

BOARD OF ETHICS
THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 2022, 5 P.M.
VIRTUAL AND IN-PERSON MEETING
ART PICK COUNCIL CHAMBER

MINUTES

PRESENT: Chair Stahovich, Vice Chair Keen, and Members DeMont, De Herrera, Foley, Foreman, Huerta, , Newman, and Vega

ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Donesia Gause and Susan Wilson

Chair Stahovich convened the Board of Ethics meeting at 5:06 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given to the Flag.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Keith Nelson spoke regarding the conduct of members.

CONSENT CALENDAR

It was moved by Vice Chair Keen and seconded by Member Foley to approve the Consent Calendar as presented below affirming the actions appropriate to each item. The motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of March 3, 2022, were approved as presented.

DISCUSSION CALENDAR

RIVERSIDE MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 2.78 CODE OF ETHICS AND CONDUCT AND CHAPTER 2.80 BOARD OF ETHICS REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS

There were no new recommendations on Riverside Municipal Code Chapter 2.78 Code of Ethics and Conduct and Chapter 2.80 Board of Ethics.

REVIEW AND CONFIRM ACCURACY OF COMPARISON CHARTS ON BOARD OF ETHICS PROCEDURES OF OTHER MUNICIPALITIES PRESENTED AT JOINT CITY COUNCIL/BOARD OF ETHICS MEETING AND INCLUSIVENESS, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, AND GOVERNMENTAL PROCESSES COMMITTEE

Following discussion, it was moved by Member Huerta and seconded by Vice Chair Keen to refer the chart presented at the Joint City Council and Board of Ethics meeting to an Ad Hoc committee for validation and amendment. The motion carried unanimously.

SUBJECT MATTER JURISDICTION AND TIMELINE OF AD HOC COMMITTEE FOR VALIDATION PROCESS FOR APPOINTED AND ELECTED OFFICIALS TO VET POLICY PROPOSALS AND AMENDMENT OF COMPLAINT AFTER FILING AND EVALUATE NEED TO CONTINUE

Following discussion, it was moved by Member Foley and seconded by Member Newman to disband the Ad Hoc Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

SUBJECT MATTER JURISDICTION AND TIMELINE OF AD HOC COMMITTEE FOR REVISIONS TO CODE OF ETHICS AND CONDUCT FOR SUBMITTAL TO INCLUSIVENESS, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, AND GOVERNMENTAL PROCESSES COMMITTEE AND EVALUATE NEED TO CONTINUE

Following discussion, it was moved by Member Huerta and seconded by Vice Chair Keen to disband the Ad Hoc Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

DETERMINE NEED TO ESTABLISH NEW AD HOC COMMITTEES

Following discussion, it was moved by Member Huerta and seconded by Member Foley to establish an ad hoc committee to (1) review the existing rules of the Board of Ethics and Code of Ethics and Conduct to determine if additional changes are needed; (2) include the language recommended by the previous Ad Hoc Committee on Validation Process For Appointed And Elected Officials To Vet Policy Proposals And Amendment Of Complaint After Filing; and (3) validate and amend the chart presented at the Joint City Council and Board of Ethics meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Following further discussion, it was moved by Vice Chair Keen and seconded by Member Foley to appoint Vice Chair Keen and Members Foley, Vega, and DeMont to the ad hoc committee. The motion carried unanimously.

REVIEW MASTER CALENDAR PENDING ITEMS AND DETERMINE ITEMS TO REPORT AND/OR DISCUSS WITH INCLUSIVENESS, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, AND GOVERNMENTAL PROCESSES COMMITTEE AND CITY COUNCIL AT FUTURE MEETINGS

Following discussion, it was moved by Chair Stahovich and seconded by Vice Chair Keen to continue this item to the next Board of Ethics meeting. The motion carried with Member Huerta voting no.

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

Assistant City Attorney Wilson presented the use of outside legal counsel in lieu of the City Attorney to advise the Board of Ethics and its hearing panels on specific matters in accordance with Riverside Municipal Code Section 2.78.040.

Following discussion, it was moved by Member Huerta and seconded by Member Foley to delegate the authority to each Hearing Panel to request the use of outside legal counsel in lieu of the City Attorney.

Following further discussion, the motion was withdrawn.

COMMUNICATIONS

REPORT OF MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES BY BOARD MEMBERS

There was no reportable action on meetings and activities by board members.

PRE-HEARING CONFERENCE PROCESS AND PROCEDURES

There was no discussion on Pre-hearing Conference process and procedures

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

Member Huerta requested to bring an item to have a broader discussion on who and when an action can be taken on use of outside legal counsel in lieu of the City Attorney to advise the Board of Ethics. Member Huerta requested a standing item to the Board of Ethics Hearing Panel agendas to allow Hearing Panels to request use of outside legal counsel.

The meeting adjourned at 6:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



DONESIA GAUSE
City Clerk