



***ETHICS REVIEW COMMISSION  
REGULAR CALLED MEETING MINUTES  
AUGUST 24, 2022***

**The Ethics Review Commission convened in a Regular Called meeting on August 24, 2022, at Austin City Hall, Room 1101, 301 W 2<sup>nd</sup> Street in Austin, Texas and via Videoconference.**

**Chair Soberon called the Ethics Review Commission Meeting to order at 6:08 p.m.**

**Commissioners in Attendance: Chair Luis Soberon, Vice-Chair Mary Kahle, and Commissioners Betsy Greenberg, Michael Lovins, Donna Beth McCormick, and Sidney Williams were present at City Hall.**

**Commissioners in Attendance Remotely: Secretary Nguyen Stanton and Commissioners Debra Danburg, Raafia Lari, and Mikki Teneyuca attended by videoconference.**

**Vacancy: Mayor's nominee.**

**City Staff in Attendance: Lizette Benitez, Staff Liaison; Caroline Webster, Acting Commission Executive Liaison & Division Chief, attended the meeting by videoconference.**

**PUBLIC COMMUNICATION: GENERAL**

**No one registered to speak during Public Communication.**

**DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS**

1. Approval of a statement and/or video of what the Commission does & how the public can use the Commission and/or a Statement on Equity, Access, and the need for reform by the Working Group on Race, Identity and Equity.

**No action was taken on this item.**

2. Approve the creation of a working group or other action plan for review of lobbyist registration thresholds in City Code Section 4-8-3.

**Agenda items 2 and 3 were considered together.**

3. Approve the creation of a working group or other action plan for preparation of covering general Lobbying issues.

**Commissioner Greenberg made a motion to create a working group to address general lobbying issues, including lobbyist registration thresholds, which was approved by a vote of 10-0. Vice-Chair Kahle seconded the motion. Voting in favor: Chair Soberon, Vice-Chair Kahle, Secretary Stanton, and Commissioners Danburg, Greenberg, Lari, Lovins, McCormick, Teneyuca, and Williams.**

**Commissioners Danburg and Greenberg volunteered to be on the working group. Chair Soberon moved to elect Commissioners Danburg and Greenberg as members of the lobbying issues working group, which passed on a 10-0 vote. Commissioner Lovins seconded the motion. Voting in favor: Chair Soberon, Vice-Chair Kahle, Secretary Stanton, and Commissioners Danburg, Greenberg, Lari, Lovins, McCormick, Teneyuca, and Williams.**

4. Approve the creation of a working group or other action plan for preparation of covering possible revision to relevant city code governing complaints.

**Chair Soberon and Commissioner Lovins volunteered to be on the working group. The motion to create the working group composed of Chair Soberon and Commissioner Lovins was approved (10-0) on Chair Soberon's motion. Secretary Stanton seconded the motion. Voting in favor: Chair Soberon, Vice-Chair Kahle, Secretary Stanton, and Commissioners Danburg, Greenberg, Lari, Lovins, McCormick, Teneyuca, and Williams.**

### **STAFF BRIEFINGS**

5. Staff briefing regarding anticipated updates to the City Council Candidate Forum Planning and foreign language interpretation services.

**Caroline Webster, Law Department, provided a briefing to the Commission.**

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

6. Approve the minutes of the Ethics Review Commission Regular Meeting on June 22, 2022.

**The minutes from the meeting of June 22, 2022 with amendments were approved (10-0) on Secretary Stanton's motion. Chair Soberon seconded the motion. Voting in favor: Chair Soberon, Vice-Chair Kahle, Secretary Stanton, and Commissioners Danburg, Greenberg, Lari, Lovins, McCormick, Teneyuca, and Williams.**

7. Approve the minutes of the Ethics Review Commission Regular Meeting on July 27, 2022.

**The minutes from the meeting of July 27, 2022 were postponed until the next regular meeting of the Commission.**

### **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- **Future agenda item: Conduct a public preliminary hearing for a pending complaint filed by Leslie Padilla against Katie Jarl Coyle.**
- **Future agenda item: Staff briefing regarding public access to the Austin Utilities Now Newsletters in Spanish.**
- **Announcement: Chair Soberon will be leaving the Commission by the end of the calendar year.**

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**Chair Soberon adjourned the meeting at 7:09 p.m. without objection.**

**The preceding minutes were approved on an 8-0 vote at the September 28, 2022 Regular Commission meeting on Chair Soberon's motion and Commissioner Greenberg's second. Commissioners Lari and Teneyuca were absent.**