BOARD OF ETHICS THURSDAY, AUGUST 6, 2020, 5 P.M. VIRTUAL MEETING

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Chair Nelson, Vice Chair Stahovich, and Members Foley, Ford,

Huerta, Keen, Newman, and Vega

ABSENT:

None

STAFF PRESENT:

Colleen Nicol, Brandon Mercer, and Eva Arseo

Chair Nelson 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

Don Gallegos spoke regarding elected officials' treatment of each other. Jason Hunter spoke regarding access to the 6 p.m. pre-hearing conference.

MINUTES

Following discussion, it was moved by Member Huerta and seconded by Vide-Chair Stahovich to approve the minutes of March 5, 2020, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

EXCUSAL OF ABSENCE

Following discussion, it was moved by Vice-Chair Stahovich and seconded by Member Huerta to excuse the absence of Champagne Ford from the meeting of March 5, 2020. The motion carried unanimously.

BOARD OF ETHICS HEARING PROCESS TRAINING

Senior Deputy City Attorney Mercer presented training on ethics complaint hearing procedures. No formal action was required or taken.

CODE OF ETHICS AND CONDUCT ANNUAL REVIEW

Following discussion of the annual review of the Code of Ethics and Conduct, it was moved by Member Huerta and seconded by Member Foley to (1) accept the comments received from the public and various boards and commissions on the Code of Ethics and Conduct; and (2) recommend that the City Council Inclusiveness, Community Engagement, and Governmental Processes Committee recommend that the City Council amend the Code of Ethics and Conduct provisions in Riverside Municipal Code Chapter 2.78 to replace "Governmental Affairs Committee" references with "Inclusiveness, Community

Engagement, and Governmental Processes Committee". The motion carried unanimously.

Subsequently and following public comment, it was moved by Member Huerta and seconded by Member Keen to (1) accept the comments received from the public and various boards and commissions on the Code of Ethics and Conduct; and (2) recommend that the City Council Inclusiveness, Community Engagement, and Governmental Processes Committee recommend that the City Council amend the Code of Ethics and Conduct provisions in Riverside Municipal Code Chapter 2.78 to replace "Governmental Affairs Committee" references with "Inclusiveness, Community Engagement, and Governmental Processes Committee". The motion carried unanimously.

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

There were no Inclusiveness, Community Engagement, and Governmental Processes Committee or City Council actions to report at this time.

REPORT OF MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES BY BOARD MEMBERS

There was nothing to report on meetings and activities by Board Members.

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

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

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

Member Huerta requested discussion of the respondent's opportunity to request subpoenas and determination of relevance of respondent evidence at a future meeting. Chair Nelson requested the Plascencia/Hunter hearing panel to report on their experience with these issues at the October meeting. Chair Nelson requested public comments received including Mayor and Councilmember treatment of each other, a validation process for appointed and elected officials looking to vet policy and proposals, ex parte communications with the hearing panel, attendance of complainant and respondent at drawing of hearing panel, City Clerk determination of completeness of complaints, amendment of a complaint after filing, and Board of Ethics Chair appointment of someone to assist the public with "complete" complaint filing be scheduled for discussion at the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 6:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

COLLEEN J. NICOL City Clerk