



**Minutes for the Meeting of
Thursday, May 11, 2023**

Item 1: Call to Order

The Commission Chair called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

Item 2: Roll Call

Present – Commission Chair Caridad Sanchez, Commission Vice Chair Paul Cooper, and Commissioners Tom Hebrank, Jimmie Slack (arrived at 5:10 p.m.), and Sid Voorakkara

Staff – Executive Director Sharon Spivak, General Counsel Christina Cameron, Investigative Program Manager Kristina Gagné, Legislative Program Manager Megan Curran, Education Program Manager Ryan O’Connor, Audit Program Manager Rosalba Gomez, and Program Manager of Administration and Training Victoria Velasquez

Item 3: Approval of Commission Minutes of March 9, 2023

Motion:	Approve Minutes
Moved/Seconded:	Cooper/Voorakkara
Vote:	Carried Unanimously
Absent:	Slack

Item 4: Non-Agenda Public Comment

None

Item 5: Commissioner Comment

Chair Sanchez noted that elections for the next Chair and Vice Chair of the Ethics Commission will be held at the June 2023 meeting. She asked for volunteers to serve on an ad hoc committee to make nominations. Commissioners Voorakkara and Cooper volunteered to join the Chair on the ad hoc committee.

Item 6: Executive Director Comment

The Executive Director reported that the Ethics Commission's Fiscal Year 2024 budget was discussed by the City Council on May 9, 2023. The Commission's \$1.57 million budget is generally unchanged from last year, with no changes to staffing or significant adjustments.

The Executive Director also noted there will be three vacancies on the seven-member Commission as of June 30, 2023 and expressed hope that appointments would be made so meetings will not face quorum issues.

She noted that staff will present the first of three trainings on the Election Campaign Control Ordinance to candidates and campaign staffs on May 19, 2023.

She also noted that former Commissioners whose terms ended during the pandemic will be invited to attend the June 2023 meeting to be recognized.

The Executive Director also noted that Audit Program Manager Rosalba Gomez has just reached her 15-year anniversary with the Commission and joined Commissioners in congratulating her.

Item 7: General Counsel Comment

None

Item 8: Presentation of Final Audit Report Regarding the Joe LaCava for City Council 2020 Committee

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

Item 9: Presentation of Final Audit Report Regarding the Sean Elo for City Council 2020 Committee

Motion: Accept Audit Report
Moved/Seconded: Slack/Cooper
Vote: Carried Unanimously

Item 10: Presentation of Final Audit Report Regarding the Neighbors for Housing Solutions Supporting Todd Gloria for Mayor 2020 Committee

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

Item 11: Informational Item – Presentation of Annual Summary of Lobbying Activity in the City of San Diego for 2022

The Executive Director provided an overview of lobbying activity in the City of San Diego for 2022, discussing the report submitted to Commissioners.

Item 12: Discussion of the Municipal Lobbying Ordinance

The Executive Director led a discussion of Commissioners and staff regarding the City's lobbying ordinance. Commissioners and staff discussed options for updating lobbying forms, conducting additional outreach to inform expenditure lobbyists of filing obligations, and reviewing the Lobbying Ordinance for potential updates. No action was taken.

Item 13: Adjourn to Closed Session

Commission Chair Sanchez adjourned the meeting to closed session at 5:54 p.m. She 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 Sanchez called the meeting back into open session at approximately 6:38 p.m.

Reporting Results of Closed Session Meeting of May 11, 2023

Ms. Cameron reported the results of the closed session meeting of May 11, 2023:

Item 1: Conference with Legal Counsel

Case No. 2022-29 – Legal Defense Fund - Disclosure

Sub-Item A:

Motion:	Approve Stipulation
Moved/Seconded:	Hebrank/Cooper
Vote:	Carried Unanimously

Sub-Item B:

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

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

Case No. 2023-10 – Campaign Ads – Telephone Communications

Motion: Accept Audit Report with no further action
Moved/Seconded: Voorakkara/Slack
Vote: Carried Unanimously

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

Case No. 2023-08 – Lobbying Activity – Reporting

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

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

Case No. 2023-09 – Lobbying Activity – Reporting

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

Item 5: Conference with Legal Counsel

**Case No. 2022-08 – Campaign Contributions –
Contributions in the Name of Another**

Motion: Dismiss
Moved/Seconded: Slack/Voorakkara
Vote: 4-0
Recused: Cooper

Adjournment

The meeting concluded at 6:40 p.m.

[REDACTED]

Caridad Sanchez, 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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