



**CITIZENS' INDEPENDENT SALARY COMMISSION (CISC)
PUBLIC AND MEDIA OPEN MEETING FORUM
TO DISCUSS SALARIES FOR THE ALBUQUERQUE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCILORS**

MINUTES

**Thursday – December 9, 2010 – 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
New Mexico State Bar Center
5121 Masthead N.E.
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87109**

CICS MEMBERS PRESENT:

John Carey
Joseph Conte
Richard Heath
Rodney L. Williamson

STAFF PRESENT:

Carmen L. Kavelman, Director, OIAI
Vicky M. DeHerrera, OIAI Assistant

CICS MEMBERS ABSENT:

Ellen Driber-Hassall

CALL TO ORDER:

The public and media open meeting forum was called to order at 5:04 p.m. on Thursday, December 9, 2010 with four Commission Members present.

Chairperson John Carey gave an introduction of the CISC Commission Members and the City's staff to the news media and any citizens that were present.

Chairperson John Carey stated, for the benefit of the media he wanted them to know that CISC has a website and an email. In following this evening's event, we are inviting all the members of the public to give us public comments on our email, which is CISC@cabq.gov. The CISC will also be doing some talk shows and some other announcements to get the word to the citizens that might want to give input.

KOAT-TV requested CICS Commission members to spell out their last name.

Chairperson John Carey stated that in 2009 the Albuquerque voters approved an amendment to the City Charter Article XVIII, which establishes a Citizens' Independent Salary Commission. The Commission is created with the authority to set the salaries of the Mayor and Councilors. The Commission has the authority to evaluate the annual salaries and determine whether they should be increased or decreased. The Commission has authority to consider all factors relevant to the salaries.

Our first meeting was set in October and with the assistance of our staff we have been looking at data in other cities comparable in population, number of employees, and size of budget. We want to get an idea of the range of salaries of mayors and city councilors in other cities particularly in western and mid western cities relatively close to us.

We sent out questionnaires to the Mayor and City Councilors specifically asking them about the scope of their jobs and duties.

As of today, we have personally met with four councilors and the Mayor. We have two scheduled meetings in January.

- January 13, 2011
- January 27, 2011

The Commission Members have learned from the councilors that they are spending about 30 to 35 hours a week on the job.

The Chairperson opened for questions from the news media or the citizens at this time:

KOAT-TV wanted to know what types of questions were on the questionnaire. Copies of the questionnaires were given to KOAT-TV.

The timeline for the CISC Commission is to come up with a conclusion in late January and will not take affect until the next City Council takes office, which will be December 2011. In the case of the Mayor, it will be 2013.

KOAT-TV wanted to know the actual annual salary for the City Councilor and Mayor.

- \$10,379 Councilors
- \$ 20, 758 Council President
- \$103,854 Mayor

Note: these amounts are based on a 5% decrease effective July 1, 2010

The City employees requested the following:

- More public awareness for next open meeting forum
- City facility for the next meeting
- Increase for Councilors only
- No increase for the Mayor

Chairperson John Carey stated that they should come up with a conclusion sometime in late January 2011.

5:45 p.m. - Joe Conte left the meeting at this time to attend another meeting.

At this time, the media asked the Chairperson John Carey and the two city employees for personal interviews.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Carey adjourned the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

READ AND APPROVED:

**John Carey, Chairperson
Citizens' Independent Salary Commission**