

COLORADO INDEPENDENT ETHICS COMMISSION

Minutes of the April 18, 2023, Meeting
1300 Broadway, Room 1E
Denver, Colorado

Present: Chair Selina Baschiera, Vice-Chair Cole Wist, Commissioner Annie Kao, and Commissioner Sarah Mercer.

Also Present: Dino Ioannides, IEC Executive Director; and Gina Cannan of the Colorado Attorney General's Office.

I. GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Chair Baschiera called the meeting to order at 9:43 a.m.
2. The Commission invited public comment and received none.
3. The Commission unanimously approved the minutes of the March 21, 2023, meeting (Commissioner Kao abstaining).
4. The Commission conducted interviews with the two finalists for the local government commissioner position, Mr. Cyril Vidergar and Ms. Lora Thomas.
5. Upon motion duly seconded, the Commission unanimously (Commissioner Baschiera not participating) appointed Lora Thomas to the local government commissioner position, effective May 1, 2023, to complete the remainder of Commissioner Baschiera's term.
6. Mr. Ioannides provided the staff report.
7. At 10:59 a.m., upon motion duly seconded, the Commission voted unanimously to enter closed session for purposes of receiving legal advice pertaining to proposed legislation which is required to be kept confidential by law.

II. CLOSED SESSION BUSINESS

8. The Commission met in closed session from 10:59 a.m. to 11:11 a.m. to receive legal advice pertaining to proposed legislation.

III. GENERAL BUSINESS

9. The Commission returned to open session at 11:11 a.m.
10. The Commission called Complaints 16-02 and 17-14. Commissioner Mercer recused herself. Counsel for both parties were present.

11. Respondent's counsel represented that Respondent was willing to revisit his motion for discovery after the Commission issues its Notice of Issues for Hearing.
12. At 11:21 a.m., upon motion duly seconded, the Commission voted unanimously (Commissioner Mercer recused) to enter closed session to receive legal advice for Complaints 16-02 and 17-14.

IV. CLOSED SESSION BUSINESS

13. The Commission met in closed session from 11:21 a.m. to 11:46 a.m. to receive legal advice for Complaints 16-02 and 17-14.

V. GENERAL BUSINESS

14. The Commission returned to open session at 11:46 a.m.
15. By unanimous consent, the Commission instructed its staff to issue the Notice of Issues for Hearing and the Notice of Hearing in Complaints 16-02 and 17-14.
16. At 11:49 a.m., upon motion duly seconded, the Commission voted unanimously to enter closed session to discuss Complaints 22-34, 22-35, 23-05, 23-06, 23-07, 23-08, and 23-09, for purposes of receiving legal advice and which are required to be kept confidential pursuant to Article XXIX, §5(3)(b) of the Colorado Constitution; and to discuss draft employment policies and procedures for purposes of receiving legal advice.

VI. CLOSED SESSION BUSINESS

17. The Commission met in closed session from 11:49 a.m. to 12:44 p.m. to discuss Complaints 22-34, 22-35, 23-05, 23-06, 23-07, 23-08, and 23-09, and draft employment policies and procedures.

VII. GENERAL BUSINESS

18. The Commission returned to open session at 12:44 p.m.
19. Upon motion duly seconded, the Commission unanimously dismissed Complaints 23-05, 23-06, 23-07, 23-08, and 23-09 as frivolous.
20. By unanimous consent, the Commission instructed that the draft employment policies and procedures may be approved on circulation.
21. By unanimous consent, Commissioner Wist was appointed as chair and Commissioner Mercer as vice-chair of the Commission.
22. Having no further business, the Commission adjourned at 12:53 p.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled for May 16, 2023.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dino Ioannides
Executive Director
Colorado Independent Ethics Commission