February 12, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 6:38 p.m.

Board Members Present: 3 – Susan Jensen, Vice-Chair Stan Betts, and Chair Julie Myers

Board Members Absent: 2 – Andrew Austin and Alternate Joseph Keller

Chair Myers brought the meeting to order, stating that Members Jensen and Betts were in attendance, as well as staff members Yvonne Yaskus and Bill Fosbre.

Mr. Betts moved to excuse Mr. Austin and Mr. Keller from tonight’s meeting for good and valid reasons. Seconded by Ms. Jensen. Voice vote was taken and carried; the motion passed.

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Betts moved to approve the minutes of January 28, March 3, April 14, May 19, July 14, and October 13, 2008; and January 12, 2009 as submitted. Seconded by Ms. Jensen. Voice vote was taken and carried; the motion passed.

SUBMISSION OF ANNUAL REPORT

Chair Myers distributed a draft annual report, which included suggested changes and additions provided by other members. Discussion ensued regarding the report, and several suggestions were voiced. By general consensus the changes to the annual report, as discussed, were approved.
REVIEW PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES AND TACOMA MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 1.46.045, BOARD OF ETHICS

Mr. Betts moved to approve the amendments and changes to the Administrative Procedures as submitted. Seconded by Ms. Jensen. Discussion ensued regarding Section 2.2 (3), to remove "pursuant to RCW 42.56.240" and replace with "pursuant to state law". Voice vote was taken and carried; the motion passed.

Mr. Betts moved to recommend to the City Council to make changes to Tacoma Municipal Code, Section 1.46, Code of Ethics, as reflected in the draft document prepared for this meeting, as recommended by the board. Seconded by Ms. Jensen. Discussion ensued. Voice vote was taken and carried; the motion passed.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Member Jensen distributed the Pierce County Ethics Code, and mentioned that Pierce County has a provision in their code that allows the Board to make recommendations amending the Ethics Code. Discussion ensued regarding the City of Tacoma Code of Ethics.

Mr. Betts moved to recommend to the City Council to add a section in Tacoma Municipal Code 1.46.045(c)(1)(g), as follows "To make recommendations to the City Manager and the City Council for amendments to this chapter and for such other legislation affecting the subject matter of this chapter as the Ethics Board may deem necessary or desirable". Seconded by Ms. Jensen. Voice vote was taken and carried; the motion passed.

Discussion ensued regarding the process by which to bring these items to the City Council.

Mr. Fosbre will draft code changes and draft by-laws to be included in the agenda for the next regular meeting of the Ethics Board, which is April 13, 2009.

Chair Myers stated that she contacted AWC, Association of Washington Cities, regarding ethics codes for other agencies, and she was referred to another organization. Chair Myers indicated that there are numerous public agencies that require lobbyists to record all of their interactions with elected officials.
PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Julie Myers, Chair

Yvonne Yaskus
Records Management Supervisor/Public Records Officer
City Clerk's Office