

JUDICIAL ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

February 9, 2005

The Judicial Advisory Board of the City of Mesa met in the lower level meeting room of the Council Chambers, 57 East 1st Street, on February 9, 2005 at 7:45 a.m.

COMMITTEE PRESENT

Chairman Joan Ruffennach
Marlon E. Branham
Joan C. Herzog
Stella Hunsaker
Barbara Jarrett
Linda Rottman
Murray G. Snow

COMMITTEE ABSENT

None

STAFF PRESENT

Denise Bleyle
Kathleen Broman
Pat Granillo
Matt Tafoya
Paul Tomas

(Items on the agenda were discussed out of order, but for purposes of clarity will remain as listed on the agenda.)

1. Approve minutes of January 5, 2005 meeting.

It was moved by Boardmember Rottman, seconded by Boardmember Jarrett, that the minutes of the January 5, 2005 meeting be approved.

Chairman Ruffennach declared the motion carried unanimously.

2. Review and consider items related to the reappointment of Magistrates Victor Ortiz and Karl Eppich, whose terms expire June 30, 2005:

a. Review application for reappointment and assign reference checks.

Management Assistant II Denise Bleyle reported that the Board has been provided copies of the completed applications for Magistrates Ortiz and Eppich. She explained that per the request of the Board and staff, the credit reports for the applicants seeking reappointment have also been included for the Boardmembers' review. Ms. Bleyle added that Magistrates Ortiz and Eppich have received copies of their individual credit reports as well.

(Discussion ensued among the Boardmembers relative to the assignment of reference checks.)

b. Response from Commission on Judicial Conduct.

Ms. Bleyle stated that she has distributed to the Boardmembers a response from the Commission on Judicial Conduct indicating there were no pending complaints, investigations or proceedings filed against Magistrates Ortiz and Eppich.

c. Survey results.

Ms. Bleyle commented that the Boardmembers have also been provided Mesa City Court statistics and survey results that were recently conducted regarding the reappointments of Magistrates Ortiz and Eppich. She advised that as part of the documentation, the consultant drafted a memo briefly outlining the layout, content and interpretation of the statistical reports and survey comments. Ms. Bleyle indicated that in addition, she has also furnished the Boardmembers with Magistrates Ortiz and Eppich's "Mid-term Survey Results and Comments" reports, as well as a document entitled "Mesa Municipal Court Statistics." She encouraged the members to contact her if they have any questions or concerns regarding these items.

3. Scheduling of meetings and general information.

Chairman Ruffennach stated that it was the consensus of the Board that the March 2, 2005 Public Hearing/Interview of Magistrate Ortiz be posted for 5:45 p.m., followed by a 6:45 p.m. Public Hearing/Interview of Magistrate Eppich.

4. Convene an Executive Session:

a. Discussion or consideration of employment, assignment, appointment, promotion or resignation of a public officer, appointee or employee of the City. (A.R.S. 38-431.03A(1))

1. Reappointment of Magistrate – Interview Questions

It was moved by Boardmember Snow, seconded by Boardmember Branham, that an Executive Session be convened at 7:53 a.m.

(At 8:34 a.m., the Executive Session adjourned and the Board reconvened their regular meeting.)

Ms. Bleyle invited the Boardmembers to attend tonight's meeting of the "Financing the Future Citizen Committee," wherein a public hearing would be conducted to solicit input from Mesa residents regarding the City's current budget problems. She stated that the meeting is scheduled to begin at 5:30 p.m. in the Lower Level Council Chambers.

5. Adjournment.

It was moved by Boardmember Snow, seconded by Chairman Ruffennach, that the meeting of the Judicial Advisory Board be adjourned at 8:41 a.m.

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Judicial Advisory Board meeting of the City of Mesa, Arizona, held on the 9th day of February 2005. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

BARBARA JONES, CITY CLERK

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