

Ethics Review Board for the City of New Orleans

Board Meeting of May 08, 2023, at 3:30 P.M. in New Orleans City Council Chambers

Minutes

- 1. *Call to Order.*
 - 1.1. The chair called the meeting to order at 3:31 p.m.
 - 1.2. ERB members present:
 - 1.2.1. Dawn Broussard
 - 1.2.2. Holly Callia, Chair.
 - 1.2.3. Elizabeth Livingston de Calderon.
 - 1.2.4. Monique G. Doucette
 - 1.2.5. Tyrone G. Jefferson, Jr.
 - 1.3. ERB members absent:
 - 1.3.1. SUNO appointee (position is vacant).
 - 1.3.2. Wanda A. Brooks.
 - 1.4. Staff members present:
 - 1.4.1. Dane S. Ciolino, Executive Administrator and General Counsel.
 - 1.4.2. Jordy Stiggs, Ethics Trainer
 - 1.5. Staff members absent:
 - 1.5.1. None.

- 1.6. The agenda for the meeting is attached.
- 2. Approval of Minutes. Upon a duly made and seconded motion, the ERB unanimously approved the minutes of the regular ERB meeting of April 10, 2023, and the special meeting of April 14, 2023.
- 3. *Monthly Report of the Office of the Inspector General.*
 - 3.1. Ed Michel appeared on behalf of the Office of the Inspector General. He was accompanied by his general counsel, chief evaluator, chief auditor, and office manager.
 - 3.2. Mr. Michel presented his office's monthly written report (attached). He also reported orally to the ERB and responded to ERB members' questions.
 - 3.3. Discussed the report his office recently released regarding the mayor's executive protection team. That report is public record. The NOPD has accepted the recommendations in the OIG report.
 - 3.4. Discussed the report of his office regarding the 911 communications district. The report is public record. Public comment was received from Tyronne Morris, director of the communications district. Those comments are attached to these minutes.
 - 3.5. Discussed a recent case that resulted in a criminal conviction as indicative of the quality work of his office.
 - 3.6. Discussed that he is interacting with community and citizens groups to get the word out about the work of and capabilities of his office.
 - 3.7. Mr. Jefferson asked about the mayor's executive team recommendations. Do they have to follow your recommendations, he asked? Mr. Michel said they have adopted all of the recommendations.
- 4. *Monthly Report of the Office of Independent Police Monitor.*
 - 4.1. Stella Cziment appeared on behalf of the Office of the Independent Police Monitor. Lawyer Sharonda Williams also appeared with the IPM.
 - 4.2. Ms. Cziment discussed the monthly report (attached).
 - 4.3. Noted that her annual report was sent to NOPD for comment. The report is like a "state of the union" for not only her office, but also the NOPD. Will be released at the end of May.
 - 4.4. Noted that crime survivors are being honored the month. Her office is using it as an opportunity to remind the community that they are empowered to provide feedback about the NOPD.

- 4.5. Noted that the federal monitors recently provided an unfavorable report about the NOPD's progress under the consent decree. There was a particular problem with clearing sex offenses.
- 4.6. Reported that her office is looking to expand her team. Openings are now available for one or more positions, including an analyst position.
- 4.7. Ms. Calderon asked whether her office was making efforts to change confidentiality statutes through legislative amendments. Ms. Cziment responded, "no, not at this time."
- 5. *Monthly Report of Ethics Trainer.*
 - 5.1. Mr. Jordy Stiggs presented his monthly written report (attached). The board unanimously agreed to take this report out of order in advance of the OIPM reports.
 - 5.2. Mr. Stiggs reminded the board members to submit their financial reports to the state board by May 15, 2023. Mr. Ciolino also reminded the board about the deadline.
 - 5.3. Mr. Stiggs distributed draft orientation materials to the board. Ms. Calderon suggested links related to public records and public meetings law. Ms. Calderon also suggested black and white materials to conserve ink. Mr. Stiggs encouraged members to email other suggestions to him before the next meeting.
- 6. Report of the Executive Administrator and General Counsel.
 - 6.1. Mr. Ciolino presented his oral report.
 - 6.2. Mr. Ciolino reported that the ERB has received no new complaints.
- 7. Performance and Compensation Reviews
 - 7.1. The OIG, OIPM, and ED/GC need periodic reviews on performance and compensation.
 - 7.2. Mr. Ciolino will look into whether there are COLAs that automatically apply to these people.
 - 7.3. Ms. Calderon noted that we do not want to duplicate efforts. She believes that it would be good start to ask each appointee for a self-assessment and salary review.
 - 7.4. Ms. Callia noted that the code of ordinances lays out the duties of the IPM and IG.
 - 7.5. The board will put the self-assessments on the agenda for August 2023.
 - 7.6. The board canceled the July 2023 meeting.

- 8. Executive Session.
 - 8.1. Motion to go into executive session pursuant to (1) Louisiana Revised Statutes section 42:17 to discuss investigative proceedings regarding allegations of misconduct, and (2) Louisiana Revised Statutes section 42:17(A)(1) to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of a person. The motion carried unanimously. The board went into executive session at 4:18 p.m.
 - 8.2. Motion to go back into general session. Motion was seconded. Motion carried unanimously at 5:17 p.m.
- 9. Action on Complaint 2023-01.
 - 9.1. A motion was made to dismiss this complaint for lack of jurisdiction because the state ethics board is considering the matter.
 - 9.2. The motion was seconded.
 - 9.3. The board unanimously voted to dismiss the complaint.
- 10. Adjournment.
 - 10.1. A motion was made to adjourn the ERB meeting.
 - 10.2. The motion was seconded.
 - 10.3. The ERB unanimously voted to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 5:18 p.m.

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