

Minutes for Meeting of Thursday, April 14, 2022

Item 1: Call to Order

The Commission Chair called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

Item 2: Roll Call

<u>Present</u> – Commission Chair Bill Baber (arrived at 5:13 p.m.), Commission Vice Chair Caridad Sanchez, and Commissioners Tom Hebrank, Jimmie Slack, and Sid Voorakkara

Absent - Commissioner Paul Cooper

<u>Staff</u> – Executive Director Sharon Spivak, General Counsel Christina Cameron, Education Program Manager Ryan O'Connor, Investigative Program Manager Kristina Gagné, Audit Program Manager Rosalba Gomez, and Program Coordinator Victoria Velasquez

Item 3: Proclaiming Continued Need for Virtual Monthly Meetings of the Ethics Commission During COVID-19 Emergency

Motion: The Ethics Commission will continue to meet virtually as allowed under California Assembly Bill 361, adopting the findings contained in Resolution No. R-2022-396 adopted by the San Diego City Council on April 5, 2022.

Moved/Seconded: Voorakkara/Slack
Roll Call Vote: Carried Unanimously
Absent: Baber/Cooper

Item 4: Approval of Commission Minutes of February 10, 2022

Motion: Approve Minutes
Moved/Seconded: Hebrank/Voorakkara

Roll Call Vote: Carried Unanimously

Absent: Baber/Cooper

Item 5: Non-Agenda Public Comment

Mark Linsky, one of the authors of the proposed "Clean Elections" ballot measure that was submitted to the City Council in July 2020, told the Commission that work is continuing on the proposal. Mr. Linsky said that the measure's proponents will be returning to the Ethics Commission over the next few months to seek input and discuss the issue. The "Clean Elections" proposal seeks to create a San Diego Municipal Code program to provide public financing for City candidates. If placed on a ballot and approved by City voters as currently drafted, the Ethics Commission would be the entity administering the public financing program.

Item 6: Commissioner Comment

Commissioner Slack extended well-wishes to other colleagues. Vice Chair Sanchez thanked Commission staff for all of their hard work.

Item 7: Executive Director Comment

The Executive Director noted that she is still awaiting direction regarding when Commission meetings will return to City Hall, after a long period of virtual meetings during the pandemic.

She noted that the City budget would be released on April 15, 2022. The Ethics Commission's budget is scheduled to be heard at Council on May 10, 2022 between 2 p.m. and 5 p.m., if Commissioners wish to monitor it.

The Executive Director also noted that the application process is open to fill the Commission's Legislative Program Manager position.

Item 8: General Counsel Comment

None

Item 9: Informational Item – Presentation of Annual Summary of Lobbying Activity in the City of San Diego for 2021

The Executive Director provided an overview of lobbying activity in the City of San Diego for 2021, discussing the report submitted to Commissioners.

Item 10: Adjourn to Closed Session

Commission Chair Baber adjourned the meeting to closed session at approximately 5:16 p.m.

Reporting Results of Closed Session Meeting of April 14, 2022

The results of the closed session meeting of April 14, 2022 are as follows:

Item-1: Conference with Legal Counsel (1 matter)

Case No. 2021-12 – Campaign Recordkeeping and Disclosures

Motion: Accept Audit Report
Moved/Seconded: Hebrank/Sanchez
Vote: Carried Unanimously

Absent: Cooper

Item-2: Conference with Legal Counsel (1 potential matter)

Case No. 2022-04 – Lobbying Activities

Motion: Authorize Investigation

Moved/Seconded: Baber/Slack

Vote: Carried Unanimously

Absent: Cooper

Adjournment

The meeting concluded at approximately 5:34 p.m.

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Bill Baber, Chair Victoria Velasquez, Program Coordinator

Ethics Commission Ethics Commission

THIS INFORMATION WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE IN ALTERNATIVE FORMATS UPON REQUEST.

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