

## **Ethics Review Board for the City of New Orleans**

# Special Board Meeting of November 24, 2021, at 3:30 P.M.

## **Conducted via Zoom Teleconference Due to COVID-19 Emergency**

#### **Minutes**

- 1. *Call to Order.* 
  - 1.1. The chair called the special meeting to order at 2:01 p.m.
  - 1.2. Board members present:
    - 1.2.1. Elizabeth Livingston de Calderon, Chair.
    - 1.2.2. Michael A. Cowan.
    - 1.2.3. Monique G. Doucette.
    - 1.2.4. Torin T. Sanders.
  - 1.3. Board members absent:
    - 1.3.1. Wanda A. Brooks.
    - 1.3.2. Holly Callia.
    - 1.3.3. Tyrone G. Jefferson, Jr.
  - 1.4. Staff member present:
    - 1.4.1. Dane S. Ciolino, Executive Administrator and General Counsel.
  - 1.5. The Chair declared that a quorum of the board was present and commenced the meeting via Zoom videoconference and teleconference.
  - 1.6. The agenda for the meeting is attached.

- 2. Ratification of Prior Written Certification of Emergency Need for Video Conference Meeting. Pursuant to State of Louisiana Executive Department Proclamation No. JBE 2020-30 Section 4 (March 16, 2020) and subsequent orders and legislation addressing the COVID-19 state of emergency, the ERB unanimously agreed to conduct this meeting by video conference and audio conference after certifying that the ERB would not otherwise have been able to operate due to quorum requirements due to the ongoing COVID-19 emergency.
- 3. Executive Session to Discuss Complaint 2021-03
  - 3.1. A motion was made and seconded for the ERB to go into executive session pursuant to Louisiana Revised Statutes sections 42:17(1& 4) to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of a person and investigative proceedings regarding allegations of misconduct related to ERB Complaint No. 2021-03.
  - 3.2. The motion was voted on and unanimously approved. The board went into executive session.
  - 3.3. The executive session ended and the board reconvened at 3:10 p.m.
- 4. Once in public session, and after motion and second, the board voted 3-1 to dismiss the complaint.
  - 4.1. Ms. Calderon noted that she was uncomfortable with the actions alleged in the complaint. She noted, however, that she did not believe that the code of ethics was implicated by the conduct.
  - 4.2. Doucette, Calderon, and Cowan voted in favor of dismissal; Sanders voted against dismissal.
- 5. *Motion to Continue Investigation as Personnel Matter* 
  - 5.1. After motion and second, the board unanimously voted to continue investigating the facts underlying the complaint as a personnel matter.
- 6. Adjournment.
  - 6.1. A motion was made to adjourn the board meeting.
  - 6.2. The motion was seconded.
  - 6.3. The board unanimously voted to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 3:13 p.m.

\* END \*



### CITY OF NEW ORLEANS ETHICS REVIEW BOARD

525 St. Charles Avenue New Orleans, LA 70130-3409 <u>erb@nolaerb.gov</u> <u>https://www.nolaerb.gov/</u>

#### **BOARD MEETING**

Wednesday, November 24, 2021 at 2:00 P.M., or alternatively, Friday, November 26, 2021 at 10:00 A.M.

The board will conduct this meeting via Zoom Video Conference and Telephone Conference Video Conference Link: <a href="https://loyno.zoom.us/j/5049753263">https://loyno.zoom.us/j/5049753263</a>
Telephone Conference Dial-In Number: 312-626-6799; ID No. 504 975 3263

Certification of Necessity pursuant to <u>Louisiana Revised Statutes section 42:17.1</u>: The board hereby certifies that the Governor of the State of Louisiana has declared a state of emergency or disaster involving the geographic area of the City of New Orleans. The governor's most recent extension of this state of emergency is available here: <u>204 JBE 2021State of Emergency.pdf</u>.

A live meeting would be detrimental to the health, safety, or welfare of the public and the members of the Ethics Review Board. The agenda contains matters that are critical to continuation of the business of the Ethics Review Board and are not able to be postponed to a live meeting due to a legal requirement or other deadline that cannot be postponed or delayed by the Ethics Review Board. The public can attend and participate in the videoconference meeting by joining the conference by telephone or videoconference as described above. In addition, public comment prior to the meeting can be provided via email address <a href="mailto:erb@nolaerb.gov">erb@nolaerb.gov</a>.

#### **AGENDA**

- 1. Ratification of certification of necessity for videoconference/teleconference meeting (Chair).
- 2. Executive session pursuant to Louisiana Revised Statutes sections 42:17(1& 4) to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of a person and investigative proceedings regarding allegations of misconduct related to ERB Complaint No. 2021-03.
- 3. Vote in regular session regarding disposition of ERB Complaint No. 2021-03.
- 4. Adjournment (Chair).