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

June 11, 2015

Regular Meeting:

Roll Call:

E Chair Ms. Tami Schademann
X Member Ms. Dana Rank Bye
E Member Ms. Pat Brune
X Member Mr. George Kemper
X Member Anthony Villegas
X Ruth Benien, Administrator
X (Present) E (Excused)
U (Unexcused)

Call to Order:

Interim Chairperson Dana Rank-Bye called the meeting to order at 4:13 p.m. Commissioners Kemper and Villegas were present. Administrator Benien was present. Chairperson and Commissioner Schademann resigned effective May 1, 2015 due to a relocating of her residence to Johnson County, Kansas. Commissioner Brune previously recused herself for the February, March and April, 2015 UG Ethics Commission meetings due to her sister running for UG Commissioner and has now submitted her resignation upon her sister’s election as a UG Commissioner.

Public Comment: No members of the public were present.

Old Business:

a). Approval of Minutes:
Proposed Minutes of the May 14, 2015 meeting were reviewed and approved. A motion was made by Commissioner Rank-Bye and seconded by Commissioner Kemper to approve the May minutes as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.

b). Monthly Administrator’s Report:

Administrator Benien provided the written May, 2015 monthly report which outlined the training provided in May, 2015 and the nature of the ethics opinions rendered and complaints received. No meeting was held in April, 2015 due to a lack of quorum.

Continuing Ethics training for the three UG Commissioners needing to complete such training will be scheduled in the next few months and for newly elected UG Commissioners after the month of June, 2015. The Ethics Administrator has been contacted with respect to scheduling ethics training for the sheriff and fire departments. A Basic Ethics training session is scheduled for June 24, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. in the Human Resources training center. A Continuing Ethics training session is scheduled for June 16, 2015 at 1:30 p.m. at the newly remodeled Human Resources training center. A training video was filmed on February 2, 2015 for provision to the police and fire departments for the Continuing Ethics training. The fire department provided its videotape equipment for use in the preparation of the video. Police and fire are both in their three year training cycles. The Human Resources department is in the process of editing the video and preparing some type of system to confirm actual review of the video.

Three new complaints, one hotline, one written and one email were received in May, 2015. Eleven complaints in May, 2015 are pending awaiting investigation, under investigation or determination. Two complaints in May, 2015 were closed, with no jurisdiction found. Fifteen advisory opinion requests are pending as of the end of May, 2015. Three new advisory opinions were requested in May, 2015 through June 11, 2015, two by email and one by telephone. One request for ethics presentation or training for a handicapped employee is pending.

The Administrator’s report was accepted as presented for May, 2015.

New Business:

The Ad Hoc Panel has selected three new UG Ethics Commissioners. The new members will take office in August, 2015. George Kemper has been appointed as the new Chairperson and agreed to serve in that capacity.

Executive Session:

No Executive Session was held.

Adjournment:

Motion for adjournment by Commissioner Villegas
Seconded by Commissioner Kemper

Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:46 p.m.

Next Meeting is July 9, 2015 at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

s/Ruth M. Benien

Ruth M. Benien
UG Ethics Administrator