

BOARD OF ETHICS
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2020, 5 P.M.
VIRTUAL MEETING

MINUTES

PRESENT: Chair Nelson, Vice Chair Stahovich, and Members Foley, Ford, Graham, Huerta, Keen, Newman, and Vega

ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Colleen Nicol and Brandon Mercer

Chair Nelson convened the Board of Ethics meeting at 5:01 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given to the Flag.

The Clerk administered the Oath of Office to Member Graham.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE

There was no one wishing to speak.

MINUTES

Following discussion, it was moved by Vice Chair Stahovich and seconded by Member Newman to approve the minutes of September 3, 2020, as presented. The motion carried with Member Huerta abstaining.

EXCUSAL OF ABSENCE

Following discussion, it was moved by Vice Chair Stahovich and seconded by Member Keen to excuse the absences of Gil Vega and Gloria Huerta from the meeting of September 3, 2020. The motion carried with Member Huerta abstaining.

MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBER TREATMENT OF EACH OTHER

The Board discussed Mayor and Councilmember treatment of each other. No formal action was taken.

VALIDATION PROCESS FOR APPOINTED AND ELECTED OFFICIALS TO VET POLICY PROPOSALS

Following discussion, Chair Nelson referred a validation process for appointed and elected officers to vet policy proposals to a future ad hoc committee for discussion and recommendation to the Board of Ethics. No formal action was taken.

EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS WITH HEARING PANELS

Following discussion, it was moved by Member Huerta and seconded by Member Newman to request the City Attorney's Office to address ex parte communication with hearing panels at the next meeting relative to declaration of conflict of interest and ex parte communications. The motion carried unanimously.

ATTENDANCE OF COMPLAINANT AND RESPONDENT AT DRAWING OF HEARING PANEL

Following discussion, it was moved by Member Huerta and seconded by Member Vega to encourage the City Clerk to draw Hearing Panel names in a public forum and provide notice to the respondent and complainant so they may observe the drawing. The motion carried unanimously.

CITY CLERK DETERMINATION OF COMPLETENESS OF COMPLAINTS

Following discussion, it was moved by Member Foley and seconded by Member Huerta that no action be taken on the current designation of the City Clerk to determine completeness of complaints. The motion carried unanimously.

AMENDMENT OF COMPLAINT AFTER FILING

Following discussion, it was moved by Vice-Chair Stahovich and seconded by Member Huerta to refer discussion of amending complaints after filing to an ad hoc committee. The motion carried unanimously.

BOARD OF ETHICS CHAIR APPOINTMENT OF PERSON TO ASSIST PUBLIC WITH "COMPLETE" COMPLAINT FILING

Following discussion, it was moved by Member Huerta and seconded by Member Foley that sufficient resources already exist and no action is needed on the Board of Ethics Chair appointment of a person to assist the public with "complete" complaint filing. 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

The Board discussed the annual training for boards and commissions that was cancelled due to COVID-19.

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

Chair Nelson appointed Members Huerta, Foley, Newman, and Vega to an ad hoc committee to discuss (1) a validation process for appointed and elected officials to vet policy proposals; and (2) amendment of a complaint after filing.

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

Member Huerta requested discussion of use of the Riverside TV channel for outreach and social media at the next meeting. Member Foley requested training for new members and specific training on hearing procedures such as Findings of Fact, evidence, and other related topics. Chair Nelson requested the City Attorney's Office to provide monthly training on specific topics.

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



COLLEEN J. NICOL
City Clerk