

**CITY OF PHOENIX  
ETHICS COMMISSION  
Summary Minutes  
June 20, 2024**

Phoenix City Hall  
12<sup>th</sup> Floor, Central Conference Room  
200 W Washington St.  
Phoenix, AZ 85003

Committee Members Present

Jose Samuel (Sam) Leyvas III, Chair  
Patricia Sallen, Vice Chair  
Cheryl Pietkiewicz  
Peter Schirripa

Committee Members Absent

**1. Call to Order/Roll Call**

Chairman Leyvas called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m. with Commission Members Cheryl Pietkiewicz, Patricia Sallen, and Peter Schirripa present.

**2. Commission Attorney Explains Public Comment**

Elizabeth Nillen, Commission Attorney, stated members of the public may speak for up to two minutes on agenda items and gave direction on appropriate decorum when providing comments.

**3. Approval of Meeting Minutes from May 16, 2024**

Vice Chairwoman Sallen made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 16, 2024, Ethics Commission Meeting. Commissioner Pietkiewicz seconded the motion which passed unanimously 4-0.

**4. Call to Public**

There are no members of the public signed up to speak today.

**5. Review of Current Complaints**

Vice Chairwoman Sallen made a motion to convene in Executive Session to obtain legal advice and to discuss any or all of the pending complaints. Commissioner Pietkiewicz seconded the motion which passed unanimously 4-0.

Chairman Leyvas asked all members of the public and staff to leave the meeting.

The Commission entered Executive Session at 3:06 p.m.

The Commission returned from Executive Session at 4:18 p.m.

Chairman Leyvas asked if the Commission would make a motion on EC-19-01.

Vice Chairwoman Sallen made a motion to take jurisdiction on EC-19-01 and requests the Commission's Counsel to investigate the matter and present a finding of fact report. Commissioner Pietkiewicz seconded the motion.

Chairman Leyvas opened the floor to discussion from the Commission.

Commissioner Pietkiewicz expressed a concern. She stated the documents indicate there was a conversation between the Police Chief and the Councilmember, and it's possible a resolution was made. Additionally, the Councilmember is no longer employed, which could make it difficult to gather additional information.

Chairman Leyvas called for the roll call vote. The motion failed 3-1 by the following roll call vote:

**Yes:** 3 – Chairman Leyvas, Vice Chairwoman Sallen, and  
Commissioner Schirripa  
**No:** 1 – Commissioner Pietkiewicz

Chairman Leyvas explained the Ethics Commission's Rules and Ordinance require a four-member affirmative vote to move a motion forward. The inquiry was dismissed.

Vice Chairwoman Sallen asked about next steps for the inquiry and about a standard process for handling the closure of inquiries moving forward.

Chairman Leyvas suggested developing a standard letter to be sent by the Ethics Commission to the Respondent and Complainant. He discussed the general contents of the letter. The Recording Secretary will draft a standard letter for the Commissions' approval.

Chairman Leyvas asked if the Commission would make a motion on EC-20-01.

Vice Chairwoman Sallen made a motion to take jurisdiction on EC-20-01 and requests the Commission's Counsel to investigate the matter and present a finding of fact report. Commissioner Pietkiewicz seconded the motion.

Chairman Leyvas opened the floor to discussion from the Commission.

Chairman Leyvas called for the roll call vote. The motion failed 1-3 by the following roll call vote:

**Yes:** 1 – Vice Chairwoman Sallen  
**No:** 3 – Chairman Leyvas, Commissioner Pietkiewicz, and  
Commissioner Schirripa

Commissioner Pietkiewicz explained her vote. She voted no because of factual concerns.

Vice Chairwoman Sallen explained her vote. She stated there may be inquiries with factual issues the Commission may need to resolve, and an investigation may be required to resolve the questions. This inquiry may require additional investigation to answer any questions. While the investigation may not provide enough information to make a substantive recommendation, the additional information would be important to help make a decision.

The inquiry was dismissed.

Chairman Leyvas asked if the Commission would make a motion on EC-20-02.

Vice Chairwoman Sallen made a motion to decline to take jurisdiction on EC-20-02 because the complaint is facially insufficient to pursue. Commissioner Pietkiewicz seconded the motion.

Chairman Leyvas opened the floor to discussion from the Commission.

Chairman Leyvas called for the roll call vote. The motion passed 4-0 by the following roll call vote:

<b>Yes:</b>	4 – Chairman Leyvas, Vice Chairwoman Sallen, Commissioner Pietkiewicz, and Commissioner Schirripa
<b>No:</b>	0

The inquiry was dismissed.

Chairman Leyvas stated a conflict of interest regarding EC-21-01. He stated he made campaign contributions to the Respondent of the inquiry. He recused himself due to a potential or perceived conflict of interest, abstained and did not participate. Chairman Leyvas delegated his role to Vice Chairwoman Sallen.

Vice Chairwoman Sallen asked if the Commission would make a motion on EC-21-01.

Commissioner Pietkiewicz made a motion to table the inquiry until a fifth Commission Member is seated. Commissioner Schirripa seconded the motion.

Vice Chairwoman Sallen called for a voice vote. The motion passed 3-0.

The inquiry was tabled.

**6. Future Agenda Items and Meeting Dates**

Chairman Leyvas opened the floor to discussion.

Ms. Nillen and Ms. Erickson both stated they have potential conflicts for the July 18, 2024, meeting. Both stated they would have delegates assigned if the Commission chooses to meet on July 18.

Vice Chairwoman Sallen asked when the next meeting would be in August.

Ms. Erickson answered Aug. 15.

Vice Chairwoman Sallen asked if the Commission took action on Aug. 15, would it allow enough time to add the item on a City Council Formal Meeting in August.

Ms. Erickson confirmed any actions could be taken to the last meeting in August or the first meeting in September.

Commissioner Pietkiewicz made a motion for the Commission to take a recess in July. Vice Chairwoman Sallen seconded the motion.

Chairman Leyvas called for a voice vote. The motion passed 4-0.

Chairman Leyvas asked for any future agenda items, in addition to the standing item to review the current complaints.

There were no additional agenda items provided.

7. **Adjournment**

Chairman Leyvas adjourned the meeting at 4:33 p.m.