

CITY OF OAKLAND  
PUBLIC ETHICS COMMISSION  
One Frank Ogawa Plaza (City Hall)  
Commission Meeting  
Wednesday, July 24, 2013  
City Council Chambers  
6:30 p.m.



Commissioners: Lloyd Farnham (Chair), Aspen Baker (Vice-Chair), Roberta Johnson, Benjamin Kimberley, Monique Rivera, Eddie Tejada, and Jenna Whitman  
Commission Staff: Whitney Barazoto, Executive Director  
City Attorney Staff: Kathleen Salem-Boyd, Deputy City Attorney

### **SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**

#### **1. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum.**

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m.

Members present: Commissioners Farnham, Baker, Johnson, Kimberley, Rivera, Tejada, and Whitman (Commissioner Rivera left at 7:00 p.m.)

Staff present: Whitney Barazoto

#### **2. Staff and Commission Announcements.**

Ms. Barazoto announced that the City Council passed the City budget for FY 2013-15 on June 27, 2013, which added one additional full-time staff member to the Commission.

Ms. Barazoto also advised that an item on the agenda for the City Council Meeting on Thursday, July 25, 2013, included a discussion of the Council's response to the Grand Jury report regarding non-interference in administrative affairs, as well as the possible censure of Councilmember Brooks.

Commissioner Tejada said that Oaklanders perceived June's Transparency Hearing as a huge success. He further discussed his public records requests research and experiment with various cities across the state. In addition, Commissioner Tejada announced that a recent judgment ruled GIS geographical data is considered a public record and, therefore, can be requested by a member of the public.

#### **3. Open Forum**

There were no speakers.

### **DISCUSSION ITEM**

#### **4. Public Ethics Commission Enforcement Authority**

Ms. Barazoto provided an overview of the Commission's current enforcement authority. The Commission discussed various options to enhance its ability to enforce existing

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jurisdictional laws as well as the possibility of expanding its jurisdiction by drafting a new ethics ordinance. The Commission identified its top priorities as creating a new ethics ordinance, acquiring staff positions needed to implement the law, and enhancing the Commission's penalty authority. The Commission asked staff to prepare a letter to City Council outlining these priorities and requesting staffing to support the Commission's work on these issues.

There were six speakers: Councilman Dan Kalb, Max Alstadt, Katherine Gavzy, Ralph Kanz, Daniel Shulman, and Barbara Newcombe.

The meeting adjourned at 9:46 p.m.