

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

November 2, 2017

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 Jerry Fiscus called the meeting to order at 4:06 p.m. Commissioners Duckers, Brown, Busch and Bukaty were present. Administrator Benien was present.

Public Comment: No members of the public were present.

Old Business:

a). Approval of Minutes:

The proposed Minutes of the October 5, 2017 meeting were reviewed and approved. Commissioner Duckers moved for approval with a second by Commissioner Brown. Motion passed unanimously.

b). Monthly Administrator's Report:

Administrator Benien provided a monthly report for the time period from October 1, 2017 through October 31, 2017 which outlined the training provided in those months and the nature of the ethics opinions rendered and complaints received.

A UG Basic Ethics training session was held on September 14, 2017 and one is scheduled for December 7, 2017. Continuing Ethics training sessions are scheduled for November 8, 2017 at the Fleet Center and one was held October 24, 2017 at the Health Department. Continuing Ethics training presentations by video have and are being provided by the Human Resources department for the police and fire department and were also used for a section of the sheriff's department. Basic Ethics training for the new UG Ethics Administrators was provided after the October 5, 2017 meeting.

Four new email complaints were received. Nine complaints are pending awaiting investigation or additional information. Nine complaints were closed, Four for no jurisdiction, two for no violation or previously resolved, four with violation but appropriately corrected. Four new complaints were received from email. Ten advisory opinion requests are pending as of November 1, 2017. Four new email requests for an advisory opinion were received. Four requests were closed; one with not violation found and complaint to start with so no opinion provided; one due to lack of additional information being provided; one request for reissuance of prior opinion provided; one via voice mail opinion that no violation and final email request re: request to cover campaign contributions at training in more detail which will be observed.

New Business:

In new business, the UG Ethics Commission on Motion by Commissioner Duckers and second by Commissioner Bukaty approved the UG Ethics Administrator to have authority to close any complaint or request for advisory opinion after thirty days if information requested has not been provided.

Discussion was had regarding reports and at the request of a UG Commissioner the UG Ethics Administrator agreed to try to have the meeting documents distributed by the Monday or Tuesday preceding the Thursday meeting with understanding that if, as in October, 2017 the monthly meeting was only two days after the end of the month the same might not occur or monthly meeting might be moved to the second week.

Executive Session:

No Executive Session was held.

Adjournment:

Motion for adjournment by Commissioner Bukaty

Seconded by Commissioner Brown

Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Next Meeting is December 7, 2017 at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

s/Ruth M. Benien

Ruth M. Benien
UG Ethics Administrator