

MILWAUKEE COUNTY ETHICS BOARD

Thursday, February 3, 2022, Ethics Board Meeting Minutes

1.0 Call to Order and Roll Call

Board Chair Christopher Meuler called to order a meeting of the Ethics Board at 3:03 p.m. on February 3, 2022. The meeting was held telephonically.

The Ethics Board Executive Director, Adam Gilmore, conducted a roll call. The following Board Members were present: Christopher Meuler, Christine Hansen, Rachel Yates, Clarence Nicholas, Dana Guthrie, and Richard Donner.

2.0 Approval of the Minutes for the Meeting of December 9, 2021

Mr. Nicholas moved, Ms. Yates seconded, and the Board voted 6-0, to approve the minutes from the meeting of December 9, 2021.

3.0 Reconfirmation of Board Member Christopher Meuler

Mr. Gilmore informed the Board that Mr. Meuler has been re-nominated to the Ethics Board by the County Executive. The County Board of Supervisors will be confirming Mr. Meuler's nomination at the end of March 2022. Mr. Meuler will serve on the Board de facto until his reappointment is confirmed.

4.0 Election of Officers

Mr. Meuler moved, Mr. Nicholas seconded, to elect Christine Hansen as the vice chair of the Ethics Board. The Board voted (5-0), with Ms. Hansen abstaining.

Ms. Hansen moved, Mr. Nicholas seconded, to elect Christopher Meuler as chair of the Ethics Board. The Board voted (5-0), with Mr. Meuler abstaining.

5.0 Report of the Executive Director

Adam Gilmore, Executive Director, and the Board discussed the 2021 4th Quarter Lobbying Report from the Office of the County Clerk, the completion of the digital SEI project, the 2022 annual Statement of Economic Interests drive, and the 2021 annual report.

5.1 2021 4th Quarter Lobbying Report from County Clerk, George Christenson

This item was informational only. There was no action taken by the Board.

5.2 Completion of the Digital SEI Project

Mr. Gilmore informed the Board that implementation of the digital SEI portal has been completed with the help of Department of Administrative Services (DAS), Information Management Services Division (IMSD) and the vendor Granicus. Filers and requestors will now use MyCounty Portal to file their SEIs and make an open records request to view them.

The next phase will see the Ethics Board's office work with Human Resources to strategically ensure that new employees coming into filing positions are compliant and file within the first thirty (30) days of employment.

5.3 2022 Annual Statement of Economic Interests Drive

Mr. Gilmore informed the Board that the 2022 annual Statement of Economic Interest drive had been completed. There was a decrease in the number filed by the deadline, 89%, from the past few years.

5.4 2021 Annual Report

Mr. Gilmore informed the Board that the draft 2021 Annual Report had been circulated to Board Members for review. After the report is finalized, it will go to the County Board to be placed on file.

6.0 Closed Session

At 3:23 p.m., Ms. Hansen moved, Ms. Yates seconded, and the Board voted 6-0 to go into closed session.

19.85 (1) (g) The Board may confer with legal counsel concerning litigation strategy.

19.85(1) (h) The Board's deliberations on requests for advice under the ethics code shall be in closed session.

At 4:47 p.m., after discussion in closed session, Mr. Nicholas moved, Ms. Hansen seconded, and the Board voted 6-0 to reconvene in open session.

7.0 Adjournment

Mr. Nicholas moved, Ms. Yates seconded, and the Board voted 6-0 to adjourn the meeting at 4:51 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Alisha Terry
Administrative Assistant, Ethics Board