Regular Meeting:

Roll Call:

X Chair Ms. Rhonda Smiley
E Member Mr. J. Anthony Snorgrass
X Member Mr. John Zawacki
X Member Mr. Gilbert Castro
X Member Ms. Janey Humphries
X Ruth Benien, Administrator

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

Call to Order:

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

Swearing In of Commissioners:

Newly appointed Commissioners Janey Humphries and Gilbert Castro (appointed to serve his own full term) were sworn in by the Honorable R. Wayne Lampson, Chief Administrative Judge of the Wyandotte County District Court. Legislative Auditor Tom Wiss and Wyandotte County District Attorney Jerome Gorman also were present. Judge Lampson, Legislative Auditor Wiss and District Attorney Gorman constitute the Ad Hoc Ethic Commission Appointment Panel that selected the Commissioners.

Public Comment: Ten members of the public, all residents of the Argentine area, were present to provide public comment on a proposed change to the UG Ethics Code relating to inclusion of non-profit entities as “business entities” under the Code. The Public Comment session lasted from 4:10 p.m. to 5:40 p.m. The Ethics Commission through Administrator Benien agreed to provide notice to a representative of the group if and when and actual vote may be taken on the proposed revisions.
Old Business:

Minutes of the Approved June 11, 2009 meeting were distributed. Proposed Minutes of the July 2, 2009 meeting were reviewed. A Motion to Approve the Minutes as amended was made by Commissioner Zawacki with a second by Commissioner Humphries. The motion passed unanimously.

Inclusion of the status of preparation of a retaliation memorandum was included on the Agenda as item “d” under “Old Business.”

Due to the number of individuals present for the Public Comment session and the length of the comment period, Commissioner Castro made a Motion to pass the remainder of the Agenda, other than the approval of the Minutes, to the September 3, 2009 meeting. The Motion was seconded by Commissioner Zawacki. The Motion passed unanimously.

Administrator Benien provided a written copy of the July monthly report to the Commission which outlined the training provided in July, 2009 and the nature of the ethics opinions rendered and complaints received.

No Basic Ethics training sessions were in July, 2009. A Continuing Ethics training session was provided for the Mayor on July 16, 2009. A Continuing Ethics training session is scheduled for August 26, 2009 at the Health Department from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Three new complaints were received. One was resolved with a finding of violation and appropriate action taken. Nine complaints are pending awaiting investigation or determination. Two complaints were resolved. No written requests for advisory opinions were received. Five verbal requests for advisory opinions were received and four were provided. Two requests for advisory opinion are pending. Two e-mail requests for an advisory opinion were responded to.

New Business:

Prior to commencement of the meeting, Administrator Benien circulated a Certificate of Appreciation for signature by the Commissioners, Legislative Auditor Wiss and herself to be presented to outgoing Commissioner Mary Ann Slattery. It will be presented after the September, 2009 meeting date so it can be signed by Commissioner Snorgrass.

Executive Session:

No Executive Session was held.

Adjournment:
Motion for adjournment by Commissioner Zawacki.

Seconded by Commissioner Humphries.

Passed Unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned at 5:42 p.m.

Next Meeting is September 3, 2009 at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

s/Ruth M. Benien

Ruth M. Benien
Ethics Administrator