

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

**August 9, 2018**

**Regular Meeting:**

**Roll Call:**

- X Member Jerry Fiscus
- X 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 4:00 p.m. Commissioners Duckers, Bukaty, Brown and Busch were in attendance. Administrator Benien was present.

**Public Comment:** No members of the public were present. By prior request UG Commissioner Mike Kane was present to make a presentation to the UG Ethics Commission regarding a request for change or amendment to the UG Ethics Code. He made a presentation from 4:03 p.m. to 4:40 p.m. The matter was taken under advisement with Commissioner Kane to meet with Administrator Benien to outline the specific changes he wanted to certain sections of the UG Ethics Code.

**Old Business:**

**a). Approval of Minutes:**

The proposed Minutes of the July 12, 2018 meeting were reviewed and approved. Commissioner Duckers 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 July 1, 2018 through July 31, 2018 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. Continuing Ethics was provided on June 22, 2018 at NRC. Basic training for the Police Academy was held July 5, 2018. Continuing Ethics training was held July 25, 2018 at HR and is scheduled August 29, 2018 at the Appraiser's Annex. Basic training is scheduled for September 10, 2018 for the Planning and Zoning, Board of Zoning Appeals and Landmarks Commission at the Commission Chambers. Basic Ethics training is scheduled for September 18, 2018 and December 13, 2018 at HR.

Eight new hotline complaints were received in July, 2018, four by email, one written and three by hotline phone. Five complaints are pending awaiting additional information, referral or review. Four complaints were closed for lack of violation or finding of no jurisdiction or lack of provision of additional information. One complaint was closed with violation found but immediately corrected. Four advisory opinion requests were pending as of July 31, 2018. One new request for a verbal advisory opinion was received, one telephone request was received, and one written request was received. One verbal request for advisory opinion was provided. One email request for advisory opinion was closed due to lack of follow up information being provided.

**New Business:**

Under new business the Ethics Administrator forwarded the request of the UG Ethics Commission to the UG IT department has corrected and relocated the UG Ethics contact spots on the UG website. Additional updates will be made. The procedure for confirming posting of minutes, agendas and notices is in place and being used.

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.

Ethics Administrator Benien provided a limited training session regarding the process for seeking amendment to the UG Ethics Code. She advised she 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 Duckers

Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:58 p.m.

Next Meeting is September 13, 2018 at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

s/Ruth M. Benien\_\_\_\_\_

Ruth M. Benien

UG Ethics Administrator