



**Minutes for the Meeting of
Thursday, May 8, 2025**

Item 1: Call to Order.

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

Item 2: Roll Call.

Present – Commission Chair Paul Cooper, Vice Chair Jimmie Slack, and Commissioners Hon. Laura W. Halgren, Tom Lincoln, and Caridad Sanchez (arrived at 5:25 p.m.)

Absent – Commissioners James Hauser and Deval Zaveri

Staff – Executive Director Bryn Kirvin, General Counsel Christina Cameron, Investigative Program Manager Kristina Gagné, Legislative Program Manager Megan Curran, Education Program Manager Ryan O'Connor, and Administration & Training Compliance Program Manager Victoria Velasquez

Item 3: Approval of Commission Minutes of April 10, 2025.

Motion:	Approve Minutes
Moved/Seconded:	Halgren/Lincoln
Vote:	Carried Unanimously
Absent:	Hauser/Zaveri/Sanchez

Item 4: Non-Agenda Public Comment.

None.

Item 5: Commissioner Comment.

Chair Cooper discussed how to make meetings more efficient, formal, and structured. Commissioner Slack thanked his fellow commissioners for reappointing him as Vice Chair.

Item 6: Executive Director Comment.

Executive Director Kirvin mentioned that the previously postponed Brown Act training will be presented at a future meeting.

Item 7: Discussion of Municipal Code Updating (May Subsections 26.26.0401 - 26.0413)

Executive Director Kirvin provided an overview of the process the Commission will follow as it develops its recommendations for changes to Municipal Code section 26.0401 *et seq.* Ms. Curran presented a staff memo that identified three policy issues for the Commissioners to consider in the first group of sub-sections ("May sub-sections"). Commissioners discussed the three issues and provided input as follows:

a) Section 26.0406(b) Qualification of Board Members

Section 26.0406(b) currently reads: "Each Commissioner shall be of high moral character and integrity." Commissioners were asked to consider whether there should be an additional requirement that members have no conviction for a crime of moral turpitude or a violation of official duties. Commissioners discussed the issue and generally agreed with this requirement. They directed Staff to model draft language after SDMC section 26.1103 (g) of the Commission on Police Practices Ordinance entitled "Commission Composition and Member Qualifications."

b) Section 26.0407 Failure to Comply with Certain Qualifications; Automatic Resignation/Section 26.0408 Removal for Cause

Section 26.0407 currently lists several circumstances that will trigger a member's automatic resignation and others that require City Council determination and removal for cause. Commissioners discussed the issue and directed Staff to model draft language after SDMC section 26.1106 of the Commission on Police Practices entitled, "Removal of Commission members."

c) Section 26.0411 Staff and Budget.

Section 26.0411 does not currently reflect how the Ethics Commission is staffed to provide the core services mandated by its establishing ordinance. Staff proposed language that reflects these core services. The proposal also includes language from Charter 41.3 that (1) states the Commission "shall" appoint the Executive Director; (2) strengthens the Commission's ability to retain its own legal counsel; and (3) mandates sufficient funding for the Commission. The Commissioners discussed the proposed language and agreed with each of the proposed changes.

Item 8: Informational Item: Enforcement Program Update.

Investigative Program Manager Kristina Gagné presented the monthly Enforcement Program Report.

Item 9: Announcement of Closed Session Items / Adjourn to Closed Session.

Commission Chair Cooper adjourned the meeting to closed session at 5:55 p.m. He stated the Commission would reconvene into open session following the conclusion of closed session to report any action taken during the closed session portion of the meeting.

Reconvene to Open Session.

Commission Chair Cooper called the meeting back into open session at approximately 6:08 p.m.

Reporting Results of Closed Session Meeting of May 8, 2025.

Ms. Cameron reported the results of the closed session meeting of May 8, 2025:

Item 1: Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation.

Case No. 2025-09 - Disclosure of Economic Interests

Motion:	Dismiss
Moved/Seconded:	Lincoln/Sanchez
Vote:	Carried Unanimously
Absent:	Hauser/Zaveri

Case No. 2025-10 - Disclosure of Economic Interests

Motion:	Dismiss
Moved/Seconded:	Lincoln/Sanchez
Vote:	Carried Unanimously
Absent:	Hauser/Zaveri

Case No. 2025-11 - Disclosure of Economic Interests

Motion:	Dismiss
Moved/Seconded:	Lincoln/Sanchez
Vote:	Carried Unanimously
Absent:	Hauser/Zaveri

Case No. 2025-15 - Disclosure of Economic Interests

Motion:	Dismiss
Moved/Seconded:	Lincoln/Sanchez
Vote:	Carried Unanimously
Absent:	Hauser/Zaveri

Item 2: Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation.

Case No. 2024-14 - Misuse of City Position or Resources

Motion:	Dismiss
Moved/Seconded:	Slack/Halgren
Vote:	4-0
Absent:	Hauser/Zaveri
Recused:	Sanchez

The meeting concluded at 6:08 p.m.

[REDACTED]

Paul Cooper, Chair
Ethics Commission

[REDACTED]

Victoria Velasquez, Program Manager
Ethics Commission

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

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