Regular Meeting:

Roll Call:

X Chair Ms. Tami Schademann
X Member Ms. Dana Rank Bye
X Member Ms. Pat Brune
X Member Mr. George Kemper
X Ruth Benien, Administrator

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

Call to Order:

Chairperson Schademann called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m. Commissioners Rank Bye, Brune and Kemper were present. Administrator Benien was present. Legislative Auditor Tom Wiss, the Hon. Wayne Lampson and District Attorney Jerome Gorman were present.

Public Comment: No members of the public appeared.

Old Business:

a). Approval of Minutes:

Proposed Minutes of the August 1, 2013 meeting were reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes as submitted was made by Commissioner Kemper and seconded by Commissioner Brune. The motion passed unanimously.

b). Monthly Administrator’s Report:
Administrator Benien provided the August, 2013 monthly report which outlined the training provided in August, 2013 and the nature of the ethics opinions rendered and complaints received.

Ethics training for the third and fourth quarters are as follows: Continuing Education, September 10, 2013 at 1:30 p.m. at the Health Department; Basic Education, September 17, 2013 at the Health Department at 2:00 p.m.; Continuing Education, October 16, 2013 at NRC at 2:00 p.m.; Basic Education, November 5, 2013 at NRC at 1:00 p.m.; and Continuing Education, Dec. 3, 2013 at Human Resources at 2:30 p.m. Training for the two new UG Ethics Commissioners is scheduled for after the UG Ethics Commission meeting in October, 2013.

In August, 2013 two new complaints were received. Eighteen complaints are pending awaiting investigation, under investigation or determination. Five complaints were closed, one with finding of no violation, four for lack of jurisdiction. One new email request for advisory opinion was received and written request. Five new written opinions were provided. Three verbal opinions were provided. One text opinion was provided. Two email advisory opinions were provided. One request was closed for lack of follow up information. Fourteen advisory opinion requests are pending. One request for information was closed to lack of follow up request or information. One request for ethics presentation or training for a handicapped employee is pending. One new request for information with respect to the process for obtaining open records was received and verbal response provided.

The Administrator’s report was accepted as amended or corrected for August, 2013.

c). Discussion of Status of Proposed Revisions and Amendments to Ethics Code:

Administrator Benien advised that a copy of the UG Ethics Commission proposed amendments to the UG Ethics Code with final changes and corrections was sent to the UG Mayor’s Office on February 3, 2012. No action will be taken until after the selection of the new UG Commissioner to fill the vacancy created by Mayor Holland’s move to Mayor and the open At Large Commissioner position.

Administrator Benien submitted a proposal for additional revision of the UG Ethics Code with respect to removal of an appointed UG Ethics Commissioner from office. The matter was discussed with input from the members of the Ad Hoc Ethics Panel who were present. No further action was taken at the meeting.

New Business:

Ethics Administrator Benien advised the UG Ethics Commission that pursuant to the provisions of Sec. 2-255 (c) (2) she was going to prepare a written letter requesting that
the Legislative Auditor publicly censure one of the sitting UG Commissioners. Administrator Benien detailed the basis for the request to the UG Ethics Commissioners. After discussion all the UG Ethics Commissioners concurred with the proposed action including a requirement that additional training be required.

**Executive Session:**

No Executive Session was held.

Adjournment:

Motion for adjournment by Commissioner Rank Bye.

Seconded by Commissioner Kemper.

Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Next Meeting is October 10, 2013 at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

s/Ruth M. Benien_____

Ruth M. Benien
UG Ethics Administrator