

# BOARD OF ETHICS

## Agenda

CITY COUNCIL-APPOINTED BOARDS & COMMISSIONS



**Date:** Wednesday, June 18, 2025  
**Time:** 5:15 p.m.  
**Location:** City Hall, Bldg. A, Executive Conference Room #103  
276 Fourth Avenue, Chula Vista, CA

### Board of Ethics Regular Meeting

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**In-Person Public Comments:** Submit a request to speak to the Board secretary before the close of the public comment period on an item or before the close of the general Public Comment period for non-agenda items.

**Electronic Public Comments:** At [www.chulavistaca.gov/boardmeetings](http://www.chulavistaca.gov/boardmeetings), locate the meeting, and click the comment bubble icon. Select the item and click on "Leave comment." You may also email [BOE@chulavistaca.gov](mailto:BOE@chulavistaca.gov). eComments, emails, and other written comments must be received by **noon** for a regular meeting.

**Time Allotted for Speaking** (*subject to change by the presiding officer*)

- Agenda Items: 3 minutes
- General Public Comment (not on agenda): 3 minutes

*Individuals who use a translator will be allotted twice the amount of time.*

**Agenda Packet:** Materials provided to the Board, including staff reports, draft resolutions, and other materials related to any open-session item on this agenda, are available for public review at [www.chulavistaca.gov/boardmeetings](http://www.chulavistaca.gov/boardmeetings) or the City Attorney's Office at 276 Fourth Ave, Chula Vista.

**Accessibility:** In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, contact [BOE@chulavistaca.gov](mailto:BOE@chulavistaca.gov). Providing at least 48 hours' notice will help ensure that reasonable arrangements can be made.

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**1. CALL TO ORDER****2. ROLL CALL**

Board Members: Gersten, Salas, Torres, Velissaropoulos, Vice-Chair Hurst, and Chair Barragan.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

*Persons may address the Board on any subject matter within the Board's jurisdiction that is not listed as an item on the agenda. State law generally prohibits the Board from discussing or taking action on any issue not included on the agenda, but, if appropriate, the Board may schedule the topic for future discussion or refer the matter to staff. If you wish to comment, please submit comments electronically at: [www.chulavistaca.gov/boardmeetings](http://www.chulavistaca.gov/boardmeetings) or submit an electronic comment per the instructions on page one of this agenda.*

**4. ACTION ITEMS**

*The Item(s) listed in this section of the agenda will be considered individually by the Board and are expected to elicit discussion and deliberation. If you wish to comment on one of these items, you may do so at [www.chulavistaca.gov/boardmeetings](http://www.chulavistaca.gov/boardmeetings) or submit an electronic comment per the instructions on page one of this agenda.*

**4.1 Approval of Meeting Minutes**

4

Recommended Action: Board to approve the minutes dated May 21, 2025.

**4.2 Written Communications**

7

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Communication from Member Gersten requesting an excused absence from the June 18, 2025, Board of Ethics meeting.

**4.3 Discussion and potential action to appoint a Board of Ethics member and alternate Board of Ethics member to serve on an interview panel for current and upcoming vacancies on the Board of Ethics**

Pursuant to Chula Vista Municipal Code Section 2.28.050(A), the Board of Ethics will appoint one Board of Ethics member and an alternate member to assist in reviewing Board of Ethics member applications, interviewing selected applicants, and recommending to the City Council one applicant for each available seat on the Board of Ethics.

**5. PRESENTATION**

*The following item(s) will be presentations given to the Board. Action on these item(s) is typically limited to the Board receiving the presentation and providing direction or feedback to staff, as appropriate. If you wish to speak on an item, please fill out a "Request to speak" form and submit it to the Secretary prior to the meeting or submit an electronic comment per the instructions on page one of this agenda.*

**5.1 Update from Lobbying Ordinance Ad Hoc Sub-Committee**

Consists of Chair Isidro Barragan, Vice Chair Leslie Hurst, and Member Bobby Ray Salas.

**5.2 Update from Ex Parte Communication Ad Hoc Sub-Committee**

Consists of Member William Gersten, Member Jose Torres, and Member Bobby Ray Salas.

**5.3 Update from Amendments to Code of Ethics Ad Hoc Sub-Committee**

Consists of Vice Chair Leslie Hurst and Member Alexia Velissaropoulos.

**5.4 Update from Campaign Contribution Enforcement Authority Selection Process Ad Hoc Sub-Committee**

Consists of Member William Gersten, Member Bobby Ray Salas, and Member Alexia Velissaropoulos.

**6. STAFF COMMENTS****7. CHAIR'S COMMENTS****8. BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS****9. ADJOURNMENT**

to the regular meeting on July 16, 2025, at 5:15 p.m.

*Materials provided to the Board of Ethics related to any open-session item on this agenda are available for public review by contacting the City Attorney's Office at [BOE@chulavistaca.gov](mailto:BOE@chulavistaca.gov).*

*Sign up at [www.chulavistaca.gov/residents/enotification](http://www.chulavistaca.gov/residents/enotification) to receive email notifications when agendas are published online.*

2025-05-21 Board of Ethics Regular Meeting Minutes

**City of Chula Vista**  
**Regular Board of Ethics Meeting**  
**MINUTES**

May 21, 2025, 5:15 p.m.  
City Hall, Bldg. A, Executive Conference Room #103  
276 Fourth Avenue, Chula Vista, CA

Present: Member Gersten, Member Salas, Member Torres, Member Velissaropoulos, Vice Chair Hurst, Chair Barragan

Also Present: City Attorney Verdugo, Board Secretary Montalvo

*Minutes are prepared and ordered to correspond to the agenda.*

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

*A regular meeting of the Board of Ethics of the City of Chula Vista was called to order at 5:19 p.m.*

**2. ROLL CALL**

*Secretary Montalvo called the roll.*

**3. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

*None was provided.*

**4. ACTION ITEMS**

**4.1 Approval of Meeting Minutes**

**Moved by** Member Salas

**Seconded by** Member Gersten

*Board to approve the minutes dated April 16, 2025.*

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Yes (6): Member Gersten, Member Salas, Member Torres, Member Velissaropoulos, Vice Chair Hurst, and Chair Barragan

**Result: Carried (6 to 0)**

**4.2 Discussion and Action to Establish a Campaign Contribution Enforcement Authority Selection Process Ad Hoc Sub-Committee**

*City Attorney Verdugo shared that the Board of Ethics is responsible for selecting the Campaign Contribution Enforcement Authority rotating panel. This panel has three to five firms that are used on an as-needed basis. The Board of Ethics has two options: They may review applicants as a whole or create an ad-hoc subcommittee. This subcommittee would interview applicants and present their choice to the board for the final vote of confirmation.*

*Member Gersten shared that it is a good use of the board's time to set up a sub-committee.*

*Member Velissaropoulos liked the idea of a sub-committee.*

*Member Torres agreed that having a sub-committee would be easier.*

**Moved by** Member Salas

**Seconded by** Member Gersten

*Board to establish a Campaign Contribution Enforcement Authority Selection Process Ad Hoc Sub-Committee consisting of Member William Gersten, Member Bobby Ray Salas, and Member Alexia Velissaropoulos.*

Yes (6): Member Gersten, Member Salas, Member Torres, Member Velissaropoulos, Vice Chair Hurst, and Chair Barragan

**Result: Carried (6 to 0)**

**5. PRESENTATION**

**5.1 Update from Lobbying Ordinance Ad Hoc Sub-Committee**

*Chair Barragan shared that at the next meeting the committee will provide a more formalized document. They still need to compare a few other regions.*

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*Member Salas shared that the committee has quality work.*

*The question was proposed of how will the fee structure be set? City Attorney Verdugo shared that the Board may propose a fee structure, but ultimately it would be up to the City Council.*

**5.2 Update from Ex Parte Communication Ad Hoc Sub-Committee**

*Member Gersten shared that the draft is ready but would like to review old notes he found. He has asked his fellow committee members to present at the next meeting as he will be on vacation.*

**5.3 Update from Amendments to Code of Ethics Ad Hoc Sub-Committee**

*Member Hurst shared that the committee has been unable to get a copy of their working draft. They are going to re-write it.*

*Member Velissaropoulos shared she will be adding a section on how to streamline the complaint process.*

**6. STAFF COMMENTS**

*Secretary Montalvo shared that there is one applicant to join the Board of Ethics.*

**7. CHAIR'S COMMENTS**

*Chair thanked everyone for coming.*

**8. BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS**

*Member Hurst asked if there was any further thought on meeting as a whole. Board members shared they would like to keep their sub-committees. City Attorney Verdugo shared that the Sub-Committees are welcome to meet prior to or after board meetings, just schedule with Secretary Montalvo.*

*Member Gersten shared that he will be on vacation next meeting.*

*Member Torres shared he might be out next meeting as well.*

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

*The meeting was adjourned at 5:56 p.m.*

*Minutes prepared by: Sydnie Montalvo, Board Secretary*

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Sydnie Montalvo, Board Secretary

**REQUEST FOR EXCUSED ABSENCE**

City of Chula Vista Boards, Commissions, and Committees

Name: William Gersten Date of Absence: June 18, 2025Board/Commission/Committee: Board of Ethics

Chula Vista Municipal Code section 2.25.110 (C) allows board/commission/committee members, by a majority vote, to excuse a fellow board, commission, or committee member's absence from a meeting for any of the reasons listed below. **A member who is absent from three consecutive, regular meetings will be deemed to have vacated his or her membership, unless the member's absence is excused by a majority vote of the other members.** An absence is only recorded as "excused" upon receipt of a member's request and majority vote of the board/commission/committee to excuse the absence. Accordingly, if you have been absent from a regular meeting, please complete and submit this form to the chair or secretary.

Please indicate the reason for the absence:

- ☐ 1. Illness of the member, family member of the member, or personal friend of the member;
- ☐ 2. Business commitment of the member that interferes with the attendance of the member at a meeting;
- ☒ 3. Previously scheduled vacation of the member, notice of which was provided to the respective board or commission in advance of the meeting;
- ☐ 4. Attendance of the member at a funeral, religious service or ceremony, wedding, or other similarly significant event;
- ☐ 5. Unexpected, emergency situation that prohibits the member's attendance; or
- ☐ 6. Other reason for which the member has given notice to the secretary of his or her unavailability at least seven days in advance of the meeting.

OR

☐ The absence was not for any of the above-listed reasons. I understand that the absence will be recorded as unexcused.

I certify the reason for the absence indicated above is true and correct.

Member's Signature: William Gersten Date: 05/24/2025*If completed by secretary or staff to board/commission/committee:*

Completed on member's behalf by: \_\_\_\_\_, per member's ☐ Verbal ☐ Written request  
on: \_\_\_\_\_ (date) (secretary/liaison's name)