

TEXAS ETHICS COMMISSION
P.O. Box 12070, Austin, Texas 78711-2070
(512) 463-5800

Chase Untermeyer, Chair
Steven D. Wolens, Vice Chair
Hugh C. Akin
Jim Clancy

Chad M. Craycraft
Wilhelmina Delco
Mary K. “Katie” Kennedy
Tom Ramsay

AGENDA

Date and Time:	1:00 p.m., Wednesday, February 15, 2017
Location:	Conference Room 244, Texas Workforce Commission 101 E. 15 th Street, Austin, Texas

1. Call to order; roll call.
2. Comments by the Executive Director.
3. Comments by the Commissioners.
4. Approve minutes for the following meetings:
 - Executive Session (personnel) – December 7, 2016;
 - Executive Session (personnel)– December 8, 2016;
 - Executive Session (discussion of pending litigation) – December 8, 2016;
 - Public Meeting – December 8, 2016; and
 - Executive Session (personnel) – December 20, 2016
5. Briefing and discussion of ethics legislation in the 2017 legislative session, including status of Ethics Commission legislative recommendations.
6. Discussion and possible action on the Commission’s authority to conduct random facial compliance reviews and full audits.

RULEMAKING

7. Public discussion and possible action on the adoption or proposal and publication in the Texas Register of a new Ethics Commission Rules § 20.56 (Expenditures Involving Consultants) and an amendment to Ethics Commission Rules § 20.61 (Purpose of Expenditure), regarding the disclosure of political expenditures made to consultants.

For more information, contact Ian M. Steusloff, Interim Executive Director, at (512) 463-5800.

8. Public discussion and possible action on the authority of Ethics Commission staff to negotiate the resolution of a sworn complaint, including Ethics Commission Rules § 12.81 (Technical, Clerical, or De Minimis Violations), relating to the procedures for investigating and resolving technical and clerical violations of laws within the Commission's jurisdiction as provided by section 571.0631 of the Government Code.

ADVISORY OPINIONS

9. Discussion of Advisory Opinion Request No. 618: Application of section 255.003 of the Election Code to the use of political subdivision facilities for a debate forum and for distributing campaign materials.

This opinion request construes section 255.003 of the Election Code.

10. Discussion of Advisory Opinion Request No. 619: Whether a gift card to an online retailer is considered to be cash or a negotiable instrument for purposes of section 36.10(a)(6) of the Penal Code, and related questions.

This opinion request construes 36.10 of the Penal Code.

OTHER POLICY MATTERS

11. Briefing, discussion, and possible action on appeals of determinations made under Ethics Commission Rules §§ 18.25 and 18.26 relating to administrative waiver or reduction of a fine, for the following individuals:

Martha K. Landwehr (00069447)

Manufacturing Caucus (00068983)

Sherrie Welfel, Treasurer, 'WCRW' Wilson County Republican Women (00055452)

Glenda Clausell (00080860)

James D. Morrison (00080120)

Amy B. Easley, Treasurer, Vote FOR Our Kids PAC (00080801)

Milton I. Fagin (00041564)

James R. Dickey, Sr. (00069834)

12. Briefing, discussion, and possible action to waive or reduce the late-filing penalty in connection with a corrected report or to determine whether the corrected report as originally filed substantially complied with the applicable law for the following individuals and political committees:

Blake G. Powell, Treasurer, Texas Parent PAC (00057682)

Angelica I. Jimenez (80056)

Ray A. Nelson, Treasurer, Jefferson County Democratic Party (CEC) (00069482)

Jonathan S. Stickland (67904)

Dana F. 'Rick' Miller (62278)

Daryl L. Moore (69631)

Juan Jose Pena, Jr., Treasurer, New Identity Political Action Committee (00080977)

Norma Gonzales (00065728)

David Mason, Treasurer, Houston Pilots PAC Fund (00016106)

Micheline Hutson, Treasurer, 'CFRW' Cy-Fair Republican Women PAC (00058757)

Robert G. Button, Treasurer, 'DPCC' Democratic Party of Collin County (CEC)(00054753)

Dawn C. Buckingham (00069001)

Justin A. Holland (00080066)

Jack Kirfman, Treasurer, 'VOTE PAC' Volunteers Organized To Promote Equity (00080247)

Cindy G. Burkett (00065930)

Jesus 'Jesse' Contreras (00062099)

Leann K. Rafferty (00080287)

Gary W. Gates, Jr. (00051418)

13. Discussion and possible action regarding the termination of a campaign treasurer appointment for the following inactive individual and political committee:

Individual

Louie Minor, Jr. (00080024)

Political Committees

Adam Pacheco, Treasurer, Associated General Contractors of El Paso PAC (00041885)

14. Reports more than 30 days late: Discussion and possible action regarding the imposition of an additional fine on the following filers:

Candidates/Officeholders

Marisela Saldana (00058570)

Political Committees

John R. Wennerstrom, Jr., Treasurer, Friends of ACC Bond (00080859)

Lobbyists

Jeffrey Brooks (00070573)

Robin Chandler (00070814)

Kristine Donatello (00064024)

Geoffrey M. Gay (00053659)

Matthew Haertner (00070567)

Julie Marie Nahrgang (00070736)

15. Discussion and possible action on the approval of a format for electronic filing of campaign finance reports, as proposed by Denton County.
16. Communication to the Commission from the public.
17. Adjourn.

CERTIFICATION: I certify that I have reviewed this document and that it conforms to all applicable Texas Register filing requirements. Certifying Official & Agency Liaison: Ian M. Steusloff, Interim Executive Director.

NOTICE: Under the Americans with Disabilities Act, an individual with a disability must have an equal opportunity for effective communication and participation in public meetings. Upon request, the Texas Ethics Commission will provide auxiliary aids and services, such as interpreters for the deaf and hearing impaired, readers, and large print or Braille documents. In determining the type of auxiliary aid or service, the Commission will give primary consideration to the individual's request. Those requesting auxiliary aids or services should notify Margie Castellanos at (512) 463-5800 or RELAY Texas at (800) 735-2989 two days before this meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made. Please also contact Ms. Castellanos if you need assistance in having English translated into Spanish.