

MILWAUKEE COUNTY ETHICS BOARD

Tuesday, August 27, 2013 Ethics Board Meeting Minutes

Call to order

Chairman David B. Carr called to order a meeting of the Ethics Board at 2:11 PM on August 27, 2013 in Room 203-R of the Milwaukee County Courthouse.

1.0 Roll call

The Ethics Board Executive Director, Veronica W. Robinson, conducted a roll call. The following Board Members were present: Chairman David B. Carr, Vice Chairman Henry Hamilton III, Christian B. Flores, Marcia F. Drame, and Reverend Gary B. Manning. Carol Wichmann was excused.

2.0 Approval of the Minutes of the February 12, 2013 and March 27, 2013 Meeting

Amendment requested by Mr. Hamilton to correct the February 12, 2013 minutes to reflect that Mr. Carr nominated Mr. Hamilton as Vice Chair. Mr. Manning moved, Ms. Drame seconded, and the Board voted 5-0 to approve the minutes of the February 12, 2013 and the March 27, 2013 Ethics Board meetings.

3.0 Report of the Ethics Board's Executive Director.

- 3.1 The Ethics Board's Executive Director, Veronica W. Robinson advised the Board that an inquiry was made regarding what determines who is required to complete an SEI form. The Ethics Board's Executive Director, Veronica W. Robinson, prepared a draft memo that would answer the inquiry. The memo cites relevant provisions of the Ethics Code and explains how the online SEI filing will aid in allowing individuals to identify that all appropriate filers are included.
- 3.2 Informational review regarding the status of the vacancy caused by the end of the term of the Board President David B. Carr on February 28, 2013. No further information is available at this time.
- 3.3 Informational review of proposal to amend the Ethics Code to include a provision to that clarifies the use of County funds to pay for public service announcements and video or air time. No further information is available at this time.

- 3.4 There are no late SEI filers as of August 27, 2013. The next quarterly SEI forms will be due on October 30, 2013 for the period of July 1, 2013 through September 30, 2013. No action taken by the Ethics Board.
- 3.5 Informational review regarding the Ethics Board office procedure to allow the review of a Statement of Economic Interests form after noticing the filer. Currently, the office procedure has been to allow review of the record and notice afterwards. No action taken by the Ethics Board.
- 3.6 Update report on SEI Online Filing system. Online pilot testing is complete. The office of the Ethics Board is expecting to begin using the system for the 3rd quarter reporting. No action taken by the Ethics Board.
- 3.7 The Ethics Board's Executive Director, Veronica W. Robinson requested clarification from the Ethics Board as to which recommendations that were discussed at the February 12, 2013 meeting (*minutes item 6.2 Statement of Economic Interest – Late or Non-Compliant Filers*) the Ethics Board wants to use and should Ms. Robinson work with Corporation Counsel or the Board's outside counsel.
- 3.8 The Ethics Board's Executive Director, Veronica W. Robinson requested to seek the input of Audit on the resolution of late or non-compliant filers. A provision in the Ethics code, 9.03(4)(c), is not lawful. The Ethics Board should be amended to remove this provision and replace with something that is enforceable.
- 3.9 The Ethics Board's Executive Director, Veronica W. Robinson requested to lay over the gathering of examples for the Board to review (*February 12, 2013 meeting minutes, item 6.3, SEI Form Section Questions*) until January 2014. No action taken by the Ethics Board.

4.0 First and Second Quarter Lobbying Reports Received from County Clerk Joseph J. Czarnezki

This item was informational only. The Board made no comments and no action was taken by the Board.

5.0 Report of the Chairman

- a. Confidential Advisories, if any
- b. Confidential Verified Complaints & Investigation Requests, if any

The Ethics Board may adjourn into closed session under the provisions of Wisconsin Statutes, Section 19.85(1)(a), (f), (g) for the purpose of the Ethics Board deliberating concerning a case which was the subject of any judicial or quasi-judicial trial or hearing before the Ethics Board;

considering financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems or the investigation of charges against specific persons except where par. 19.85(1)(b) applies which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or data, or involved in such problems or investigations; and for the purpose of conferring with legal counsel for the Ethics Board who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved.

At the conclusion of the closed session, the Board may reconvene in open session to take whatever action(s) it may deem necessary.

6.0 Adjournment

Mr. Manning then moved, Mr. Flores seconded and the Board adjourned the meeting at 4:22 PM

Minutes submitted by: Charmaine Gee, Administrative Assistant