



**ETHICS REVIEW COMMISSION
MINUTES**

**SPECIAL MEETING
October 24, 2011**

The Ethics Review Commission convened in a special called meeting on October 24, 2011, at 6:02 p.m. at Austin City Hall, 301 W. 2nd Street, Room 1033 in Austin, Texas.

Chair Henson called the Commission meeting to order.

Commission Members in Attendance:

Chair Henson, McCormick, Sassin, Ruiz (Absent: Hafiz, Price, Kaplan)

There was 1 speaker for **agenda item 1** (Citizen Communication). Tracy Moody spoke regarding the Austin Housing Finance Corporation and how to apply the city's anti-lobbying ordinance to AHFC contracting. Request by Commissioners to consider this item

(At 6:06 Commissioner Price present, at 6:07 Commissioner Kaplan present)

Regarding **agenda item 2**, the ERC discussed proposed changes to Chapter 2-7 Article 6 (*Anti-Lobbying and Procurement*) and related proposed rules, for purposes of providing input to City Council. Presentation by Byron Johnson, Purchasing Officer.

Motion by Kaplan, second by McCormick to share the minutes of the meeting as the body's official response to Council, with the following recommendation; motion passed 6-0 (Hafiz absent).

Section 2-7-108 states, "If a contract is awarded to a respondent who has violated this article, the contract is voidable by the City." We recommend clarification of who within the City has the ability to void a contract.

Section 2-7-101(4) (renumbered in the draft ordinance as 2-7-101(8)) defines Respondent. We recommend further discussion within the ordinance or rules of who is *not* a Respondent, to ensure that members of the public know what type of contact they can have with the City without violating the *Anti-Lobbying and Procurement* no-contact guidelines.

Proposed section 2-7-104(E) addresses communications between Respondents and the City, and mentions that Respondents must direct suggestions or complaints to the authorized contact person. We recommend further discussion within the ordinance or rules of what constitutes a permissible suggestion or complaint.

Motion by Price to adjourn at 7:30pm; motion passed 6-0 (Hafiz absent).