Regular Meeting:

Roll Call:

X Chair Mr. Gilbert Castro
X Member Dr. J. Anthony Snorgrass, PhD.
X Member Mr. John Zawacki
X Member Ms. Janey Humphries
X Member Mr. Robert Frey
X Ruth Benien, Administrator

X (Present)
E (Excused)
U (Unexcused)

Call to Order:

Chairperson Castro called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Commissioners Snorgrass, Zawacki, Humphries and Frey were present. Administrator Benien was present.

Public Comment: No members of the public appeared.

Old Business:

a). Approval of Minutes:

Proposed Minutes of the March 4, 2010 meeting were reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Commissioner Zawacki and seconded by Commissioner Frey. The motion passed unanimously.

b). Monthly Administrator’s Report:

Administrator Benien provided a written copy of the March, 2010 monthly report to the Commission which outlined the training provided in March, 2010 and the nature of the ethics opinions rendered and complaints received.
Robin Hicks with the Legislative Auditor’s Office has completed revisions to the formal codified code and updated the training documents to include the UG Ethics Code changes. A Basic Ethics training session was held from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. on March 16, 2010 at the Health Department Auditorium. A Continuing Ethics training session was held from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. on March 16, 2010. A copy of the amended UG Ethics Code is being distributed at both the Basic and Continuing Ethics seminars. A copy has also been posted on the UG Ethics Website.

Two new e-mail complaints were received. One telephone complaint was received. Three complaints were closed after investigation or review with no violation found. Three complaints were closed after investigation or review with violation found and appropriate action taken. Twenty-six complaints are pending awaiting investigation, under investigation or determination. Four verbal advisory opinions were provided. Six written e-mail advisory opinions were provided. Nineteen requests for an advisory opinion are pending.

One new request for information was received in March, 2010. Three requests for information or assistance were responded to. The Ethics Administrator is working on the November 10, 2009 formal written request under the Kansas Open Records Act for all letters and correspondence involving the UG Ethics Code revisions. Each Ethics Commissioner was asked in January, 2010 to provide any e-mails in their possession relating to the request. Materials were provided by former Chairperson Smiley. Former commissioner Slattery is being contacted to determine if she has any responsive documents.

Motion to accept the Administrator’s report as amended or corrected was made by Commissioner Zawacki and seconded by Commissioner Frey.

c). Discussion of Status of Codification of Code:

Administrator Benien reported that the codified Code which has been paginated and indexed is posted on the website and is being distributed to all new employees and at Basic Ethics and Continuing Ethics sessions.

New Business:

Administrator Benien provided the Certificate of Appreciation for signing by the UG Ethics Commissioners for outgoing Chairperson Smiley.

Administrator Benien advised that in training sessions and through a memorandum employees were being reminded of the prohibitions of the UG Ethics Code with respect to the sales tax election and health care reform. A copy of the political memorandum was distributed.

A proposed revision to the UG Ethics Code with respect to the ownership of stock and/or status as a debtor and disqualification of voting under Sec. 2-259(C) was taken under consideration. A motion by Commissioner Zawacki to add subsection (C) as proposed to Sec. 2-259 was made and seconded by Commissioner Frey. The motion passed with Chairperson Castro breaking the
tie. Commissioners Zawacki and Frey voted in favor of the motion. Commissioners Snorgrass
and Humphries voted against the motion. Discussions was had with respect to the newly added
subsection(C) and motion was made by Commissioner Snorgrass with second by Commissioner
Frey to amend the motion to include the changes discussed and as read by the Ethics
Administrator. The motion passed unanimously. The amended Sec. 2-259 of the UG Ethics Code
will be forwarded back to the UG legal department.

At the request of the Ethics Administrator a motion was made by Commissioner Snorgrass and
seconded by Commissioner Zawacki to authorize the Administrator to prepare a revised Sec. 2-
267 as directed by the UG Commissioners with respect to employee resignation if elected to a
UG office. The motion passed unanimously. The Ethics Administrator advised that a copy of the
revision would be sent to all UG Ethics Commissioners at the same time it was forwarded to the
legal department.

Administrator Benien advised that a recent Board of Public Utilities Ethics Commission Report
indicated that the BPU Ethics Administrator was no longer accepting anonymous complaints.
Administrator Benien advised that unless the UG Ethics Commissioners wished to revise the
current practice, she intended to continue to keep accepting anonymous complaints given the
language of the UG Ethics Code and its underlying purposes.

**Executive Session:**

No Executive Session was held.

**Adjournment:**

Motion for adjournment by Commissioner Zawacki.

Seconded by Commissioner Humphries.

Motion passed Unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:18 p.m.

Next Meeting is May 6, 2010 at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

s/Ruth M. Benien_____

Ruth M. Benien
Ethics Administrator