# **TEXAS ETHICS COMMISSION**

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

Chad M. Craycraft, Chair Mary K. "Katie" Kennedy, Vice Chair Randall H. Erben Chris Flood Patrick W. Mizell Richard S. Schmidt Joseph O. Slovacek Steven D. Wolens

# PUBLIC MEETING AGENDA

Date and Time: 9:00 a.m., Thursday, November 21, 2019 Location: Room E1.014, Capitol Extension, Austin, Texas

- 1. Call to order; roll call.
- 2. Discussion regarding dates for next Commission meeting.
- 3. Approve minutes for the following meetings:
  - o Executive Session June 27, 2019;
  - o Formal Hearing June 27, 2019; and
  - o Public Meeting June 28, 2019.
- 4. **Possible executive session pursuant to Section 551.074, Government Code** (**Personnel Matters**): Discussion of and possible action on personnel matters, including the salaries of Commission staff, including the Executive Director and General Counsel.

## ADMINISTRATIVE WAIVERS, REDUCTIONS, APPEALS OF FINES

- 5. 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 filers:
  - 1. Buddie J. Hahn (00019336)
  - 2. Cooke W. Kelsey (00082053)
  - 3. Andrew Morris (00081811)
  - 4. Maria T. Jackson (00062432)
  - 5. MarySue Louisa Femath (00082067)
  - 6. Kevin Kennedy, Campaign Treasurer, Texans for Fairness (GPAC) (82818)

- 7. Scott J. Utley, Campaign Treasurer, Parker County Republican Party (00055725)
- 8. Robert Cody Garrett (00080020)
- 9. Robert Cody Garrett, Campaign Treasurer, 427 PAC (Cody Garrett for RRC) (00066927)
- 10. Aron Ra (00081345)
- 11. Shaun McDade Nelson, Campaign Treasurer, Texas Stonewall Democratic Caucus (GPAC) (00054064)
- 12. Warren Blake Baker (00082398)
- 6. Discussion and possible action regarding the termination of a campaign treasurer appointment for the following inactive filers:
  - 1. Johnathan B. Brohawn (00082383)
  - 2. Calab W. Homoth (00082729)
  - 3. Jeffrey A. Payne (00081830)
  - 4. Tony C. Teal (00082665)
  - 5. Gilberto Velasquez, Jr. (00069924)
  - 6. Kory D. Watkins (00081678)
  - 7. Lee B. Weaver (00082141)
  - 8. Ronald Hamilton, Treasurer, Citizen Input PAC (00080002)
  - 9. Alan Sandersen, Treasurer, Fort Bend Business PAC (00068461)
  - 10. Gary L. Moody, Treasurer, Neighbors for McLendon Chisholm (00082708)
  - 11. Santiago Manrrique, Treasurer, Opportunities for Brownsville PAC (00082679)
  - 12. Douglas L. Foshee, Treasurer, Texas Aspires (00069647)
  - 13. Lucius O'Dell, Treasurer, Texans for Conservative Government PAC (00082571)
  - 14. Josh Lyrock, Treasurer, Texans for Ethical Local Leadership (00082824)

#### RULEMAKING

# **Rule Adoption**

- 7. Discussion and possible action on the adoption or proposal and publication in the Texas Register of an amendment to Ethics Commission Rule §18.21, regarding the jurisdiction to consider a request to waive or reduce a fine assessed for failure to file a timely report or for filing a correction to a report.
- 8. Discussion and possible action on the adoption or proposal and publication in the Texas Register of amendments to Ethics Commission Rule §18.31, regarding the adjustments of reporting thresholds, and Ethics Commission Rules that are

affected by the adoption of an amendment to Ethics Commission Rule §18.31, including §\$20.62, 20.65, 20.217, 20.219, 20.220, 20.221, 20.275, 20.279, 20.301, 20.303, 20.313, 20.329, 20.331, 20.333, 20.401, 20.405, 20.431, 20.433, 20.434, 20.435, 20.553, 20.555, 22.1, 22.6, 22.7, 34.41, and 34.43.

## **Rule Publication**

- 9. Discussion and possible action on the proposal and publication in the Texas Register of new Ethics Commission Rules §12.86, regarding motions for continuance in preliminary review hearings.
- 10. Discussion and possible action on the proposal and publication in the Texas Register of new Ethics Commission Rule §12.174, regarding the summary disposition of a matter in a formal hearing.
- 11. Discussion and possible action on the proposal and publication in the Texas Register of new Ethics Commission Rules §§18.10 and 18.11, regarding the procedures for waiving or reducing fines assessed for corrected reports, and an amendment to Ethics Commission Rule §18.9, regarding corrected and amended reports.
- 12. Discussion and possible action on the proposal and publication in the Texas Register of an amendment to Ethics Commission Rule §12.29, regarding the issuance of subpoenas by a respondent's attorney.
- 13. Discussion and possible action on the proposal and publication in the Texas Register of the repeal of Ethics Commission Rules §22.5, regarding corporate and labor organization contributions to direct campaign expenditure committees, and amendments to Ethics Commission Rules §§20.1 and 22.6, regarding definitions of terms in Title 15 of the Election Code that are in conflict with, or made obsolete by, legislation passed in the 86th Legislative Session.
- 14. Discussion and possible action on the proposal and publication in the Texas Register of: (1) amendments to Ethics Commission Rules §§20.1 and 24.18, regarding hybrid political committees and the designation of corporate political contributions for administrative purposes; and (2) new Ethics Commission Rules §§22.35 and 24.19, regarding political contributions to political committees by corporations and labor organizations.
- 15. Discussion and possible action on the proposal and publication in the Texas Register of the repeal of Ethics Commission Rules §§22.33, 27.1, and 27.101,

regarding expenditure limits in the Judicial Campaign Fairness Act that were repealed by legislation passed in the 86th Legislative Session.

## **OTHER POLICY MATTERS**

- 16. Discussion of, and possible action on, any unfinished business from the Executive Session or Public Meeting held on November 20, 2019.
- 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: Anne Temple Peters, 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.