



## Ethics Review Board for the City of New Orleans

**Board Meeting of March 10, 2025, at Loyola Law School, 526 Pine Street, Room 308,  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70118**

### **Minutes**

1. *Call to Order.*
  - 1.1. The chair called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.
  - 1.2. Attendance
    - 1.2.1. ERB members present:
      - 1.2.1.1. Dawn Broussard, Chair
      - 1.2.1.2. Holly Callia
      - 1.2.1.3. Monique G. Doucette
      - 1.2.1.4. Sally Richardson
      - 1.2.1.5. Patrice Sentino
    - 1.2.2. ERB members absent: None
    - 1.2.3. Staff member present: Dane S. Ciolino, Executive Administrator & General Counsel
    - 1.2.4. Staff member present: Jordy Stiggs, Ethics Trainer.
  - 1.3. 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 10, 2025.

3. *Monthly Report of the Office of the Inspector General.*
  - 3.1. The board accepted Mr. Michel's monthly report (attached).
  - 3.2. The board declined to receive an oral report this month.
4. *Monthly Report of the Office of Independent Police Monitor.*
  - 4.1. The board accepted Ms. Cziment's monthly report (attached).
  - 4.2. The board declined to receive an oral report this month.
5. *Monthly Report of the Ethics Trainer*
  - 5.1. The board accepted Mr. Stiggs's monthly report (attached).
  - 5.2. The board declined to receive an oral report this month.
6. *Report of the Executive Administrator and General Counsel.*
  - 6.1. The board accepted Mr. Ciolino's monthly report (attached).
  - 6.2. The board declined to receive an oral report this month.
7. *Discussion and Vote on Reappointment of Inspector General Ed Michel*
  - 7.1. Ed Michel presented an overview of his office's work since his appointment, commencing at 3:32.
  - 7.2. Mr. Michel thanked his family and team for their support and assistance.
  - 7.3. Mr. Michel highlighted the work of his office in combatting fraud, waste, and abuse in city government. He quoted and referenced his most recent annual report, which was made public today. That report speaks for itself and is attached to these minutes.
  - 7.4. Mr. Michel's remarks concluded at 3:46.
  - 7.5. Public comments, which commenced at 3:47., were as follows:
    - 7.5.1. Comments received by email (attached to these minutes):
      - 7.5.1.1.Laura Rodrigue (in support of Mr. Michel's reappointment)
      - 7.5.1.2.Belden Batiste (in opposition to Mr. Michel's reappointment)
      - 7.5.1.3.Jim Cook (in support of Mr. Michel's reappointment)
      - 7.5.1.4.Karl Fasold (in support of Mr. Michel's reappointment)

- 7.5.1.5.Rita Glavin (in support of Mr. Michel's reappointment)
- 7.5.1.6.Michael Hecht (in support of Mr. Michel's reappointment)
- 7.5.1.7.Terry Mills (in support of Mr. Michel's reappointment)
- 7.5.2. Michael Cowan (in support of Mr. Michel's reappointment)
- 7.5.3. Rafael Goyeneche (in support of Mr. Michel's reappointment)
- 7.5.4. Patrice Rose (in support of Mr. Michel's reappointment)
- 7.5.5. Alison Broyles (in support of Mr. Michel's reappointment)
- 7.5.6. Charlotte Horne (in support of Mr. Michel's reappointment)
- 7.5.7. Bobbie Jones (in support of Mr. Michel's reappointment)
- 7.5.8. Rodney Black (in support of Mr. Michel's reappointment)
- 7.5.9. Heather Browning (in support of Mr. Michel's reappointment)
- 7.5.10. Sarah Lewis (in support of Mr. Michel's reappointment)
- 7.5.11. Amanda Barry (in support of Mr. Michel's reappointment)
- 7.5.12. Jessica Henschen (in support of Mr. Michel's reappointment)
- 7.5.13. Michael Laughlin (in support of Mr. Michel's reappointment)
- 7.5.14. Alicia Plummer (in opposition to Mr. Michel's reappointment)
- 7.5.15. Edward Parker (in opposition to Mr. Michel's reappointment)
- 7.5.16. Belden Batiste (in opposition to Mr. Michel's reappointment)
- 7.5.17. George Mahdi submitted a comment form, but declined the opportunity to speak (the comment form was in opposition to Mr. Michel's reappointment)
- 7.5.18. Dierdre Lewis (in opposition to Mr. Michel's reappointment)
- 7.5.19. Sean Beavers (in support of Mr. Michel's reappointment)
- 7.5.20. Annette Cranford-Hamilton (in opposition to Mr. Michel's reappointment)
- 7.5.21. Mr. Ciolino noted that confidential ERB Complaint 2025-01, which was submitted by a former subject of an OIG investigation, is negative. That

complaint was forwarded to each board member by email a few days ago for consideration before this reappointment meeting.

7.5.22. Public comments concluded at 4:43.

- 7.6. Ms. Sentino asked about the status of the public records requests made by Mr. Batiste. Mr. Michel of the OIG reported on the response by the OIG.
- 7.7. Ms. Richardson asked the OIG employees whether Mr. Michel asked them to speak. They responded that he informed them of the meeting but did not ask them to speak. Other employees noted that they have civil service protections.
- 7.8. Ms. Doucette addressed Mr. Batiste. She asked whether there were other employees at the OIG who were dissatisfied with Mr. Michel. He responded that there were, but that he would not name them. He reported that he represents the whole community including those workers.
- 7.9. Ms. Callia noted that the complaints brought to the board were thoroughly investigated over the course of more than a year. The board was not able to get proof of the misconduct alleged today. The board spent a significant amount of money to investigate the allegations.
- 7.10. Ms. Callia moved to reappoint Mr. Michel as inspector general to a second four-year term.
- 7.11. Ms. Doucette seconded the motion.
- 7.12. Ms. Sentino commented that the comments today were comments about the same alleged misconduct that the board investigated in depth. She is voting today on Mr. Michel's performance as IG. She is not voting today on personal matters. She is voting on Mr. Michel's production.
- 7.13. The board voted unanimously to reappoint Mr. Michel to another four-year term.

8. *Executive Session*

- 8.1. After a motion, duly seconded, the board voted unanimously at 5:04 p.m. to go into executive session at 5:04 p.m. pursuant to Louisiana Revised Statutes section 42:17(A)(4) to discuss investigative proceedings regarding allegations of misconduct, namely, ERB Complaint No. 2025-01.
- 8.2. After a motion, duly seconded, the board voted unanimously to return to general session at 5:14 p.m.

9. *Resolution of Complaint 2025-01*

- 9.1. After a motion, duly seconded, the board voted unanimously to dismiss ERB Complaint 2025-01. The board dismissed the complaint for failure to allege a

prima facie violation of the City of New Orleans Code of Governmental Ethics. In addition, the board does not have noted that it lacks jurisdiction to grant the relief that the complainant requests requested.

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 5:15 p.m.

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