

The Ethics Review Board  
City of New Orleans  
Tuesday, November 20, 2012  
2:30 p.m.  
3001 Gentilly Boulevard  
Norman Mayer Library  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70122

Minutes

Present: Present: Dr. Michael Cowan, Chair; Elizabeth Nalty, Vice Chair; Dr. Laura Rouzan, Secretary;  
Dr. Don Frampton; Okyeame Haley

Staff: Steven Scheckman, General Counsel  
Felicia R. Brown, Executive Director

A quorum being present, the chair called the meeting to order at 2:32 p.m. Dr. Rouzan moved that the minutes of October 2, 2012, be approved; Ms. Nalty offered a second. The motion passed unanimously.

A discussion ensued regarding the professional services contract with Judith S. Nadler. Dr. Cowan noted that Phase 1 would begin December 4 with a visit to the city by Ms. Nadler. On a motion by Rev. Frampton, with a second by Dr. Rouzan, the board approved the contract subject to the inclusion of the language below on page 14, referencing the number of boards and commissions and city department:

“to members of at least four (4) selected city boards and commissions and one city department.”

Mr. Scheckman expressed concern about the presentation of the ERB’s budget before the City Council and noted the missed opportunity by the Ethics Review Board as well as the issues raised by Councilmember Guidry. He proposed that the executive director be included in future presentations. Dr. Cowan explained the circumstances for his absence at the budget hearing; Rev. Frampton inquired of the chair if a letter might be sent to address the issues raised by Councilmember Guidry.

The general counsel highlighted and explained the changes to the ERB-OIG MOU. Ms. Nalty moved and Mr. Haley seconded the adoption of the revised ERB-OIG MOU. The motion passed unanimously.

A discussion ensued regarding the State Ethics Administration Advisory Opinion concerning Lawrence Williams (Ethics Docket No. 2012-1257). The general counsel clarified the circumstances which would necessitate the ERB forwarding an advisory request to the Louisiana Ethics Board.

The board discussed the ERB’s appointment to the OIG Quality Assurance Review Advisory Committee, specifically the continued participation by Mr. Abbott. Rev. Frampton moved that the ERB reappoint Mr. Herschel Abbott, Jr., as the ERB’s representative to the OIG Quality Assurance Review Advisory Committee. The motion passed unanimously.

The board recessed into executive session at 3:25 p.m.