COLORADO INDEPENDENT ETHICS COMMISSION

Minutes of the December 16, 2025, Meeting
Meeting Conducted by Web Conference

Present: Chair Sarah Mercer, Vice-Chair Daniel Wolf, Commissioner Lori Laske, and Commissioner Cyril Vidergar.

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

I.   GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Chair Mercer called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

2. The Commission invited public comment and received none.

3. The Commission unanimously approved the minutes of the November 18, 2025, meeting.

4. Mr. Ioannides provided the staff report.

5. Mr. Fitzgerald indicated there were no legal updates.

6. The Commission called Advisory Opinion 25-03. The Requestor was not in attendance. Mr. Ioannides gave a summary of the request.

7. The Commission called Advisory Opinion 25-04. The Requestor was present, introduced his request, and answered questions from the commissioners.

8. At 9:15 a.m., upon motion duly seconded, the Commission voted unanimously to enter closed session concerning Advisory Opinions 25-03 and 25-04, for purposes of receiving legal advice.

II.   CLOSED SESSION BUSINESS

9. The Commission met in closed session from 9:15 a.m. to 9:52 a.m. regarding Advisory Opinions 25-03 and 25-04.

III. GENERAL BUSINESS

10. The Commission returned to open session at 9:52 a.m.

11. Chair Mercer announced that the Commission would issue Advisory Opinions 25-03 and 25-04 in due course.

12. At 9:54 a.m., upon motion duly seconded, the Commission voted unanimously to enter closed session concerning Complaint 25-52, for purposes of receiving legal advice.

IV. CLOSED SESSION BUSINESS

13. The Commission met in closed session from 9:54 a.m. to 10:10 a.m. regarding Complaint 25-52.

V. GENERAL BUSINESS

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

15. The Commission called Complaint 25-66 for hearing on Respondent's Motion for Reconsideration of Non-Frivolous Determination or Dismissal, and Complainant's Unopposed Motion to Withdraw Complaint. Chair Mercer recused herself and Commissioner Wolf assumed the chair. Counsel for both parties entered their appearances. Counsel explained the basis for the relief sought by the parties.

16. At 10:16 a.m., upon motion duly seconded, the Commission voted unanimously to enter closed session concerning Complaint 25-66, for purposes of receiving legal advice.

VI. CLOSED SESSION BUSINESS

17. The Commission (Commissioner Mercer recused) met in closed session from 10:16 a.m. to 10:20 a.m. regarding Complaint 25-66.

VII. GENERAL BUSINESS

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

19. Commissioner Wolf announced that Complainant's motion will be granted, that Respondent's motion is moot, and that a written order would follow.

20. Chair Mercer rejoined the meeting and assumed the chair.

21. Commissioner Laske and Mr. Fitzgerald announced their respective recusals from Complaint 25-84.

22. At 10:24 a.m., upon motion duly seconded, the Commission voted unanimously to enter closed session concerning Complaints 25-57, 25-65, 25-84, 25-85, and 25-86, 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

23. The Commission met in closed session from 10:24 a.m. to 11:32 a.m. regarding Complaints 25-57, 25-65, 25-84, 25-85, and 25-86 (Commissioner Laske and Mr. Fitzgerald having recused themselves from Complaint 25-84).

IX. GENERAL BUSINESS

24. The Commission returned to open session at 11:32 a.m.

25. Upon motion duly seconded, the Commission unanimously deemed Complaint 25-57 non-frivolous.

26. Upon motion duly seconded, the Commission unanimously dismissed Complaint 25-85 as frivolous.

27. Upon motion duly seconded, the Commission unanimously dismissed Complaint 25-86.

28. Having no further business, the Commission adjourned at 11:37 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dino Ioannides
Executive Director
Colorado Independent Ethics Commission