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Minutes

Thursday December 16, 2025

UNIFIED GOVERNMENT ETHICS COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA

Wyandotte County Courthouse, 2nd Floor, Division 18 Courtroom

4:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order at 4:26 P.M
2. Roll Call:
 - *Ethics Commissioners present: Adrienne Ford, Paris Clark, Adrion Roberson, Joe Wittman (by phone), and Martha Jenkins*
 - *Reed Partridge, Legislative Auditor & Misty Brown, Ethics Administrator present.*
2. Public Comment Session if any members of public in appearance—*multiple people in attendance and two spoke.*
 - a. *One person noted they had requested a line-by-line budget from administration and received no response. They also said that they did not believe certain comments made by UG elected official were racists and that the UG elected official worked against the system and was not racist.*
 - b. *One person expressed concerns about comments that were made by a UG elected officials that appeared to make light of racist actions and comments made by others.*
3. Old Business:
 - a. *November 20, 2025, minutes approved unanimously.*
 - b. *The Commission followed up on Ethics Refreshers class and noted that the Ethics Commission and HR are aligned and committed to working together.*
 - c. *The Ethics Commission would like some of the examples included in Ethics training to be updated to be more relevant.*
4. New Business:
 - a. *A new complaint was discussed. The Ethics Administrator provided a report and advised that letter was sent to the Commission and Administration and published on the website along with a copy of the September 2025 letter urging the Commission to reestablish a culture of professionalism and maintain order and decorum.*
 - *Concerns were expressed that a pattern of behavior was being established and that UG elected officials must police themselves.*

- *Another Commissioner noted that UG elected officials have a level of responsibility, and that a shadow is cast when actions appear to be inappropriate.*
- *It was pointed out that courtesy and decorum is important, and that one can disagree with another without being crass.*
- *Questions were asked about whether the Ethics Code needed to be updated to address social media.*
- *After weighing the matter, it was determined that the letters that were sent sufficiently addressed the matter and a third letter served no point.*
- *The Commission requested that the Legislative Auditor, Administrator and Chair follow up with the Mayor about the letter to ensure we are working in tandem with the governing body and discuss revisions to the Ethics Code to tighten up some areas.*

b. Questions from Ethics Commission:

- *The Commission asked if the revisions to the Ethics Code from the summer had been made including revisions to the Whistleblowing and conflict of interest portions of the Code.*

5. Executive Session—None

7. Adjournment – 5:14 PM (Martha Jenkins departed at 5:12 PM).