



City of Tacoma

Board of Ethics Minutes

Tacoma Municipal Building North
733 Market Street
City Clerk's Conference Room 12
August 31, 2016
6:30 p.m.

SPECIAL MEETING

1. Call to Order

The special meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Board Members Present: 5 – Joseph Atkinson, Linda Batway, Ohad Lowy, William Siems, and Tony Warfield

Staff Members Present: 2 – Martha Lantz, Deputy City Attorney, and Doris Sorum, City Clerk

Chair Atkinson called on Board Members to provide introductions and background information.

2. Discuss Information Provided Relative to the Submittal of Ethics Complaints

Chair Atkinson introduced the discussion regarding improvements to the process for filing Ethics Complaints. Discussion ensued regarding website improvements, adding a link to Tacoma Municipal Code (TMC) Chapter 1.46, drafting pamphlets or informational handouts on the complaint process and purpose of executive and closed sessions, for clarity.

3. Discuss Definition of Immediate Family and Conflicts of Interest

Chair Atkinson provided background information regarding the definition of “immediate family” related to conflict of interest.

Discussion ensued regarding adding immediate family members to the definition of “remote interest” in TMC 1.46.030 related to prohibited conduct, participation on the board of a non-profit organization, and the process to prepare the proposed amendment for action at the next Board of Ethics meeting.

MOTION: Mr. Siems moved to direct Chair Atkinson to prepare a draft amendment to TMC 1.46.030.A.1., related to remote interest.

SECONDED BY: Mr. Lowy.

MOTION: Mr. Warfield moved to amend the motion to refer to TMC 1.46.030.A.

SECONDED BY: Ms. Batway.

Discussion ensued regarding the scope and purpose of the draft amendment.

ACTION: Voice vote was taken and carried on the motion. The motion was declared adopted.

Ayes: 5 – Atkinson, Batway, Lowy, Siems, and Warfield

MOTION: Mr. Warfield moved to amend the motion to state that no more than one other Board Member may assist Chair Atkinson in drafting the amendment.

SECONDED BY: Ms. Batway.

ACTION: Voice vote was taken and carried on the motion. The motion was declared adopted.

Ayes: 5 – Atkinson, Batway, Lowy, Siems, and Warfield

ACTION: Voice vote was taken and carried on the motion, as amended. The motion was declared adopted.

Ayes: 5 – Atkinson, Batway, Lowy, Siems, and Warfield

Discussion ensued regarding ethics codes generally, executive sessions, legal advice, and a request for staff to research the organization and operation of other ethics boards in the region.

4. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the special meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.



Joseph Atkinson, Chair



Doris Sorum, City Clerk