



*Expanding Horizons*

CITY OF CONVERSE  
CITY ADMINISTRATION

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**MINUTES/RESULTS**  
CITY OF CONVERSE  
ETHICS REVIEW BOARD MEETING  
September 23, 2014 – 7:00 PM

Be It Known That the Ethics Review Board of the City of Converse, Texas Will Meet for a Meeting at the City Hall Conference Room at 405 South Seguin Street on Tuesday, September 23, 2014 at 7:00 PM. A quorum of the City Council for the City of Converse, Texas and/or the following commissions may be present: Beautification & Environmental, Building & Standards, Economic Development Corporation, Park and Recreation and Planning and Zoning.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

At approximately 7:00 p.m. the City Attorney Felix Arambula called the meeting to order.

**2. INVOCATION**

Ms. Hope Olds announced the Invocation.

**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** To the U.S. Flag led by City Attorney  
To the Texas Flag led by City Attorney

The Pledge of Allegiance was announced by all that were present.

**4. ROLL CALL & RECOGNITION OF VISITORS**

Roll Call:

Dr. Jerry Riley, Hope Olds, Nancy Droneburg, Jim Sherman, Marilyn Wallace, Earl Boutelle, Laura Beehler, Robin Benbrook, Felix Arambula City Attorney, Odie Martinez Recording Secretary.

Visitors:

Mayor Al Suarez, Rudy Martinez, Jeff Beehler.

*Skipped to item #6.*

**6. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:**

This time is provided for Citizens to address the Ethics Review Board on any issues and concerns. No Ethics Review Board discussion or action can be taken if the item is not on the Agenda. Please limit your remarks to three (3) minutes and state your name and address for the record.

Mayor Al Suarez thanked the members for being on board.

*Continue to item #5*

**5. NEW BUSINESS:**

A. Action to Swear in Ethics Review Board Members and alternate

- Laura Beehler
- Robin Benbrook
- Hope Olds
- Marilyn Wallace
- Nancy Droneburg, Alternate.
- Earl Boutelle
- Dr. Jerry Riley
- Jim Sherman

Oath was announced by Odie Martinez, Recording Secretary.

B. Discussion and Appropriate action to elect Ethics Review Board Chair.

Dr. Riley made a motion to elect Jim Sherman as the Chair of the Board; Seconded by Ms. Wallace. Motion passed with 4 votes (Dr. Riley, Boutelle, Wallace and Benbrook) and 2 oppose (Beehler and Olds). City Attorney Felix announced Mr. Sherman as the Chair of the Board.

C. Discussion and Appropriate action to elect Ethics Review Board Vice-Chair.

Chairman Sherman made a motion to nominated Ms. Benbrook as the Vice-Chair; Seconded by Wallace. Motion passed unanimously. Chairman announced Ms Benbrook as the Vice-Chair for the board.

D. Discussion of Role of Ethics Review Board.

Very Briefly Felix addressed to the members if they should have any questions or concerns to the wording of the agenda please address it to him.

The Chairman requested Felix since he is the compliance officer if he could briefly explain item 5D. The following items were discussed or addressed to the members.

- The City Attorney is currently acting as the Compliance Officer. However, the members have the option to choose someone outside the city. If there is a conflict with an outside Compliance Officer it will be addressed to the members by Felix Arambula
- Discussed the purpose of the ordinance
- Felix addressed the board members of a yearly task report that will need to be put together
- Felix addressed to the board the current ordinance is a draft ordinance that he and Councilwoman James put together and noted that it is not the perfect ordinance
- Felix will assist all the board members of any concerns or modifications they might have to the ordinance
- Discussed the standard procedures of modifications to the ordinance
- Discussed the standard procedures of publication of the ordinance once approved by the Board and City Council
- Discussed concerns on page 17 of the ordinance. The language (Ethics Review Board) (Ethics Commission) and (Ethics Panel). Must be consistent with the language. (First modification of the ordinance)
- Discussed Politician favoritism

- E. Discussion and Appropriate Action regarding Distribution and Training under Article 10 of the Ethics Review Board Ordinance.

The City Attorney briefly addressed to the board of how he is tasked to provide a copy of the ordinance to every city official and city employee and make it available to the public. He has discussed this with the Human Resource Director.

For the record a correction has been addressed on the agenda item 5D.

**Incorrect reading:** Article 10; **correct reading:** Article 9.

Board discussed the facts of Open Meetings Act. Concerns were addressed on terms of office. The City Attorney responded that this could be an item on the next agenda.

- F. Discussion and Appropriate Action regarding next Ethics Review Board Meeting.

The board members discussed the dates, location and hour of when the meetings will be held.

The board proposed to meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at Fire Station #2.

Earl Boutelle made a motion to approve the proposal that the board discussed; seconded by Hope Olds.

Motion was withdrawn. The board further discussed the dates.

A second proposal was discussed. To meet as needed. Monday, October 13<sup>th</sup> 7:00 p.m. at Fire Station #2.

Earl Boutelle made a motion to approve the second proposal; seconded by Hope Olds. Motion passed unanimously.

Boards discussed Roster information to be placed in the roster.

## **7. ADJOURNMENT:**

Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:03 p.m.