join us, but we're kind of on a tight time schedule so we'll just-- we'll hit it and let you say a few words, if you will, and then we'll see if there are any questions.

ALEC GORYNSKI: Sounds good. Well, good morning, committee. Thanks for having me. My name is Alec Gorynski. I'm a full-time community and economic development professional. I've been doing that work on behalf of public, private, nonprofit entities for the balance of my career. I don't know anything about highways. I don't know how thick concrete needs to be or how many traffic counts you need to justify a new lane or anything like that, but I do know transportation is fundamental to community and economic development, whether it be a rural community or a large metro area. And so I'm proud to have the opportunity to serve on the Highway Commission to advocate for transportation investments into District 2. And as it relates to not only to the, you know, positive development of communities within District 2, but also for the safety of the residents of District 2. So appreciate the opportunity to serve on the committee and happy to entertain any questions you have.

FRIESEN: OK. One thing I forgot to ask you to do is state and spell your name.

ALEC GORYNSKI: Sure. Alec Gorynski, A-l-e-c, last name G-o-r-y-n-s-k-i.

FRIESEN: OK, thank you, Mr. Gorynski. Any questions from the committee? Senator Moser.

MOSER: A quick one. What is it you're doing now?

ALEC GORYNSKI: Professionally?

MOSER: Yes.

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ALEC GORYNSKI: OK. I work for First National Bank of Omaha, where I lead community development, corporate philanthropy and social responsibility.

MOSER: OK.

ALEC GORYNSKI: Certainly that has no direct affiliation with my appointment here, though.

MOSER: Yes. I just couldn't hear it the first time.

ALEC GORYNSKI: Apologize.

MOSER: It's kind of echoey in here, so.

ALEC GORYNSKI: Got it.

MOSER: Thank you.

ALEC GORYNSKI: Yeah.

FRIESEN: Thank you, Senator Moser. Senator Bostelman.

BOSTELMAN: Thank you, Chairman Friesen. Very quickly, just to let you know, I think-- I appreciate in your District 2, I'm sure you're well aware Highway 30 is there. It's been in progress of being under construction for 22 years-- 22 years.

ALEC GORYNSKI: It's quite a while.

BOSTELMAN: So I would hope that we see some change in culture, both in how we've done project management as well as, as we look across the state in a lot of safety issues, we bring them to DOT, but no one has a common answer. So I know Director Schneweis was working on this or a new director is, that I just want to encourage you to keep an open mind to work with us and the public in rectifying some of these situations. I appreciate your willingness to volunteer and be on the commission. Thank you.

ALEC GORYNSKI: Appreciate the awareness. I'll keep that in mind and I'll discuss that with the district engineer as well. Thank you.

FRIESEN: Thank you, Senator Bostelman. Any other questions? Seeing none. I don't think I have any either. I know you're-- you do work a

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little bit with economic development. You realize how important roads
and everything are and so I think you'll be a-- hopefully, you'll be a
really good addition to the commission.

ALEC GORYNSKI: Thank you.

FRIESEN: Seeing no other questions, thank you very much. Anyone wish
to testify in support? Seeing none, anyone wish to testify in
opposition? Seeing none, anyone wish to testify in neutral capacity?
Seeing none, that will close the hearing on Mr. Gorynski for the State
Highway Commission. Next is the Nebraska Motor Vehicle Industry
Licensing Board. It's the reappointment of Brad Jacobs of St. Paul.
We'll get him on the phone. Good morning, Mr. Jacobs.

BRAD JACOBS: Good morning. This is Brad Jacobs, B-r-a-d J-a-c-o-b-s.

FRIESEN: Thank you very much, Mr. Jacobs. We've got a couple of
Senators here and we'll let you-- just give you a couple of minutes of
introductory comments and then we'll see if there's any questions.
Thank you for joining us this morning.

BRAD JACOBS: Sure. Thank you.

FRIESEN: OK.

BRAD JACOBS: You want me to make some introductory comment?

FRIESEN: Yeah, if you just tell a few comments about yourself and then
what you do, and I know you're a reappointment to the Licensing Board,
just so you can kind of cover a little bit about yourself with
Senators who have never met you.

BRAD JACOBS: Sure, I'd be glad to. Thank you for that. So I am the
fourth generation at Jacobs Ford and RV sales in St. Paul, Nebraska.
And I've been doing this for about 45 years if you count the years
when I washed cars, which, by the way, I'm still washing cars and
campers. I am willing to serve another year on this Board just because
I have seen the ins and out of this industry. I'm also on the Nebraska
New Car Dealers Board. I do get a chance to hear some things that are
going on at that level and I just thought I'd offer my service to help
the system move along smoothly and make it better if I can.

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FRIESEN: OK, thank you, Mr. Jacobs. Are there any questions from any of the committee? Seeing none. I-- I don't think there's any questions here. I appreciate you joining us this morning on the phone call. And now we'll just ask for any other testimony here and then we'll close the hearing. Does anyone wish to testify in support of Mr. Jacobs? Anyone-- seeing none, anyone wish to testify in opposition? Seeing none, anyone wish to testify in the neutral capacity? Seeing none. With that, thank you, Mr. Jacobs, for joining us. I know it's kind of a rushed hearing, but I appreciate you joining us.

BRAD JACOBS: Oh, I appreciate you giving me the opportunity to do this. And thanks for saving me five hours of windshield time.

FRIESEN: You're very welcome.

BRAD JACOBS: All right. You guys have a blessed day. Thank you.

FRIESEN: Thank you. With that, we'll close the hearing on Brad Jacobs for the Industry Licensing Board, Motor Vehicle. Ready to go? OK, next, we will have the reappointment of Clint Jones. OK, good morning, Mr. Jones.

CLINT JONES: Good morning.

FRIESEN: We will open the hearing on Clint Jones for reappointment to the Nebraska Motor Vehicle Industry Licensing Board. You're from Genoa, so I'll give you a couple of minutes to talk about yourself a little bit and the Board and your-- your duties there. We have some Senators here probably have not met you, so I'll give you a couple of minutes to kind of talk a little bit.

CLINT JONES: You bet, and I apologize for not making it down today. I had my annual physical, and it's hard to get it rescheduled, so I apologize for that. But yeah, I'm a car dealer in Columbus. I live-- I reside in Genoa. I owned my car dealership for about 10 years. Prior to that, I was an accountant for a car dealer group that covered about three states. I did that for about 20 years then. And so the auto industry is about all I've ever done. I've been on the Licensing Board now for about a year. And, you know, we attend our board meetings and I'm very familiar with the structure and-- and I meet with my investigator. Arvin Brandt is my investigator from my-- my region. And I think we probably meet physically four times a year and then we try

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to get together. If he's present at the board meetings, we try to get together the morning of the board meeting in the hotel for breakfast. So, yeah, we-- I stay-- I stay in pretty close contact with him. I try to reach out to some of the dealers in my area monthly and just ask questions if they need anything, if they see anything they don't like or that they do like, and that's-- that's kind of the scope of what I do.

FRIESEN: OK. Thank you very much. I didn't read through-- could you spell your name for the record here?

CLINT JONES: You bet. First name is Clint, C-l-i-n-t, last name Jones, J-o-n-e-s.

FRIESEN: I see you've been kind of an active volunteer in the community, too, so--

CLINT JONES: Yeah.

FRIESEN: --appreciate your service on the board. Are there any questions from the committee members? Senator Moser.

MOSER: Hi, Clint, it's Mike Moser. What's the name of your dealership in Columbus?

CLINT JONES: Clock Tower Auto Mall. And hi, Mike, how are you?

MOSER: I'm good, yes. I thought I recognized the voice. And yes, I know exactly where you are. Thank you very much.

CLINT JONES: You bet. You bet. So-- so everybody knows Mike used to be quite a softball player in his day. I used to play softball with Mike.
[LAUGHTER]

FRIESEN: I don't know if we'll hold that against him or not, but.

MOSER: I think these guys-- I think these people know me well enough to know that that might have been a bit of a stretch of the truth, but that's OK.

CLINT JONES: Well, we had fun.

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MOSER: Yeah, now that I'll agree to. But let's not get into details
there either.

CLINT JONES: Yeah, I hear you-- I hear you. Now, any other question?

FRIESEN: Thank you, Senator Moser. Any other questions from the
committee? Seeing none, thank you very much for your service and
willingness to serve on this board. Does anyone wish to testify in
favor of Mr. Jones? Seeing none, anyone wish to testify in opposition?
Seeing none, anyone wish to testify in a neutral capacity? Seeing
none. With that, thank you very much for joining us, and no, it's not
an inconvenience for us to do it this way. It's a long drive in for a
very short hearing. Close the hearing on Clint Jones. Next, we have
O'Daniel-- Matthew O'Daniel.

MATTHEW O'DANIEL: Yes, sir, this is Matthew O'Daniel, M-a-t-t-h-e-w
O-'-D-a-n-i-e-l.

FRIESEN: Welcome, Mr. O'Daniel.

MATTHEW O'DANIEL: Thank you.

FRIESEN: I will give you a few minutes. Thank you for offering to do
this again. I know it's a reappointment and so I'll give you a couple
of minutes to just talk a little bit about yourself and your position
on the board.

MATTHEW O'DANIEL: Yeah, yeah, real good. So I am the dealer/principal
and owner of O'Daniel Honda in Omaha. We've been in business since the
'50s. My brother and I are third generation operators of that store.
We have a Honda franchise. In the past, we have also had Oldsmobile.
We currently employ about 50 people; still very much involved in the
day-to-day operations as the dealer/principal and general manager. My
wife and I and our two kids reside outside of Omaha in Arlington.
We've got a junior and an eighth grader. And, you know, most of my
time is spent either with them [INAUDIBLE] During my first term on the
Motor Vehicle Licensing Board, we-- you know, we heard a couple of
cases of some, you know, maybe some fraud taking place from some
[INAUDIBLE] dealers and things like that. I think it's important to
have small business owner, especially car dealers, on this Licensing
Board, you know, set the guidelines to protect consumers and to
protect the business owners in different technology is changing and

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things like that. There are things that arise that, you know, we can't foresee. You know, from a licensing standpoint, I think it's important to have people that are running these businesses actually in the trenches every day [INAUDIBLE] and guide them through the changes. And that's always been my interest in being on the board and the car business is a fantastic business, along with the trailer business and RV business and it's a big economic driver and we need it to stay healthy. I'm happy to answer any questions you guys have as well.

FRIESEN: OK, thank you, Mr. O'Daniel. Any questions from the committee? Seeing none. Are you having any trouble getting inventory of trailers or cars?

MATTHEW O'DANIEL: Well, we're just starting to feel it. Fortunately, we've been able to stay in pretty good shape until now. But yeah, we're going to be-- we're going to be pretty, pretty scarce for the next 30 or 45 days.

FRIESEN: OK. Thank you very much for your service and willingness to serve on this board again. I'll ask if there's any other testifiers. Anyone wish to testify in support of Mr. O'Daniel? Seeing none, anyone wish to testify in opposition? Seeing none, anyone wish to testify in a neutral capacity? Seeing none, with that, we'll close the hearing on Mr. O'Daniel. Thank you very much for joining us this morning.

MATTHEW O'DANIEL: All right. Thank you. Have a good day.

MOSER: We're losing our crowd. [LAUGHTER]

FRIESEN: Good morning, Mr. Greckel. This is Senator Friesen.

SHANE GRECKEL: Good morning, Mr. Friesen. Thanks for having the availability to call online. Much appreciated for those with long drives.

FRIESEN: Yes, and we're kind of on a tight schedule, too, so this worked out really well. Thank you for joining us this morning. I'll let you spend a couple of minutes just talking about yourself and your Nebraska Information Technology Commission. Again, it's a reappointment, and so you can just take a couple of minutes to talk to us.

SHANE GRECKEL: OK. Appreciate it.

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FRIESEN: Make sure you-- make sure you talk pretty loud and you got to say and spell your name, please.

SHANE GRECKEL: Yep, and good morning, committee members. For the record, my name is Shane Greckel, S-h-a-n-e G-r-e-c-k-e-l, applying for reappointment to the Nebraska Information Technology Commission. For the past four years had the opportunity to work with some great people throughout our state, both in private industry and government, to push forward the ideals of technology, interoperability. And everything, you know, from a medical industry, agricultural technology to education it's been on the table. And I really appreciate this opportunity and that's one thing that I want really focus on. Over the past year, we've seen the importance of interoperability within agencies and within agriculture and tower polarized to rural broadband, making sure that our state is connected. The Internet, I think, is only going to get larger and we need to be well-prepared for that if we're going to put all of our businesses into the next phase of operation to compete with that digital enterprise. With that, again, I just want to take the time to say thank you for that opportunity. And if there's any questions, I'd be happy to expound or answer them.

FRIESEN: Thank you, Mr. Greckel. Any questions from the committee?
Senator Moser.

MOSER: Good morning. I just curious what your day job is.

SHANE GRECKEL: My day job is running my family farm up here, Knox County, Nebraska. Deal with a lot of technology and implementation of technology on our farm to make it better operational with the labor shortage.

MOSER: Do you-- do you have broadband Internet at your farm?

SHANE GRECKEL: Yes, I do. I'm one of the incredibly lucky few that has fiber optic right to my door. However, quarter mile down the road best they can get is dial-up.

MOSER: Yeah. Oh, boy. Thank you for that info, though.

SHANE GRECKEL: You bet.

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FRIESEN: Thank you. Senator Moser. Any other questions from the committee? Seeing none, thanks, Mr. Greckel. I'll ask further testifiers and seeing that there is no one in the room, I guess there'll be no one in support or opposition or neutral. With that, we'll close the hearing on Shane Greckel and thank you very much for joining us this morning. Good morning, Mr. Spray.

DAN SPRAY: Good morning. How are you guys doing?

FRIESEN: Doing great. We're-- we're on a roll here. We've-- I think you're-- you're the last one on our list, so thank you for joining us this morning. We will open the hearing now on Daniel Spray from the-- for reappointment to the Nebraska Information Technology Commission. And with that, if you would say and spell your name and then spend a few minutes telling us a little bit about yourself and what you do.

DAN SPRAY: Yeah, sure. Dan Spray, D-a-n S-p-r-a-y, also known as Daniel Spray. I am in Norfolk. I'm based out of Norfolk. I'm owner of Precision Technology, along with a couple of other technology businesses, related businesses. I've been in technology now for almost 25 years or pretty close to. I have been an ISP in the past by a couple of networks in the state that have since been sold; very active in the community and the state. I am a member of the Rural Broadband Task Force as well. I have a deep-seated love for technology and you know, honestly rural Nebraska as well and loved seeing where technology can go. Really enjoyed my time on the Nebraska Information Technology Commission seeing how things work and funding, ideas and [INAUDIBLE] It's a great commission to be on and its great leadership within the state and look forward to hopefully continuing.

FRIESEN: Thank you, Mr. Spray. Any questions from the committee? Seeing none. I do thank you for your service on the-- on the NITC Commission and look forward to getting some more big things done. Seeing there are no questions from the committee and there is no one in the room to testify in favor, opposition or neutral, we will close the hearing on Daniel Spray and thank you very much for joining us this morning.

DAN SPRAY: Yes.

FRIESEN: And with that, we will close the hearings for the day.