

CITY OF JACKSONVILLE

JOSEPH ROGAN
CHAIR



ELLEN SCHMITT
VICE CHAIR

IMANI A. BOYKIN
GEORGE CANDLER
CARLTON DEVOOGHT
J.J. DIXON

DARCY GALNOR
LATONYA LIPSCOMB SMITH
MARY BLAND LOVE

**ETHICS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

Wednesday, September 30, 2020

Zoom

No Physical Location

The meeting was called to order by Joseph Rogan, Chair of the Ethics Commission, at 4:02 p.m. A quorum was present.

Commission Attendees: Joseph Rogan, LaTonya Lipscomb Smith, Mary Bland Love, Ellen Schmitt, Dr. George Candler, Carlton DeVooght and Darcy Galnor. J.J. Dixon and Imani A. Boykin joined the meeting after it began. Other attendees: Carla Miller, Director, Office of Ethics, Compliance and Oversight (“OECO”); Kirby Oberdorfer, Deputy Director, OECO; Cherry Shaw Pollock, Assistant General Counsel, Office of General Counsel (“OGC”); and Sandy Homrighouse, Executive Assistant, OECO.

Public in Attendance: None.

The meeting began with Mr. Rogan leading the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance and Ms. Miller shared the Ethics Thought.

Minutes Approval:

January 22, 2020 Ethics Commission Meeting minutes: Mr. DeVooght made a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Schmitt seconded the motion. There being no discussion, the motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously with a vote of 7-0.

February 10, 2020 Ethics Commission Open Government Committee Meeting minutes: Ms. Smith made a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Galnor seconded the motion. There being no discussion, the motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously with a vote of 7-0.

February 25, 2020 Ethics Commission Legislative Committee Meeting minutes: Ms. Love made a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Schmitt seconded the motion. There being no discussion, the motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously with a vote of 8-0.

Staff Reports:

OECO: Ms. Miller stated she will send a detailed staff report to the Ethics Commission. The OECO staff is in the process of conducting ethics training for 200 JEA middle management personnel. The OECO staff trained the JTA Board of Directors as well as conducting other ethics training citywide. There is 100% compliance with financial disclosures. Ms. Oberdorfer attended a Harvard leadership webinar. Ms. Miller complimented Ms. Oberdorfer on the conflict opinions she has been working on.

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OGC: Ms. Pollock stated OGC remains busy throughout the year.

Committee Report:

Complaints Committee Report: Ms. Schmitt reported the Complaints Committee handled 14 complaints. 8 complaints were dismissed, 4 complaints are open, 1 was returned and 1 was referred.

New Business:

City Council Action on Ethics Commission Budget: Ms. Miller reported the budget process went smoothly, The Ethics Office budget was increased roughly \$30,000 and members of the Budget Committee stated the Ethics Office is the best return on investment in the City. Andrea Myers' position was changed from part-time to full-time.

Extension of Ethics Director Contract: Ms. Miller's contract expires December 6, 2020 and she is willing to serve another term. Mr. Rogan stated he is highly supportive of her work. Dr. Candler made a motion to approve Ms. Miller's hourly salary of \$93 hour for the next fiscal year. Ms. Smith seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously with a vote of 9-0.

There was next a discussion of an extension of Ms. Miller's contract for 3 years. A draft resolution was passed out to the Commission for discussion. Mr. Devoight made a motion to approve the Resolution with a change to reflect the accurate date in Item #4. Dr. Candler seconded the motion with the change. There being no further discussion, the motion with the date change passed unanimously with a vote of 9-0.

Dr. Candler made a motion to authorize the Chair to be able to execute any agreements or amendments to the Resolution that are needed to effectuate the intent of the Commission. Ms. Smith seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously with a vote of 9-0.

Terms of Members: Ms. Miller notified the Ethics Commission members that Dr. Candler's term limit is up. City Council President Tommy Hazouri has nominated Attorney Kirsten Doolittle. Ms. Galnor's first term is up and she is interested in serving another term. Ms. Schmitt's first full term is up and she is also interested in serving another term. Ms. Miller stated the Ethics Commission can waive the Nominating Committee rule on timing for re-appointments. Dr. Candler made a motion to waive Internal Operating Rule 7. Ms. Boykin seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously 9-0.

Ms. Boykin made a motion to re-appoint Ms. Schmitt to a second term. Ms. Smith seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously 9-0. Mr. Rogan asked Ms. Pollock to prepare legislation for City Council.

Election of Officers: Ms. Miller stated Ms. Schmitt was interested in the Chair position. Mr. Rogan asked if there were any other Ethics Commission members interested in the position of Chair. There was none. Ms. Galnor made a motion to approve Ms. Schmitt as Chair. Ms. Boykin seconded the motion. There being no discussion, the motion passed unanimously 9-0.

Mr. Rogan asked if there were any Ethics Commission members interested in the position of Vice Chair. Ms. Galnor is taking it under consideration. Mr. Rogan asked Ms. Galnor to let Ms. Miller know if she is interested.

Schedule of Ethics Commission Meetings: Mr. Rogan stated the Ethics Commission is required to meet quarterly. No specific date has been decided yet.

Public Comment:

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Mr. Rogan requested public comment. None was given.

Announcements: None.

Adjourn: There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 5:16 p.m.

Sandy Homrighouse, Executive Assistant, OECO

Date of Approval

This is a summary of the meeting and not a verbatim transcription. A recording of these proceedings is available at <http://www.coj.net/departments/ethics-office/notices.-agendas-minutes> .