



TEXAS ETHICS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Workshop Session

July 12, 2017, 8:35 a.m.

Capitol Extension, Room E1.014

Austin, Texas 78701



COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Steven D. Wolens, Chair, Hugh C. Akin, Vice Chair, Jim Clancy, Chad M. Craycraft, Chris Flood, Mary K. “Katie” Kennedy, Tom Ramsay, and Chase Untermeyer.

COMMISSIONERS NOT PRESENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: Amy Barden, Ron Bennett, Margie Castellanos, Nick Espinosa, Patti Shannon, Ian Steusloff, Jim Tinley, and Seana Willing.

MINUTES

This meeting was recorded. These minutes are a summary record of the Commission’s actions at the meeting. For a detailed record of discussions and statements made by persons speaking at the meeting, please consult the audio recordings on file at the Commission’s office.

Agenda Item 1: Call to order; roll call.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Wolens. Seana Willing, Executive Director, called the roll. All Commissioners were present.

Agenda Item 2: Welcoming Remarks from Chair, outlining goals and agenda for Workshop.

Chair Wolens addressed the Commission.

Agenda Item 3: Overview of Sworn Complaint Process.

Commissioner Clancy gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Sworn Complaint process. Chair Wolens, Vice Chair Akin, Commissioners Flood and Kennedy, Ian Steusloff, General Counsel, and Nicholas Espinosa, Interim Director of Enforcement, responded with questions and comments. No action was taken.

Agenda Item 4: Proposed Rules for Sworn Complaint/Preliminary Review (Stage I).

- **Topics for Proposed Rules**
- **Discussion by Commissioners**
- **Public Comment**

Nicholas Espinosa, Interim Director of Enforcement, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Sworn Complaint and Preliminary Review process. Chair Wolens, Commissioners Clancy, Craycraft, Flood, Kennedy, Ramsay and Untermeyer, Ian Steusloff, General Counsel, and James Tinley, Assistant General Counsel, responded with questions and comments. No action was taken.

Agenda Item 5: Proposed Rules for Preliminary Review Hearing (Stage II).

- **Topics for Proposed Rules**
- **Discussion by Commissioners**
- **Public Comment**

James Tinley, Assistant General Counsel, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Preliminary Review Hearing process. Chair Wolens, Commissioners Clancy, Craycraft, Flood, Kennedy, and Nicholas Espinosa, Interim Director of Enforcement, responded with questions and comments. Gardner Pate addressed the Commission. Chair Wolens, Vice Chair Akin, Commissioners Craycraft, Flood, Kennedy, Ramsay and Untermeyer, Ian Steusloff, General Counsel, and Mr. Espinosa responded with questions and comments. No action was taken.

Agenda Item 6: Discuss Next Steps

- **Schedule Workshop for Drafting Rules for Formal Hearings (Stage III)**
- **Proposed Deadlines for publication of Draft Rules for Stage I (Preliminary Review)**
- **Proposed Deadlines for publication of Draft Rules for Stage II (Preliminary Review Hearing)**

Chair Wolens addressed the Commission. Commissioner Ramsay, Seana Willing, Executive Director, Nicholas Espinosa, Interim Director of Enforcement and James Tinley, Assistant General Counsel, responded with questions and comments. Chair Wolens directed Commission staff to draft proposed rules related to the sworn complaint process for the Commission to consider at the next meeting. No action was taken.

Agenda Item 7: Adjourn.

Commissioners discussed the schedule for the September meetings. The tentative schedule includes an additional workshop on Sworn Complaint rules on September 27, 2017, at 1:00 p.m., then beginning with the Executive Session on September 28, 2017, at 8:30 a.m., followed by the Public Agenda.

Motion by Chair Wolens to adjourn. **Commission meeting adjourned by unanimous consent.**

Meeting adjourned at 11:16 a.m.