



**Minutes for Meeting of
Thursday, December 8, 2022**

Item 1: Call to Order

The Commission Chair called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

Item 2: Roll Call

Present – Commission Chair Caridad Sanchez, Commission Vice Chair Paul Cooper, and Commissioners Bill Baber, Tom Hebrank, Jimmie Slack, and Sid Voorakkara

Staff – Executive Director Sharon Spivak, General Counsel Christina Cameron, Investigative Program Manager Kristina Gagné, Audit Program Manager Rosalba Gomez, Education Program Manager Ryan O’Connor, 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-314464 adopted by the San Diego City Council on November 15, 2022.

Moved/Seconded: Voorakkara/Cooper
Roll Call Vote: Carried Unanimously

Item 4: Approval of Commission Minutes of October 13, 2022

Motion: Approve Minutes
Moved/Seconded: Cooper/Voorakkara
Roll Call Vote: Carried Unanimously

Item 5: Non-Agenda Public Comment

None

Item 6: Commissioner Comment

Commissioner Baber asked Commission staff to provide an update regarding Senate Bill 1439, which has been the subject of two recent press releases on the Commission's website. The new law is the subject of a new legal opinion by counsel for the Fair Political Practices Commission. The Executive Director summarized the status of Senate Bill 1439 in response, and provided more detail during Item 7.

Item 7: Executive Director Comment

The Executive Director noted that this is the Commission's busy training season: The Executive Director and the Commission's Education Program Manager, Ryan O'Connor, co-taught a live ethics training course for the Mayor's staff and the City's new Chief Operating Officer this week. She thanked Ryan for his excellent presentation. They will now be meeting with each City Council member and their staffs, teaching individual ethics law classes for each office in the coming weeks. In late January, they will also be teaching the quarterly ethics course for unclassified City employees.

The Executive Director provided an update on Senate Bill 1439, which has been the subject of two recent Commission press releases.

She also noted that Investigative Program Manager Kristina Gagné represented the office this week at the annual conference of the Council on Governmental Ethics Laws.

The Executive Director let Commissioners know that the gift limit for those filing Statements of Economic Interests will be increasing to \$590 in January 2023. She noted that the City's campaign contribution limits will soon be indexed, as required by local laws, and will likely be changing in 2023. The City Clerk will be reviewing the limits.

Finally, she thanked Commission staff for their work related to the 2022 election cycle, which has just concluded. She noted that fundraising may begin on January 1, 2023 for candidates in the 2024 election cycle.

Item 8: General Counsel Comment

None

Item 9: Adjourn to Closed Session

Commission Chair Sanchez adjourned the meeting to closed session at approximately 5:14 p.m.

Reporting Results of Closed Session Meeting of December 8, 2022

The results of the closed session meeting of December 8, 2022 are as follows:

The meeting commenced at approximately 5:17 p.m.

Attendance:

Present: Commission Chair Caridad Sanchez, Commission Vice Chair Paul Cooper, and Commissioners Bill Baber, Jimmie Slack, Tom Hebrank, and Sid Voorakkara

Staff: For Items 1, 2, and 3: Executive Director Sharon Spivak, General Counsel Christina Cameron, Investigative Program Manager Kristina Gagné, and Audit Program Manager Rosalba Gomez

For Items 4 and 5: Executive Director Sharon Spivak, General Counsel Christina Cameron, and Investigative Program Manager Kristina Gagné

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

Case No. 2021-07 – Committee Disclosures

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

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

Case No. 2022-17 – Solicitation of City Employees for Contributions

Motion: Dismiss
Moved/Seconded: Voorakkara/Hebrank
Vote: Carried Unanimously

Item-3: Conference with Legal Counsel (1 matter)

Case No. 2022-29 – Committee Disclosures

Motion: Authorize Investigation
Moved/Seconded: Voorakkara/Slack
Vote: Carried 5-1 (Baber voted nay)

Item-4: Conference with Legal Counsel (1 matter)

Case No. 2022-26 – Campaign Disclosures

No reportable action.

Recused: Voorakkara

Item-5: Conference with Legal Counsel (1 matter)

Case No. 2022-25 – Misuse of Confidential City Information

Motion: Authorize Investigation
Moved/Seconded: Cooper/Voorakkara
Vote: Carried Unanimously

Adjournment

The meeting concluded at approximately 6:24 p.m.

[REDACTED]

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Caridad Sanchez, Chair
Ethics Commission

Victoria Velasquez, Program Coordinator
Ethics Commission

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UPON REQUEST.***

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