

Judicial Committee Meeting Transcript – 2/8/2018

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>> Flannigan: Okay, go ahead and convene this meeting of the judicial meeting, it is 2:00 P.M. We'll take a motion to approve the draft minutes from the December 18 meeting. >> So moved. >> Flannigan: Councilmember Garza. Councilmember Casar. Any opposition? Sounds good. Minutes approved. We have speakers. I think Mr. Peña, you want to come up and speak now because I don't know that we'll convene after executive session. >> Yeah, that will be fine. [Inaudible] >> Flannigan: It could be worse. I could have called you a nut job like I did the other day. We have three minutes. Go for it. >> I'm sorry, thank you very much. It's Jimmy's fault. Anyway, Gus Peña, president of veterans for progress, native east austinite, United States Marine Corps veteran. Anyway, I just want to say this, I've read the agenda and so -- I'm just going to say this. We have, you know, good jurists out there. I worked for municipal court as a bailiff and then I ran for city council. Anyway, I just want to say judge Sherry Statman is tops. I've worked with many judges at municipal court and civil courts so I know a lot about judges. She helps people out and I will support her and our organization supports her 100%. As is judge Coffee, community court, top notch. United States Marine Corps veteran so he's top notch anyway. People go there, they are scared but they bring them down to a comfortable level. I've said it at commissioners court, at the ledge, for me our veterans,

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you know, we would like to see judge Steadman to keep presiding judge. I don't know about the rest of the judges. I just -- you know, I know the judge over here. Your name? I'm sorry. Judge Rayson. She has good personal skills. Those are the type of judges we need. I grew up at municipal court with judge Harry Murphy and Pam Lancaster, I love them all, but there were some electricity there. But when a defendant goes into contract, they are very nervous, they are scared, they don't know what to expect. I've seen judges also, judge Jenkins, they bring them down to a comfortable level. We're not going to throw you in jail, we just want to work out whatever we can. Judge Steadman, warrants, not having car seats, I can't say enough about her. And I'm for -- I've been a strong supporter of women's rights so

having said that, I ramble, I just wanted to not breach protocol but just to say judge coffee, judge Steadman and judge Jenkins and everybody else that I mentioned, I want to keep them also. And our organization, it's 7,500 now, 550, excuse me, veterans for progress, supports my statement. That's coming from me and them also. Thank you very much. Appreciate it. >> Flannigan: Thank you very much. Unless there are more speakers -- we're good. Item number 3 just quickly our possible committee calendar for 2018, April, June, August, December, I think these are placeholder dates. We may or may not use them but better to reserve the space in case we need them. Any objection to that? Councilmember Casar moves, Garza seconds. Wonderful. So now without objection,

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the committee will go into closed session to take up one item. Pursuant to section 51.074 of the Texas government code the committee will discuss item 5, personnel issues related to municipal court judicial appointments. Any objections? Hearing none, the committee will now go into executive session.

[Executive session]

[3:56:53 PM]

[Executive session]

[4:09:25 PM]

[Executive session]

[4:15:19 PM]

[♪ Music ♪] [Executive session] >> Flannigan:we are now out of closed session. In closed session we discussed personnel items related to committee five and this committee meeting is now agashed. Now adjourned. [Meeting adjourned]