



**Minutes for Meeting of
Thursday, July 24, 2003**

Item-1: Call to Order.

Chairwoman Dorothy Leonard called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m.

Item-3: Swearing-In of New Commissioners.

City Clerk Charles Abdelnour administered the oath of office to Charles H. Dick, Jr., and Karen Thomas-Stefano.

Commissioners Thomas-Stefano and Dick introduced themselves and commented briefly on their professional and academic backgrounds.

Item-2: Roll Call.

Present – Chairwoman Dorothy Leonard, Commissioners Dorothy Smith, April Riel, Charles H. Dick, Jr., and Karen Thomas-Stefano.

Staff - Deputy City Attorney Rick Duvernay, Legal Assistant Steve Ross, Investigator Stacey Fulhorst, Executive Secretary Janet MacFarlane.

Excused – Commissioner Greg Vega.

Item-4: Approval of Commission Minutes.

APPROVAL OF COMMISSION MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JUNE 12, 2003.

This item trailed to the August 14, 2003, meeting.

Item-5: Non-Agenda Public Comment.

None.

Item-6: Commissioner Comment.

Commissioner Smith publicly welcomed Karen Thomas-Stefano and Charles Dick as members of the Ethics Commission.

Stacey Fulhorst introduced Janet MacFarlane, newly appointed Executive Secretary to the Ethics Commission.

Item-7: Executive Director Comment.

In the absence of Executive Director Charles Walker, Investigator Stacey Fulhorst reported on the following:

1. During Calendar Year 2003, the Ethics Commission received 29 complaints, eight of which are currently under investigation.
2. As part of the Ethics Training Program, a video was produced for members of Boards and Commissions. Ms. Fulhorst indicated staff was in the process of distributing these videos. In addition, an online recertification program was currently being developed, and should be available in the Fall of 2004.
3. Progress on the Electronic Campaign Filing (ELF) System being coordinated by the City Clerk's Office.

Item-8: Deputy City Attorney Comment.

Deputy City Attorney Rick Duvernay reported on a recent court decision related to a political committee that was formed to recall Councilmember Scott Peters.

1. On June 19, 2003, that committee began the formal process, which started the timeline under which it needed to gather the required number of signatures.
2. On June 20, 2003, their attorney filed a complaint against the City. The basis of the complaint was that, 1) they should not be treated as a candidate controlled committee; and 2) because of the short period of time given to gather the required signatures, the \$250 limit was unconstitutionally low.
3. The court ultimately ruled in favor of the City.

Item 9: Revisions to Audit Manual.

Stacey Fulhorst reviewed the revisions being proposed to the Audit Manual . She explained these changes were minor technical changes or language errors.

MOTION FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE AUDIT MANUAL

Motion/Second: Riel/Smith

Vote: Unanimous approval
Excused: Vega

Item 10: Ad-Hoc Municipal Lobbying Ordinance Subcommittee.

Chairwoman Leonard reported that Commissioners Greg Vega and Karen Thomas-Stefano had agreed to serve on the subcommittee.

Item 11: Election of Chair and Vice Chair.

MOTION TO APPOINT DOROTHY SMITH AS CHAIRWOMAN OF THE COMMISSION

Motion/Second: Riel/Dick

Vote: Unanimous approval

Excused: Vega

MOTION TO APPOINT APRIL RIEL AS VICE CHAIRWOMAN OF THE COMMISSION

Motion/Second: Dick/Smith

Vote: Unanimous approval

Excused: Vega

Item 11: Adjournment.

Chairwoman Dorothy Leonard adjourned the meeting to Closed Session at 5:30 p.m.

Dorothy L. Smith, Chairwoman
Ethics Commission

Janet MacFarlane, Executive Secretary
Ethics Commission

THIS INFORMATION WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE IN ALTERNATIVE FORMATS UPON REQUEST.