

The Ethics Review Board
City of New Orleans

City Council Chambers
City of New Orleans
1300 Perdido Street
New Orleans, Louisiana 70112

Tuesday, October 4, 2011
12:30 P.M.

MINUTES

Present: Rev. Cornelius Tilton, Chair; Okyeame Haley, Secretary; Dr. Laura Rouzan; Dr. Don Frampton

Absent: Elizabeth S. Nalty, Vice Chair; Dr. Michael Cowan

Staff Present: Felicia Brown, Executive Director
Steven Scheckman, General Counsel

Guests: Edouard R. Quatrevaux, Inspector General
Susan Hutson, Independent Police Monitor

Rev. Tilton called the meeting to order at 12:35pm. He expressed condolences to the Cowan family on the passing of Dr. Michael Cowan's grandchild.

Rev. Tilton welcomed Dr. Don Frampton to the Ethics Review Board and acknowledged Felicia Brown as the recently appointed executive director.

Dr. Rouzan moved for approval of the minutes from the ERB meeting of August 16, 2011; Mr. Haley seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

The chair recognized Inspector General Edouard Quatrevaux.

OIG Reporting:

Mr. Quatrevaux introduced Eileen Shanklin-Andrus, who was recently promoted to First Assistant Inspector General for Audit and Review. He commended her efforts in restructuring the Audit Division and lauded her professionalism and background as well as the efforts of her staff. He noted the move and efficiencies achieved by the audit unit to a paperless system, noting its implementation of Engagement, an audit software application, on the recommendation of Ms. Shanklin-Andrus.

IG Edouard Quatrevaux spoke and reported on the following:

OIG Issued 2 reports:

- Audited French Market Corporation Credit Card and Expense Reimbursements
 - Investigation resulted in guilty plea
- Fixed Asset Internal Control Review

- Revealed many deficiencies for correction

OIG Outreach Efforts:

- ENONAC (Eastern N.O. Neighborhood Advisory Commission)
- N.O. Diplomacy Council (Involved a delegation from Nigeria)
- Metro Crime Commission
- Professional Women's Club

Future Reports:

- OPP Inmate Charges
- Aviation Board Credit Card & Reimbursements
- Payroll Liabilities
- Evaluation of City Courts (Completion of report in process within 30 days)

Mark St. Pierre Guilty on 53 Counts

- Sentence: 17.5 years
- Asset Forfeiture: \$3.2M
- OIG now part of the Federal Asset Forfeiture Program

CEAs: Final 2 positions approved by the Governmental Affairs Committee of the City Council

- Final passage expected October 20, 2011

Mr. Haley inquired about the audit process in the move to a paperless system. Ms. Shanklin-Andrus explained some features and functionalities of Engagement and the application's ease of use, noting she was familiar with the software system from her former experience in the private sector.

Independent Police Monitor Reporting:

Rev. Tilton recognized and congratulated Ms. Hutson on her participation in the planning of the annual meeting of the National Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement (NACOLE) that was held in New Orleans last month.

IPM Susan Hutson reported the following:

- Agency has received 219 complaints to date compared to 120 for the previous year; estimated that complaints for 2011 will double those received in 2010; referenced the number of volunteers, both lawyers and law students, who are engaged in supporting the organization's efforts;
- IPM has engaged in numerous outreach efforts to inform the public of its operations and to raise awareness about individual rights and responsibilities, noted the Know Your Rights training and credited Ursula Price, Executive Director for Community Relations, for the success of the agency's enhanced public awareness;
- Invited the ERB to attend the October 15th All Together Against Crime Memorial for Kim Groves;

- The Crime Coalition included a question about the agency in its recent survey, specifically inquiring about the IPM's need for additional resources;
- Discussed the new IPM/PIB database which will house the early warning system and complaint investigations; as of this week, the system is also the repository for use of force reports; IPM is working with PIB to input data and information;
- PIB invited IPM to participate in the Professional Performance Enhancement Program (PPEP) classes, scheduled for October 17th-21st; IPM also participated in the September class, which included the US Attorney's Office as presenters;
- Reported on the success of the annual meeting for NACOLE and mentioned that the conference drew representatives from a cross-section of law enforcement agencies;
- IPM projects which are currently ongoing with the help of 10 volunteer law clerks and lawyers include: The Stops and Frisks Report, Retaliation Report, PIB Investigations Recommendations, UOF Manual, and the investigation of Critical Incidents by PIB, Mediation for 2012, and PPEP/Risk Management recommendations;
- Awaiting the results of the consent decree negotiations, as the IPM could gain a greater and more influential role ensuring that NOPD complies with the decree

Rev. Tilton requested a copy of the Know Your Rights presentation.

Dr. Rouzan commented that she and Ms. Nalty attended the NACOLE reception and also applauded Ms. Hutson's efforts with respect to the conference.

Rev. Tilton reminded ERB members of the COGEL (Council on Governmental Ethics Laws) Conference in Nashville, TN, December 4-December 7. He encouraged participation as an opportunity for board member development.

The chair requested the executive director to explain the changes in meeting location and/or date for the November 1, 2011, and December 6, 2011, meetings. Ms. Brown indicated that a conflict in the use of the City Council Chambers for a budget meeting necessitated a location change to Dillard University (Professional Studies and Science Building) for the November 1, 2011 meeting. She further explained that the change in location and date of the December 6, 2011, to December 13, 2011, on the campus of Loyola University (Room location TBD), are due to ERB members' participation in the COGEL conference on December 6, the initial date set for the December board meeting. Information pertaining to the November and December meeting date and/or location changes will be posted on the ERB website.

The chair referenced the recent changes in state statutes pertaining to functions of local ethics entities in Louisiana and intimated the need to strengthen the ethics provisions for New Orleans. He proposed a future discussion of trends relevant to ethics laws.

A discussion ensued about the 2012 meeting schedule. The board discussed the possibility of alternating monthly meetings with public engagement opportunities during off months. Rev. Tilton also indicated that the executive director had been asked to identify community groups with whom the ERB might engage in public outreach. The chair requested that the executive

director and general counsel prepare possible meeting options for the ERB's consideration at its November 1 meeting.

Mr. Haley iterated the sympathies of ERB members to Dr. Michael Cowan and his family.

There being no further business to discuss, Dr. Rouzan moved to adjourn; Dr. Frampton seconded and all were in favor; the motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 1:36 P.M.