

BOWIE CITY ETHICS COMMISSION

Minutes

December 20, 2016 - Open Meeting

A meeting of the Bowie City Ethics Commission was held on Tuesday December 20, 2016 in the City Manager's conference room at Bowie City Hall. Commission members in attendance were Vince Canales, Chair, Jay Fagan, Karl Stehmer, Alan Kolski, Benjamin Woolery and Daniel Thomas. Jim Holderbaum was excused. Also in attendance were Fred Sussman, Counsel for the Commission and John Fitzwater, Assistant City Manager, and liaison to the Commission.

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m. by Chairman Canales.

The Commission reviewed the minutes of the September 20, 2016 meeting. Mr. Stehmer moved approval of the minutes and Mr. Kolski seconded. All voted in favor.

The Commission reviewed a letter from the State Ethics Commission regarding the State Ethics Commission's comments about action the Bowie City Council took in creating a one year statute of limitations within which Ethics complaints must be filed. The State letter also indicated that future changes to the Bowie Ethics Code should be submitted to the State Ethics Commission for review and approval. The Bowie Ethics Commission discussed the concerns raised by the State Ethics Commission. It was determined that the one year statute of limitation does not preclude review of an ongoing violation that extends beyond one year. The City Ethics Commission requested that Mr. Sussman contact the State Ethics Commission and request a copy of the letter of objection received by the State Ethics Commission that prompted the State's consideration of this matter. The City Ethics Commission determined that they will finalize their review of the State letter after receiving the information requested by Mr. Sussman at the next meeting of the City Ethics Commission.

There being no further business to come before the Commission Mr. Kolski moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Stehmer seconded. All voted in favor. The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

[The next meeting of the Ethics Commission will be held on Tuesday March 21, 2017 at 3:00 p.m. in the City Manager's conference room.]

John L. Fitzwater
Staff Liaison to the Ethics Commission