

COLORADO INDEPENDENT ETHICS COMMISSION

Minutes of the February 9, 2016 Meeting
1300 Broadway, Room 1C, 9:00 a.m.
Denver, Colorado

Present: William Leone, Chair; Bob Bacon, Vice-Chair; Bill Pinkham, April Jones and Matt Smith.

Also Present: Betty Gadison, IEC Legal Assistant; and Kyle Dumler of the Colorado Attorney General's Office.

I. GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Commissioner Leone called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.
2. There was no public comment.
3. It was moved, seconded and passed unanimously to approve the minutes of the January 4, January 8, January 22, and January 28, 2016, meetings.
4. The new Executive Director, Dino Ioannides, was present and introduced to the public.
5. Staff Report
 - a. During the month of February there were 17 phone calls and 12 emails for information, including two complaint requests, two advisory opinion requests, and one request for FY2017 budget information.
6. The Commission considered the draft of Advisory Opinion 16-01, Acceptance of Travel Expenses Paid by a Third Party. The requester was present and answered questions from the Commissioners. It was moved and seconded to adopt the draft of the Advisory Opinion as amended. The Commission unanimously adopted the draft.
7. At 10:00 a.m. it was moved, seconded and passed unanimously to enter into Executive Session pursuant to C.R.S. §24-6-402(3)(a)(III) to discuss Complaint 15-15, which is required to be kept confidential pursuant to Article XXIX, §5(3)(b) of the Colorado Constitution.

II. EXECUTIVE SESSION BUSINESS

8. The Commission met in Executive Session from 10:00 a.m. to 10:20 a.m. to discuss Complaint 15-15.

III. GENERAL BUSINESS

9. The Commission returned to open session at 10:20 a.m.

10. It was moved, seconded and passed unanimously to dismiss Complaints 15-15 as frivolous pursuant to IEC Rule 7.G.1.

11. At 10:23 a.m. it was moved, seconded and passed unanimously to enter into Executive Session pursuant to C.R.S. §24-6-402(3)(a)(III) to discuss Complaints 15-31 to 15-35 filed with the Commission, which are required to be kept confidential pursuant to Article XXIX, §5(3)(b) of the Colorado Constitution.

IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION BUSINESS

12. The Commission met in Executive Session from 10:23 a.m. to 11:03 a.m. to discuss Complaints 15-31 to 15-35.

V. GENERAL BUSINESS

13. The Commission returned to open session at 11:03 a.m.

14. It was moved, seconded and passed unanimously to find Complaints 15-31, 15-32, 15-33 and 15-34 as non-frivolous. The Commission directed the complaints be forwarded to the respondents and that the respondents file an answer within 30 days. The Commission held over a vote on complaint 15-35.

15. At 11:08 a.m. it was moved, seconded and passed unanimously to enter into Executive Session pursuant to C.R.S. §24-6-402(3)(a)(III) regarding an update on the ongoing audit by the Office of the State Auditor.

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION BUSINESS

16. The Commission met in Executive Session from 11:08 a.m. to 2:01 p.m. to discuss the audit by the Office of the State Auditor.

VII. GENERAL BUSINESS

17. The Commission returned to open session at 2:01 p.m.

18. The Commission deferred taking action on Advisory Opinion 15-12, Application of Ethics Code to State Employees Serving as Elected Officials since the requestor was not able to be present.

19. The Commission considered revisions to the complaint form used by complainants to submit requests to the IEC. One member of the public suggested the form also should be machine fillable to bring greater convenience to complainants. The Commissioners tabled further discussion pending further input.

20. The Commission will repost the position allowing for registered democrat, independent, unaffiliated or third-party applicants, since the Commission now has two registered republicans.

Commissioner Pinkham announced that his term would end in April, when his term as mayor ends.

21. The Commissioners considered revisions to the IEC Handbook and tabled further discussion pending further input.

The Commission adjourned at approximately 2:17 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Betty Gadison,
IEC, Legal Assistant