

COLORADO INDEPENDENT ETHICS COMMISSION

Minutes of the February 18, 2025, Meeting
Meeting Conducted by Web Conference

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

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

I. GENERAL BUSINESS

1. In Commissioner Mercer's tentative absence from the meeting, Vice-Chair Wolf called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
2. The Commission invited public comment and received none.
3. The Commission unanimously approved the minutes of the January 21, 2025, meeting.
4. Mr. Ioannides provided the staff report.
5. Ms. Cannan indicated there were no legal/litigation updates to report.
6. At 9:10 a.m., upon motion duly seconded, the Commission voted unanimously to enter closed session concerning Complaint 23-02, for purposes of receiving legal advice.

II. CLOSED SESSION BUSINESS

7. The Commission met in closed session from 9:10 a.m. to 9:22 a.m. regarding Complaint 23-02.

III. GENERAL BUSINESS

8. The Commission returned to open session at 9:22 a.m.
9. Upon motion duly seconded, the Commission unanimously delegated to Commissioner Espinosa Krupa, as the hearing officer for Complaint 23-02, the authority to issue the Notice of Issues for Hearing in Complaint 23-02.
10. At 9:23 a.m., upon motion duly seconded, the Commission voted unanimously to enter closed session concerning Complaint 24-15, for purposes of receiving legal advice.

IV. CLOSED SESSION BUSINESS

11. The Commission met in closed session from 9:23 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. regarding Complaint 24-15.

V. GENERAL BUSINESS

12. The Commission returned to open session at 9:30 a.m.
13. Vice-Chair Wolf instructed Commission staff to proceed with its investigation in Complaint 24-15, and acknowledged receipt of the motions of the parties.
14. At 9:32 a.m., upon motion duly seconded, the Commission voted unanimously to enter closed session concerning Complaint 24-16, for purposes of receiving legal advice.

VI. CLOSED SESSION BUSINESS

15. The Commission met in closed session from 9:32 a.m. to 9:42 a.m. regarding Complaint 24-16.

VII. GENERAL BUSINESS

16. The Commission returned to open session at 9:42 a.m.
17. Vice-Chair Wolf instructed Commission staff to proceed with its investigation in Complaint 24-16, and acknowledged receipt of the motions of the parties.
18. At 9:44 a.m., upon motion duly seconded, the Commission voted unanimously to enter closed session concerning Complaints 25-09, 25-10, 25-11, 25-12, 25-13, 25-14, 25-15, 25-16, and 25-17, 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.

VIII. CLOSED SESSION BUSINESS

19. The Commission met in closed session from 9:44 a.m. to 10:01 a.m. regarding Complaints 25-09, 25-10, 25-11, 25-12, 25-13, 25-14, 25-15, 25-16, and 25-17.

IX. GENERAL BUSINESS

20. The Commission returned to open session at 10:01 a.m.
21. Upon motion duly seconded, the Commission unanimously dismissed Complaint 25-09 as frivolous.
22. Upon motion duly seconded, the Commission unanimously dismissed Complaint 25-10 as frivolous.
23. Upon motion duly seconded, the Commission unanimously dismissed Complaint 25-11 as frivolous.
24. Upon motion duly seconded, the Commission unanimously dismissed Complaint 25-12 as frivolous.
25. Upon motion duly seconded, the Commission unanimously dismissed Complaint 25-13 as frivolous.

26. Upon motion duly seconded, the Commission unanimously dismissed Complaint 25-14 as frivolous.
27. Upon motion duly seconded, the Commission unanimously dismissed Complaint 25-15 as frivolous.
28. Upon motion duly seconded, the Commission unanimously dismissed Complaint 25-16 as frivolous.
29. Upon motion duly seconded, the Commission unanimously dismissed Complaint 25-17 as frivolous.
30. The Commission recessed from 10:05 a.m. to 10:09 a.m.
31. Commissioner Mercer arrived for the meeting at 10:09 a.m. and assumed chairmanship of the meeting.
32. The Commission interviewed candidates Nauer and Laske for the local government commissioner position to be vacated by Commissioner Thomas (with a recess of approximately 15 minutes between candidates).
33. At 11:17 a.m., upon motion duly seconded, the Commission voted unanimously to enter closed session concerning the local government commissioner candidates, for purposes of receiving legal advice.

X. CLOSED SESSION BUSINESS

34. The Commission met in closed session from 11:17 a.m. to 11:24 a.m. regarding the local government commissioner candidates.

XI. GENERAL BUSINESS

35. The Commission returned to open session at 11:24 a.m.
36. Upon motion duly seconded, the Commission unanimously (Commissioner Thomas abstaining) appointed Lori Laske as the local government IEC commissioner, effective March 1, 2025.
37. Having no further business, the Commission adjourned at 11:37 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dino Ioannides
Executive Director
Colorado Independent Ethics Commission