

City of Roseville
Ethics Commission Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, February 11, 2015

I. Call to Order

Chair Fjelstad called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

Members Present:

Norine Quick-Lindberg, Matthew Becker, Margo Fjelstad, and Ben Lehman

Members Absent:

Nancy O'Brien

Others Present:

Patrick Trudgeon, City Manager; Mark Gaughan, City Attorney

II. Approve Minutes of November 12, 2014

Lehman moved to approve the November 12, 2014 minutes, seconded by Becker.

Ayes All.

III. Group Discussion – Governmental Ethics in the News

The Ethics Commission talked about several recent newspaper articles regarding ethical situations involving governmental officials.

IV. 2015 Ethics Training

City Manager Trudgeon reported that the date of the 2015 Ethics Training be held on April 8, 201 starting at 6 pm. City Attorney Mark Gaughan will again be the presenter this year. City Attorney Gaughan indicated that he will present information about the Ethics Code and the process when a complaint is filed. City Attorney Gaughan also indicated that he would provide scenarios of ethical situations for the participants to discuss. It is anticipated that the presentation will be about an hour. Commissioner Becker requested that a post-training survey be conducted with the participants. City Manager Trudgeon confirmed that a survey would be sent to the participants.

V. New Commissioners Material

City Manager Trudgeon recommended that that new Commissioners be presented the Ethics Code and Robert Weschler's publication "Local Government Ethics Programs in a Nutshell". Trudgeon also indicated that he would provide an orientation to the new Commissioners to review the material and answer any questions the new members have about the role of the Ethics Commission.

VI. Discuss Ethics Tip

Commissioner Quick-Lindberg brought forward an Ethics Tip regarding the “Front Page” test, which has a person asking themselves “would I be ok if the actions I am taking were reported on the front page of the local newspaper”? The Commission liked the tip and thought it was a good rule of thumb and tied nicely to the discussion earlier in the meeting. The Commission directed the City Manager to publish the Ethics Tip on the website and push it out to all public officials. Commissioner Becker volunteered to create the Ethics Tip for May.

VII. Other Business

City Manager Trudgeon stated that there has not been any ethics complaints forwarded to the City Manager’s Office or to the City Attorney.

City Manager Trudgeon stated that this was Chair Fjelstad’s last meeting and thanked her for her service. Chair Fjelstad said that she enjoyed her time on the Ethics Commission and working with fellow Commissioners.

City Manager Trudgeon indicated that with Commissioner O’Brien also leaving the Ethics Commission that there would be two openings. The City is currently advertising the commission openings. It is expected that the City Council will be making commission appointments by the end of March.

City Manager Trudgeon also indicated that the Commission will need to elect officers at their May meeting.

VIII. Adjourn

Lehman moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:59 p.m. and Quick-Lindberg seconded.
Ayes All.

Respectfully submitted,
Patrick J. Trudgeon
City Manager