



Ethics Review Board for the City of New Orleans

Board Meeting of March 11, 2024, at Loyola Law School, New Orleans

Minutes

1. *Call to Order.*

1.1. The chair called the meeting to order at 3:47 p.m.

1.2. ERB members present:

1.2.1. Dawn Broussard

1.2.2. Holly Callia, Chair

1.2.3. Monique G. Doucette

1.2.4. Tyrone G. Jefferson, Jr.

1.2.5. Patrice Sentino

1.3. ERB members absent:

1.3.1. Wanda A. Brooks

1.3.2. Elizabeth Livingston de Calderon

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 held in February 2024.
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 appeared with Mike Laughlin, general counsel for OIG.
 - 3.2. The board accepted his monthly written report (attached).
 - 3.3. Mr. Michel reported on his fuel dispensing investigation and report. There was much abuse with fuel cards that his office uncovered. For example, single NOPD cards were used to dispense a lot of gas over a short period of time. There were few safeguards to assure that fuel was dispensed only for city business.
 - 3.3.1. The city has accepted all of his office's recommendations.
 - 3.3.2. Mr. Jefferson and Ms. Sentino followed up with questions to clarify how cards and PIN numbers were assigned and used.
 - 3.4. Mr. Michel has communicated with NOPD Superintendent Kirkpatrick about deputizing his employees as required by a city ordinance. She immediately deputized OIG employees. Mr. Michel believes that this was necessary given that his office investigators deal with dangerous subjects. Mr. Michel also noted that a pending house bill would, if adopted, make his employees "peace officers" under state law.
 - 3.5. Mr. Michel thanked the board for the pay increase approved by the board at its last meeting.
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. She was accompanied by various staff members, including her counsel Sharonda Williams and Ms. McGowan, the new Deputy Police Monitor.
 - 4.2. The board accepted Ms. Cziment's monthly report (attached).
 - 4.3. Ms. Cziment reported that she just a few minutes ago finished testifying before the city council's criminal justice committee. She gave the committee an update on her office's work and the federal consent decree.
 - 4.4. She noted that her office is in the process of doing an RFP for a vendor to provide hotline services. The vendor has social workers on staff to run hotlines all over the country. The company is Louisiana based and "very impressive."

- 4.4.1. Ms. Sentino followed up regarding the social work credentials that hotline staff would have. Ms. Cziment responded that the staff would be trained and experienced in handling police complaints with empathy and professionalism.
- 4.5. She noted that her office is also doing an RFP for a public facing database of her office's data.
- 4.6. Ms. Cziment thanked the board for approving a pay raise for her position.
- 5. *Monthly Report of Ethics Trainer.*
 - 5.1. Mr. Jordy Stiggs appeared to present his report.
 - 5.2. The board accepted Mr. Stiggs's monthly written report (attached).
 - 5.3. Mr. Stiggs reminded board members to file their financial disclosure forms with the state board of ethics.
 - 5.4. Mr. Stiggs reported on his training poster that he shared with the board.
- 6. *Report of the Executive Administrator and General Counsel.*
 - 6.1. Mr. Ciolino presented his written report (attached).
 - 6.2. Mr. Ciolino reported that there have been no new complaints received since the last board meeting.
 - 6.3. Mr. Ciolino reported that two ERB positions must be filled. The mayor's office is working on this and reports that the City Council Governmental Affairs Committee will soon consider appointees for approval by the full counsel.
 - 6.4. Mr. Ciolino reported that four (4) Council and Mayoral appointments remain unfilled on QARACs for the IG and the IPM.
- 7. *Adjournment.*
 - 7.1. A motion was made to adjourn the ERB meeting.
 - 7.2. The motion was seconded.
 - 7.3. The ERB unanimously voted to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

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