



City of Albuquerque

Office of the City Clerk

Timothy M. Keller, Mayor

Ethan Watson, City Clerk

BOARD OF ETHICS & CAMPAIGN PRACTICES

Friday, May 10, 2024

Members Present

John Kelly, Chair
Jason Marks
Kristina Caffrey
Sean Cunniff
Joshua Martinez

Others Present

Ethan Watson, City Clerk
Victoria Gammill, City Attorney
Cristobal Rocha, Program Admin

Absent Members

Jim Collie
Susan Selbin

MINUTES

I. Call to order.

The Board of Ethics & Campaign Practices Meeting of May 10, 2024, was called to order by Chair Kelly at 9:03 a.m.

II. Review and approval of agenda for Friday, May 10, 2024.

Chair Kelly asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Marks moved to approve the agenda. Commissioner Caffrey seconded. Motion approved 5-0.

III. Review and approval of minutes from January 12, 2024.

Chair Kelly asked for a motion to approve the minutes from January 12, 2024. Commissioner Martinez moved to approve the minutes. Commissioner Marks seconded. Motion approved 5-0.

IV. Campaign Finance Report from Independent Auditor.

Mr. Porch, the independent auditor, provided a brief overview of the 2023 election cycle. He shared the new requirement for candidates to submit bank statements at the end of each month. Mr. Porch noted that there were instances where some candidates were late in submitting their bank statements or had discrepancies in their balances, but these issues were ultimately rectified. He recommended that future reports require a reconciliation of bank statements. He also mentioned that some campaigns had a negative campaign finance report while their bank statement showed a zero balance. Mr. Porch provided an update on these discrepancies in the final campaign finance reports. Commissioners on the board asked follow-up questions.

Mr. Porch then presented his findings from the Abel Otero audit. After conducting interviews with the candidate, Abel Otero, and Roadrunner Strategies, he found that Abel Otero had no control over his finances and did not exercise authority over spending. Mr. Porch concluded that the amount paid to Roadrunner Strategies was justified and appropriately earned, with the overall conclusion being that Abel Otero had lost control of his finances.

V. Appointing a Subcommittee to identify changes to the Board of Ethics and Campaign Practices manual and code.

Mr. Rocha asked Chair Kelly to open the floor for nominations for a subcommittee to review the Code of Ethics, Article XII of the City Charter, and the current Board of Ethics and Campaign Practices manual and code. Mr. Watson explained that he and Mr. Rocha would draft suggested changes and then review them with the subcommittee. Commissioners Caffrey and Martinez volunteered to join the subcommittee, and Ms. Gammill will also assist in this effort.

VI. City Clerk Reviews Elected Officials annual disclosure.

City Clerk Watson provided an overview of the new disclosure reporting requirements for elected officials. Filers will now report employment, real property, assets, income, liabilities, privately held businesses, professional licenses and memberships, and gifts for the prior filing year. Mr. Watson concluded that the Office of the City Clerk has prepared comprehensive documents and guidance for all elected officials. He noted that this is the first year that gifts are required to be reported, but the office has not received many questions on this matter.

VII. Adjournment.

There being no further business before the Board, Chair Kelly asked for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Cunniff moved to adjourn, and Commissioner Marks seconded. The motion was approved 5-0. The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

Approved: _____ Date: _____