The Ethics Review Board City of New Orleans

Tuesday, May 27, 2008 10:00 a.m. Xavier University, Student Center, Room 205C

Present:	Rev. Kevin Wildes, S. J., Chair, Rev. Cornelius Tilton, Vice Chair,
	Elizabeth Nalty, Secretary, Dean Winston Brown, Professor Kathryn
	Lorio, and Dr. Beverly Favre

- Excused: Mrs. Leah Chase
- Guests: Marvin Doyal, OIG, Leonard Odom, OIG, Danatus N. King, Sr., President of NAACP, Randolph Scott and Gail Howard, Executive Assistant to Rev. Kevin Wildes, S.J,

Rev. Wildes called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

Elizabeth Nalty moved to approve the minutes of the April 29, 2008 meeting, Winston Brown seconded – motion passed.

Rev. Wildes reported that the members of the Subcommittee on Hiring met on May 14, 2008, at which time they discussed the competency and character of two proposed candidates, Janet Werkman and Jill Duchene. He further stated that the subcommittee is recommending to the full board that these two individuals be hired. There was discussion by the full board at which time, it was the agreement of the board that Janet Werkman and Jill Duchene be officially offered the positions for which they had applied to the ERB. All ERB members were in agreement and no formal motion is required. Rev. Wildes will notify the applicants by letter. The candidates will then be required to pass a drug screening as required by the City of New Orleans.

There was discussion by the board and Messrs. Doyal and Odom regarding the present number of employees hired by the OIG and offering jobs locally. During that discussion, Danatus King, Sr., asked to speak to the board and inquired as to the ability of local applicants to obtain the necessary certifications in order to qualify for various positions. Mr. King also discussed the perception that applicants were being recruited and hired from out of state rather than locally. Messrs. Doyal and Odom of the OIG explained the necessity of the certifications and the how and where they can be obtained. Mr. Odom also mentioned that the OIG is reviewing information that would allow the certifications to be offered locally, hopefully within a year. Messrs. Doyal and Odom also discussed the general qualifications of the individuals who had been hired to date by the OIG. The ability to educate and certify individuals who presently live in the city and state was discussed by the board. It was noted that local hires had been made and that at least two local individuals who had been offered top audit positions but declined due to the wages being offered by the City.

Rev. Wildes mentioned that he spoke with David Marcello regarding the status of the proposed cooperative agreement between the ERB and the OIG.

Elizabeth Nalty and Rev. Tilton inquired as to any feedback on the annual reports submitted to the Mayor and City Council. Rev. Tilton also inquired as to whether a public presentation will be made to the citizens of New Orleans and members of city government and recommended that a formal presentation be made at the June 24 meeting of the ERB. The location will be determined in order to accommodate convenient parking for guests. Rev. Tilton stated that the citizens of the New Orleans should be able to see that the ERB is moving forward with the OIG.

It was noted that the time preference for future ERB meetings is 10:30 a.m.

There being no further business to discuss, Winston Brown moved to adjourn the meeting, Rev. Tilton seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 10:57 a.m.