Regular Meeting:

Roll Call:

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

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

Call to Order:

Chairperson Rhonda Smiley called the meeting to order at 4:12 p.m. Commissioners Slattery, Snorgrass, and Castro were present. Also present at the request of the Commission was UG Assistant Attorney Ken Moore.

Executive Session:

Chairperson Smiley exercised the Chairperson’s privilege to take an executive session out of order given the presence of the UG attorney and that no members of the public were in attendance at the meeting. Commissioner Castro made the motion to go into executive session for 45 minutes (4:15 – 5:00 p.m.) for the purpose of obtaining a legal opinion relating to an ethical issue. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Slattery. The motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Snorgrass moved and Commissioner Slattery seconded a motion to leave executive session early. The motion passed unanimously and the executive session ended at 4:45 p.m.

Old Business:
Minutes of the April 3, 2008 meeting were reviewed. Corrections to the Minutes were provided and a Motion to Approve the Minutes as corrected was made by Commissioner Castro with a second by Commissioner Slattery. The motion passed unanimously. It was agreed that the minutes as corrected would be designated “Approved” minutes.

Administrator Benien reviewed the monthly report with the Commission which outlined the training provided in April, 2008 and the nature of the ethics opinions rendered and complaints received.

The Continuing Basic Ethics training session scheduled for the Health Department on April 15, 2008 was cancelled due to low sign-up totals. Second Quarter Ethics training has been scheduled. A Basic Ethics session is scheduled for May 15, 2008 in the Human Resources Conference Room. Continuing Ethics training sessions are scheduled for May 15, 2008 in the Human Resources Conference Room and June 11, 2008 at the Health Department. A Basic Ethics training session for the library board is scheduled for September 23, 2008. A chart outlining the percentage of employees receiving basic and continuing ethics training for 2007 and the first three months of 2008 was distributed to the Commission pursuant to an earlier request for such information. Four verbal and two written complaints were received and/or investigated and/or resolved in May, 2008. One verbal opinion was provided. Administrator Benien advised she had sent an e-mail to former Administrator Frederickson regarding a potentially outstanding complaint from November, 2007, but had received no response.

The status of the updates and revisions to the Ethics Code were reviewed. Administrator Benien has not been able to complete review of the proposed changes, but advised that she had spoken with representatives of legal, the legislative auditor’s office and administration and advised of the stage of the review process.

Administrator Benien advised she had discussed the proposal to prepare a memorandum with respect to political and casino activities with legal and the administration. They are to forward to her the materials developed with respect to the casino issue for elected officials at the start of the process and concurred it would be a good idea to distribute the same.

New Business:

Prior to the meeting, Administrator Benien forwarded copies of the budget proposals submitted to the Legislative Auditor’s Office for the remainder of 2008 and the 2009 budget year.

Administrator Benien advised that with respect to training, Human Resources does not monitor or track the percentages for training of elected officials or board members. She advised that the Administrator’s office will start tracking those totals.

Adjournment:
Motion for adjournment by Commissioner Snorgrass.

Seconded by Commissioner Castro.

Meeting Adjourned at 5:37 p.m.

Next Meeting is June 5, 2008 at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

s/Ruth M. Benien____

Ruth M. Benien
Ethics Administrator