

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: 9:30 a.m., Friday, June 19, 2020
Via teleconference

**INFORMATION ON HOW TO VIEW AND/OR PARTICIPATE IN THE ONLINE
BROADCAST OF THIS MEETING WILL BE POSTED ON OUR WEBSITE ON
THE DAY OF THE MEETING HERE:**

https://www.ethics.state.tx.us/meetings/meetings_2020-2024.php#2020

1. Call to order; roll call.
2. Election of Chair and Vice Chair of the Texas Ethics Commission.
3. Discussion regarding dates for next quarterly Commission meeting.
4. Approve minutes for the following meetings:
 - Executive Session – February 27, 2020;
 - Public Meeting – February 27, 2020; and
 - Public Meeting – February 28, 2020.

ADMINISTRATIVE WAIVERS, REDUCTIONS, APPEALS OF FINES

5. Discussion and possible action regarding the termination of a campaign treasurer appointment for the following inactive filers:
 1. Matthew S. Beebe (00067964)
 2. Michael E. Cooper (00081681)
 3. Teodulo Lucio Lopez (00082820)
 4. Marilyn S. Mayse (00080059)
 5. Jennifer N. Ramos (00082591)
 6. Brittney R. Smith (00082414)

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7. Kory D. Watkins (00081678)
 8. Amarillo Federation of Teachers Committee on Political Education, treasurer Laura J. Abernathy (00059080)
 9. Texas Card Players Association PAC, treasurer William Elliott, Jr. (00065814)
 10. Texans for Rural Values, treasurer Josh Lyrock (00083116)
 11. Texas Plumbers Association, treasurer Mike J. Warner (00083188)
6. 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. Raya Guruswamy (00043028)
 2. Grace Rose Gonzales (00084297)
 3. Ryan McConnico (00082344)
 4. Paul Stafford (00069699)

ADVISORY OPINIONS

7. Discussion and possible action regarding the extension of deadlines to issue advisory opinions under Section 571.092 of the Government Code.
8. Draft Advisory Opinion No. AOR-632: Whether a contribution from a federal political committee to a federal “Super PAC” is a political expenditure made “in connection with elections voted on in Texas.”

This opinion construes Section 251.001(15) of the Election Code and Section 20.13(c) of the Ethics Commission Rules.

9. Draft Advisory Opinion No. AOR-633: Whether a judge may use political contributions to pay for equipment and services in connection with producing an educational podcast for practicing lawyers.

This opinion construes Section 253.035 of the Election Code.

10. Draft Advisory Opinion No. AOR-635: Whether a registered lobbyist can be “present” at an event via videoconference technology.

This opinion construes Sections 305.006(f) or 305.024(a), of the Government Code.

11. Reconsideration of Ethics Advisory Opinion No. EAO-550, adopted on June 28,

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2019, and possible adoption of a revised advisory opinion regarding whether a public officer may use government resources for political advertising.

This opinion construes Section 39.02 of the Penal Code and Section 255.003(a) of the Election Code.

RULEMAKING

Rule Adoption

12. Discussion and possible action on the adoption or proposal and publication in the Texas Register of an amendment to 1 Tex. Admin. Code § 12.29 and new 1 Tex. Admin. Code § 12.30, regarding the issuance of subpoenas by a respondent's attorney.
13. Discussion and possible action on the adoption or proposal and publication in the Texas Register of: (1) amendments to 1 Tex. Admin. Code §§ 20.1 and 24.18, regarding hybrid political committees and the designation of corporate political contributions for administrative purposes; and (2) new 1 Tex. Admin. Code §§ 22.35 and 24.19, regarding political contributions to political committees by corporations and labor organizations, and the affidavit by a direct campaign expenditure only political committee that accepts contributions from corporations or labor organizations.
14. Discussion and possible action on the adoption or proposal and publication in the Texas Register of amendments to 1 Tex. Admin. Code §§ 8.1 through 8.21 and new 1 Tex. Admin. Code § 8.18, regarding advisory opinion request procedures.
15. Discussion and possible action on the adoption or proposal and publication in the Texas Register of amendments to 1 Tex. Admin. Code §§ 12.83 and 12.84 regarding sworn complaint procedures.
16. Discussion and possible action on the adoption or proposal and publication in the Texas Register of new 1 Tex. Admin. Code § 12.34 regarding agreed orders.

Rule Publication

17. Discussion and possible action on the proposal and publication in the Texas Register of amendments to 1 Tex. Admin. Code § 18.31, regarding the adjustments of reporting thresholds, and Ethics Commission Rules that are affected by the adoption of an amendment to 1 Tex. Admin. Code § 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,

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20.329, 20.331, 20.333, 20.401, 20.405, 20.433, 20.434, 20.435, 20.553, 20.555, 22.1, 22.6, 22.7, 34.41, and 34.43.

OTHER POLICY MATTER

18. Discussion and possible appointment of a Subcommittee of Commissioners to consider recommendations for statutory changes to the 87th Legislature as required by Tex. Gov't Code § 571.073.
19. 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.