

BOARD OF ETHICS
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2021, 5 P.M.
PUBLIC COMMENTS IN PERSON/VIRTUAL MEETING
ART PICK COUNCIL CHAMBER
3900 MAIN STREET, RIVERSIDE

MINUTES

PRESENT: Chair Nelson, Members Foley, Ford, Huerta, Keen, and Newman

ABSENT: Vice Chair Stahovich and Members Graham and Vega

STAFF PRESENT: Donesia Gause and Susan Wilson

Chair Nelson convened the Board of Ethics meeting at 5:03 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given to the Flag.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE

There was no one wishing to speak.

MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 2, 2021, BOARD OF ETHICS MEETING

Following discussion, it was moved by Member Keen and seconded by Member Ford to approve the minutes of September 2, 2021, as presented. The motion carried with Vice Chair Stahovich and Members Graham and Vega absent.

Member Vega joined the meeting at this time.

MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 2, 2021, BOARD OF ETHICS MEETING HEARING PANEL

Following discussion, it was moved by Member Huerta and seconded by Member Foley to approve the minutes of September 2, 2021, Hearing Panel for City Council v. Councilmember Conder complaint, as presented. The motion carried with Hearing Panel Members Huerta, Foley, Vega, and Ford voting aye and Member Graham absent.

MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 23, 2021, BOARD OF ETHICS MEETING HEARING PANEL

Following discussion, it was moved by Member Vega and seconded by Member Foley to approve the minutes of September 23, 2021, Hearing Panel for City Council v. Councilmember Conder complaint, as presented. The motion carried with Hearing Panel Members Vega, Foley, Ford, and Nelson voting aye and Member Graham absent.

OUTSIDE COUNSEL REPORT REGARDING CITY COUNCIL AGAINST COUNCILMEMBER CONDER COMPLAINT

Following discussion and without formal motion the Board received and ordered filed a report by outside counsel Lena Wade of Slovak Baron Empey Murphy & Pinkney, LLP, regarding the complaint filed by the City Council against Councilmember Conder.

AUTHORITY AND CONDITIONS FOR USE OF OUTSIDE LEGAL COUNSEL IN LIEU OF THE CITY ATTORNEY TO ADVISE THE BOARD OF ETHICS

Following discussion and without formal motion, the Board received and ordered filed a report on use of outside legal counsel to advise the Board of Ethics and its hearing panels on specific matters at its discretion for future Board meetings in accordance with Riverside Municipal Code Section 2.78.040.

AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORT ON VALIDATION PROCESS FOR APPOINTED AND ELECTED OFFICIALS TO VET POLICY PROPOSALS AND AMENDMENT OF COMPLAINT AFTER FILING

Following discussion, it was moved by Member Huerta and seconded Member Vega to accept the proposed amendments to Riverside Municipal Code Section 2.78.070 as set forth in the Committee report regarding amendments to complaints after filing and requested staff return to Board of Ethics with language recommendation clarifying if acceptance of an amended complaint is considered a continuance. The motion carried with Vice Chair Stahovich and Member Graham absent.

AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORT ON RIVERSIDE MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 2.78 CODE OF ETHICS AND CONDUCT AND CHAPTER 2.80 BOARD OF ETHICS REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Following discussion, it was moved by Member Huerta and seconded Member Foley to accept the proposed amendments to Riverside Municipal Code Sections 2.78 and 2.80 for submittal to the City Council Inclusiveness, Community Engagement, and Governmental Processes Committee for the annual review of the Code of Ethics and Conduct report with the addition that a pre-hearing is not required for a de novo re-hearing. The motion carried with Vice Chair Stahovich and Member Graham absent.

BOARD OF ETHICS STANDING RULES REVIEW

Chair Nelson reported and requested further review of the Board of Ethics Standing Rules regarding the nomination and appointment process of members to hearing panels in accordance with Riverside Municipal Code Section 2.80.040 Powers and Duties.

BROWN ACT TRAINING

Following discussion, it was moved by Member Huerta and seconded Member Vega to continue the Brown Act training to the next regular meeting of the Board of Ethics. The motion carried with Vice Chair Stahovich and Member Graham absent.

REPORT ON INCLUSIVENESS, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, AND GOVERNMENTAL PROCESSES COMMITTEE AND CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS

Chair Nelson reported on the presentation to the City Council Inclusiveness, Community Engagement, and Governmental Processes Committee annual review of the Code of Ethics and Conduct.

REPORT OF MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES BY BOARD MEMBERS

Member Foley announced that she reported on boards and commissions and how to file a Code of Ethics and Conduct complaint at the Democrats for Greater Riverside meeting.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE BOARD CONSIDERATION AS REQUESTED BY BOARD OF ETHICS MEMBERS

Member Huerta requested discussion on the process for submitting comments and feedback and information to other committees prior to be being viewed by the Board.

The meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



DONESIA GAUSE
City Clerk