



**ETHICS REVIEW COMMISSION
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, April 13, 2010**

The Ethics Review Commission convened in a regular meeting on Tuesday, April 13, 2010, at 6:00 p.m. at Austin City Hall, 301 W. 2nd Street, Room 1029 in Austin, Texas.

Chair Henson called the Commission meeting to order at 6:20 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance:

Chair Jim Henson, Velva, Price, Susan Morrison and James Sassin.

* Vice Chair Lisa Tsai was absent (unexcused).

Staff in Attendance: Sabine Romero, Assistant City Attorney, Allen Smiley, Paralegal, Law Department;

1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION.

Agenda item 1: No citizen communication.

2. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 3, 2010 MINUTES

Agenda item 2: Commission Member Price moved to approve the February 4, 2010 minutes and Commission Member Sassin seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

3. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Agenda item 3(a): Discuss possible amendments Chapter 2-2 amendments that would 1) require city campaign finance forms to collect additional data and 2) improve 2-2-14 disclaimer requirements. Sabine Romero briefed the Commission on proposed changes. Commission Member Price moved to approve the changes proposed to Chapter 2-2-14 set out in the back up materials. Commission Member Morrison seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.
- b. Agenda item 3(b): Per City Code Section 2-7-30(A)(6), review Chapter 2-7 Article 4 Code of Ethics and discuss possible recommendations to the City Council concerning a revolving door policy for employees who leave the city to lobby. Commission Member Morrison briefed the Commission on the Executive Order recently signed by President Obama concerning the federal revolving door policy. The Commission compared this with Section 2-7-67 of the City Code which sets out the City's present revolving door policy. Commission Member Morrison agreed to compare the City's current policy with the federal policy and if necessary bring this to the Commission for further discussion at the next meeting.

4. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Discuss and review campaign finance forms. Sabine Romero briefed the Commission on changes being proposed by the City Clerk's office and the Law Department to the campaign finance forms. After discussion the Commission determined that no action by the Commission was necessary.
- b. Agenda item 4(b) Discuss letter to Council re.: Commission's duties under the City Code Chapter 2-2 and suggestions for duties clarification. After some discussion the Commission will be included in the items it is anticipating sending to City Council concerning Agenda Items 3 and 4.
- c. Discuss whether to do optional annual review and work plan. After some discussion the Commission determined that an optional annual review and work plan was unnecessary at this time. Commission Member Price moved that the Commission send a letter to City Council setting out the changes the Commission has proposed pertaining to Agenda Items 3 (a) and 4(a) and appended the letter previously submitted to Council referenced in Agenda Item 4(b). Commission Member Morrison seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0. Chair Henson will send this letter on behalf of the Commission.

5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Agenda item 5: Take up discussion of City Code Section 2-7-30(A)(6), review Chapter 2-7 Article 4 Code of Ethics and discuss possible recommendations to the City Council concerning a revolving door policy for employees who leave the city to lobby.

6. ADJOURN

Commission Member Price moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m. Commission Member Morrison seconded. The motion passed 4-0.