

APPROVED MINUTES
ETHICS COMMISSION OF THE UNIFIED GOVERNMENT
Courtroom No. 18, 2nd Floor, Wyandotte County Courthouse
710 N. 7th Street, Kansas City, KS 66101

April 11, 2019

Regular Meeting:

Roll Call:

- X Member Jerry Fiscus
- E Member David Duckers
- X Member John J. Bukaty, Jr.
- X Member Linda Brown
- X Member Dachia Busch
- X Ruth Benien, Administrator

X (Present) E (Excused)

U (Unexcused)

Call to Order:

Chairperson Fiscus called the meeting to order at 4:07 p.m. Commissioners Brown, Bukaty and Busch were in attendance. Commissioner Duckers was absent but excused. Administrator Benien was present.

Public Comment: No members of the public were present.

Old Business:

a). Approval of Minutes:

The Minutes of the February 14, 2019 meeting were reviewed and approved as corrected. The Minutes of the March 14, 2019 meeting were reviewed and approved. Commissioner Bukaty moved for approval with a second by Commissioner Brown. The Motion passed unanimously.

b). Monthly Administrator's Report:

Administrator Benien provided the monthly report for the time period from March 1, 2019 through March 31, 2019 which outlined the training provided in that month and the nature of the ethics opinions rendered and complaints received.

Continuing Ethics training presentations by video have and are being provided by the Human Resources department for the police and fire department and are also used for a section of the sheriff's department and water treatment plant due to the shifts in each department. First quarter Continuing Ethics was held on February 13, 2019 from 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. at the Health Department and on March 25, 2019 from 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at Human Resources. Police Academy training was held January 17, 2019 from 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. at the Policy Academy. Basic UG ethics training was held on March 13, 2019 from 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. at HR. Fire Basic training was held from 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. on February 14, 2019. UG Continuing Ethics training is scheduled from 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. on April 24, 2019.

One new email complaint was received. Six complaints are pending awaiting additional information, referral or review. Three complaints were closed due to lack of jurisdiction as not an ethics issue. One new verbal advisory opinion was requested and responded to. Four new email requests for advisory opinions were received and one telephone. One advisory opinion was closed due to lack of provision of additional information or contact. Seven advisory opinions were provided. Six advisory opinion requests were pending as of March 31, 2019. No new requests for information were received.

New Business:

All Ethics Commissioners were again asked to review and make notes for changes or improvement to the UG Ethics Web Site for the next meeting.

Administrator Benien provided an email and attachments relating to a request for follow-up by the Ethics Commission regarding an opinion provided regarding the proposed downtown grocery store and ownership of shares in the same.

Ethics Administrator Benien will try at each meeting to cover a limited provision of the UG Ethics Code to better help the UG Ethics Commissioners understand its provisions or answer questions they may have.

Executive Session:

No Executive Session was held.

Adjournment:

Motion for adjournment by Commissioner Brown

Seconded by Commissioner Bukaty

Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Next Meeting is May 9, 2019 at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

s/Ruth M. Benien

Ruth M. Benien

UG Ethics Administrator