

COLORADO INDEPENDENT ETHICS COMMISSION

Minutes of the November 19, 2024, Meeting
Meeting Conducted by Web Conference

Present: Chair Sarah Mercer, Vice-Chair Daniel Wolf, Commissioner Elizabeth Espinosa Krupa, Commissioner Lora Thomas, and Commissioner Cole Wist.

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

I. GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Chair Mercer called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.
2. The Commission invited public comment and received none.
3. The Commission unanimously approved the minutes of the August 20, 2024, meeting, with Commissioner Espinosa Krupa abstaining.
4. Mr. Ioannides provided the staff report.
5. Ms. Cannan provided legal updates from the Office of the Attorney General.
6. Upon motion duly seconded, the Commission unanimously ratified the prior issuance of Advisory Opinion 24-01 (which was previously approved upon circulation between meetings).
7. At 9:23 a.m., upon motion duly seconded, the Commission voted unanimously to enter closed session concerning Complaints 21-18, 22-07, and 22-22, for purposes of receiving legal advice.

II. CLOSED SESSION BUSINESS

8. The Commission met in closed session from 9:23 a.m. to 9:49 a.m. regarding Complaints 21-18, 22-07, and 22-22.

III. GENERAL BUSINESS

9. The Commission returned to open session at 9:49 a.m.
10. Chair Mercer announced that, with respect to Complaints 21-18, 22-07, and 22-22, a written order will be issued.
11. The Commission took up Complaint 21-25. Chair Mercer and Ms. Cannan recused.

12. At 9:51 a.m., upon motion duly seconded, the Commission voted unanimously to enter closed session concerning Complaint 21-25, for purposes of receiving legal advice.

IV. CLOSED SESSION BUSINESS

13. The Commission met in closed session from 9:51 a.m. to 10:12 a.m. regarding Complaint 21-25.

V. GENERAL BUSINESS

14. The Commission returned to open session at 10:12 a.m.
15. Vice-Chair Wolf announced that a written decision in Complaint 21-25 would be issued.
16. At 10:15 a.m., upon motion duly seconded, the Commission voted unanimously to enter closed session concerning Complaint 23-02, for purposes of receiving legal advice.

VI. CLOSED SESSION BUSINESS

17. The Commission met in closed session from 10:15 a.m. to 10:52 a.m. regarding Complaint 23-02.

VII. GENERAL BUSINESS

18. The Commission returned to open session at 10:52 a.m.
19. By unanimous consent, Commissioner Espinosa Krupa was appointed hearing officer for Complaint 23-02.
20. Upon motion duly seconded, Commissioner Espinosa Krupa was unanimously delegated authority in Complaint 23-02 to approve the Commission's final report of investigation and to schedule further proceedings as necessary.
21. At 10:56 a.m., upon motion duly seconded, the Commission voted unanimously to enter closed session concerning Complaint 24-08, for purposes of receiving legal advice.

VIII. CLOSED SESSION BUSINESS

22. The Commission met in closed session from 10:56 a.m. to 11:05 a.m. regarding Complaint 24-08.

IX. GENERAL BUSINESS

23. The Commission returned to open session at 11:05 a.m.
24. Chair Mercer announced that a written order will be issued for Complaint 24-08.
25. At 11:06 a.m., upon motion duly seconded, the Commission voted unanimously to enter closed session concerning Complaint 24-15, for purposes of receiving legal advice.

X. CLOSED SESSION BUSINESS

26. The Commission met in closed session from 11:06 a.m. to 11:16 a.m. regarding Complaint 24-15.

XI. GENERAL BUSINESS

27. The Commission returned to open session at 11:16 a.m.
28. Chair Mercer announced that a written order will be issued for Complaint 24-15.
29. By unanimous consent, consideration of the agenda items concerning proposed rulemaking and draft delegations of authority were postponed to the Commission's next meeting.
30. At 11:21 a.m., upon motion duly seconded, the Commission voted unanimously to enter closed session concerning Complaints 24-16, 24-17, 24-18, 24-22, 24-23, 24-24, 24-25, 24-26, 24-27, 24-28, 24-29, 24-30, 24-31, 24-32, and 24-33, 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.

XII. CLOSED SESSION BUSINESS

31. The Commission met in closed session from 11:21 a.m. to 12:03 p.m. regarding Complaints 24-16, 24-17, 24-18, 24-22, 24-23, 24-24, 24-25, 24-26, 24-27, 24-28, 24-29, 24-30, 24-31, 24-32, and 24-33.
32. Commissioner Mercer recused herself from consideration of Complaints 24-17 and 24-18.

XIII. GENERAL BUSINESS

33. The Commission returned to open session at 12:03 p.m.
34. Upon motion duly seconded, the Commission unanimously (Commissioner Mercer recused) dismissed Complaint 24-17 as frivolous.
35. Upon motion duly seconded, the Commission unanimously (Commissioner Mercer recused) dismissed Complaint 24-18 as frivolous.
36. Upon motion duly seconded, the Commission unanimously deemed Complaint 24-16 non-frivolous.
37. Upon motion duly seconded, the Commission unanimously dismissed Complaint 24-22 as frivolous.
38. Upon motion duly seconded, the Commission unanimously dismissed Complaint 24-23 as frivolous.

39. Upon motion duly seconded, the Commission unanimously dismissed Complaint 24-24 as frivolous.
40. Upon motion duly seconded, the Commission unanimously dismissed Complaint 24-25 as frivolous.
41. Upon motion duly seconded, the Commission unanimously dismissed Complaint 24-27 as frivolous.
42. Upon motion duly seconded, the Commission unanimously dismissed Complaint 24-28 as frivolous.
43. Upon motion duly seconded, the Commission unanimously dismissed Complaint 24-29 as frivolous.
44. Upon motion duly seconded, the Commission unanimously dismissed Complaint 24-30 as frivolous.
45. Upon motion duly seconded, the Commission unanimously dismissed Complaint 24-31 as frivolous.
46. Upon motion duly seconded, the Commission unanimously dismissed Complaint 24-32 as frivolous.
47. Upon motion duly seconded, the Commission unanimously dismissed Complaint 24-33 as frivolous.
48. Having no further business, the Commission adjourned at 12:26 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dino Ioannides
Executive Director
Colorado Independent Ethics Commission