

CITY OF JACKSONVILLE



W. BRAXTON GILLAM, IV
CHAIR

HELEN LUDWIG
VICE-CHAIR

GENE FILBERT
L. E. HUTTON
KIRBY OBERDORFER
TATIANA SALVADOR

ETHICS COMMISSION

Minutes
Transparency and Open
Government Subcommittee
Thursday, July 14, 2011
Conference Room 2C
City Hall

MARY SWART
RHONDA PEOPLES-
WATERS
JAMES YOUNG

The Transparency and Open Government Subcommittee meeting was called to order by the Chair, Rhonda Peoples-Waters at 12:01 p.m.

Attendees: Rhonda Peoples-Waters, Chair; Mary Swart, Helen Ludwig
Others in attendance: Debra Braga, Office of General Counsel and Susan Stewart
Carla Miller by telephone; Councilmember Lumb, Donna Barrow, ECA and Kevin Kuzel,
ECA.

A motion was made regarding the ethics pledge, after discussion two corrections were made. The motion to approve the ethics pledge, as amended, carried unanimously and will be presented at the next full meeting of the Ethics Commission. Members also discussed an ethics pledge for elected officials but will request legal guidance before moving forward.

Subcommittee members discussed texting and what constitutes a public record for retention purposes and transparency. Several suggestions were offered by members, Council Member Lumb, executive council assistants and citizens.

It was decided that the Transparency and Open Government and the Legislative subcommittees hold a joint meeting to discuss further. Request that the Council President appoint someone to attend and invite ITD, for discussions.

Carla suggested that there should be a policy instead of in the ordinance code on text messaging and citywide, not just applicable to the City Council.

A motion was offered to have Debra Braga prepare a draft resolution regarding 1) banning texting during council meetings, 2) discourage texting and encouraging the use of email instead, and 3) have elected officials contact their providers about preserving their text messages. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Ethics Office
117 W. Duval Street, Room 450
Jacksonville, FL 32202
Phone: (904) 630-1476, Fax: (904) 630-2670
Email: ethics@coj.net
HOTLINE: 630-1015

Public Comments:

Connie Benham requested that all public notices, including those of the independent agencies, be in one place providing better access to the public.

The Chair suggested that someone from ITD come to the next meeting to discuss the logistics.

Susan will poll the two subcommittee members for a meeting to be held in August prior to the regularly scheduled commission meeting.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

Susan Stewart
Ethics Coordinator

Date of Approval

This is a summary of the meeting and is not a verbatim transcription. A tape recording of these proceedings is available in the Duval Legislative Delegation Office at City Hall.