

TEXAS ETHICS COMMISSION
P.O. Box 12070, Austin, Texas 78711-2070
(512) 463-5800

Tom Harrison, Chair
Ross Fischer, Vice Chair
Raymond R. "Tripp" Davenport, III
Wilhelmina Delco

Jim Graham
Paula M. Mendoza
David Montagne
Nicholas C. Taylor

AGENDA

Date and Time:	8:30 a.m. on Friday, April 4, 2008
Location:	Room E1.010, Capitol Extension, Austin, Texas

1. Call to order; roll call.
2. Communication to the commission from the public.
3. Comments by the commissioners.
4. Comments by the executive director.
5. Approve minutes of the February 12, 2008, meeting.
6. Presentation and discussion regarding the budget and financial operations of the Texas Ethics Commission; Mike McElhaney, Director of Finance and Administration.
7. Discussion and possible action on the approval of a format for electronic filing of campaign finance reports, as proposed by the City of Dallas.
8. Report from the subcommittee on the City of Houston's request for the Texas Ethics Commission's electronic filing system and possible action.
9. Briefing, discussion, and possible action to waive or reduce certain penalties assessed for late filing of campaign finance reports, lobby reports, or personal financial statements.
10. Briefing, discussion, and possible action to waive or reduce late-filing penalties in connection with certain corrected reports or to determine whether certain corrected reports as originally filed substantially complied with the applicable law.
11. Discussion and possible action regarding the termination of a campaign treasurer appointment of an inactive political committee.

For more information, contact David A. Reisman, Executive Director, at (512) 463-5800

Discussion and possible action in response to the following Advisory Opinion Request:

12. AOR-543: The Texas Ethics Commission has been asked whether an elected judge may use political contributions to compensate a court employee under the judge's supervision for lost vacation time, and if so, whether the judge may use personal funds for that purpose with the intent to seek reimbursement from political contributions.

This opinion construes section 253.035 of the Election Code, and sections 36.08 and 36.10 of the Penal Code.

13. Public discussion and possible action on the adoption and publication in the Texas Register of Ethics Commission Rule § 20.50 (Total Political Contributions Maintained), relating to the reporting of the total amount of political contributions maintained as of the last day of the reporting period for purposes of sections 254.031(8) and 254.0611(a)(1) of the Election Code.
14. Public discussion and possible action on the adoption and publication in the Texas Register of an amendment to Ethics Commission Rules §§ 34.45 (Entity Registration), 34.85 (Individual Reporting Expenditure by Entity), and 34.65 (Compensation Reported by Lobby Firm Employee), relating to reporting requirements by a lobbyist or an entity.
15. Public discussion and possible action on the adoption and publication in the Texas Register of an amendment to Ethics Commission Rule § 34.11 (Attribution of Expenditure to More Than One Person; Reimbursement of Lobby Expenditure), relating to the reporting of a lobby expenditure attributed to more than one person.
16. Public discussion and possible action on the adoption and publication in the Texas Register of rules implementing conflict of interest provisions of H.B. 3560, 80th Legislature, Regular Session, that relate to the Texas Facilities Commission.
17. Public discussion and possible action on the adoption and publication in the Texas Register of rules implementing conflict of interest provisions of H.B. 3560, 80th Legislature, Regular Session, that relate to conflict of interest requirements for the chief clerk or any other employee of the Comptroller.
18. Public discussion and possible action on the adoption and publication in the Texas Register of an amendment to Ethics Commission Rule § 34.21 (Contingent Fees for Influencing Purchasing Decisions), relating to contingent fees.
19. Public discussion and possible action on the proposal and publication in the Texas Register of an amendment to Ethics Commission Rule § 34.5 (Certain Compensation Excluded), relating to exceptions from the requirement to register as a lobbyist under the registration threshold in Government Code § 305.003(a)(2).

For more information, contact David A. Reisman, Executive Director, at (512) 463-5800

20. Adjourn.

CERTIFICATION: I certify that I have reviewed this document and that it conforms to all applicable Texas Register filing requirements.

Certifying Official: David A. Reisman, Executive Director

Agency Liaison: Natalia Luna Ashley, General Counsel

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