

COLORADO INDEPENDENT ETHICS COMMISSION

Minutes of the January 14, 2009 Meeting
633 17th Street, Room 2A
Denver, Colorado

10 am

Present: Commissioners Nancy E. Friedman, chair; Matt Smith, vice chair; Sally H. Hopper; Larry R. Lasha. Excused: Commissioner Roy Wood.

Also Present: Jane T. Feldman, Executive Director of the IEC; James Carr of the Colorado Attorney General's Office

I. GENERAL BUSINESS

1. The meeting commenced at 10 a.m. It was moved, seconded and passed unanimously to approve the agenda of the open session portion of the January 14, 2009 meeting.

2. It was moved, seconded and passed unanimously to approve the minutes of the open session portion of the December 2, 2008 meeting.

3. Executive Director's Report:

a. The Executive Director reported that two interns from the University of Northern Colorado will be starting this week. She asked the Commissioners to forward to her any suggestions for projects for the interns.

b. There was a discussion of the status of the Governor's hiring freeze, and the process for requesting an exemption. Ms. Feldman reported that if the Commission did not proceed with the hiring of additional staff and the reallocation of the Executive Director's position, then those would have to be decision items for the FY11 budget. It was moved, seconded and passed unanimously that the Commission would seek an exemption from the hiring freeze.

c. The Executive Director reported that for FY10, in accordance with the mandates from the Governor's Office of State Planning and Budget, the Commission's budget would be reduced by 10%. Ms. Feldman stated that these cuts would need to come primarily out of the Commission's legal services budget.

d. The Executive Director reported that she had been invited to observe training and education being offered by the Denver Board of Ethics. The Commission encouraged her to attend and observe.

4. Commission's 2009 Annual Report:

The Commission reviewed the draft 2009 Annual Report prepared by the Executive Director. There were several changes made. It was moved, seconded and passed unanimously to approve the Annual Report as revised, and Ms. Feldman was directed to post the revised report on the Commission's web site.

5. IEC Goals for 2009:

The Commission discussed draft goals prepared by Commissioner Friedman and Ms. Feldman. Commissioner Friedman will consolidate the documents and redraft the goals in accordance with the discussion.

6. Commissioner Friedman presented a report on the COGEL conference held in Chicago December 7-10, 2008. The Executive Director added her comments and observations. Commissioner Friedman's report will be posted on the Commission's web site.

7. It was moved, seconded and passed unanimously that the Commission renew its membership in COGEL for 2009..

II. EXECUTIVE SESSION BUSINESS

The Commission met in Executive Session from 11:55 a.m. to 4:20 p.m.

III. GENERAL BUSINESS

The Commission returned to Open Session at 4:20 p.m.

1. It was moved, seconded and passed unanimously to dismiss Complaint 09-01 pursuant to IEC Rule 7.D.3, because the alleged violation, if true, would not constitute a violation of Colorado Constitution Article XXIX, or any other standard of conduct or reporting requirement under the jurisdiction of the IEC. (Commissioner Lasha excused).
2. The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

Next meeting: January 23, 2009 at 10 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane T. Feldman
Executive Director