

**Clayton County Board of Ethics (CCBOE)**  
**Minutes of the April 12, 2021, 6:30 PM Business Meeting (via Zoom)**  
Meeting Facilitator: Walter Nix

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mr. Nix called the meeting to order at 6:31 PM. Due to the ongoing public health crisis and the Governor's Executive Orders, this meeting was held pursuant to OCGA Sec. 50-14-1 (g). Some board members participated via Zoom. Board members Walter Nix and Karen Sullivan participated on-site.

**ROLL CALL:** Present: CCBOE members Walter Nix (Chair), Samuel Dixon, Tiffany Jones, Shonterria Martin-Stokes, Karen Sullivan, and Marla Thompson-Kendall; and legal counsel Jim Elliott. Ryan Shaw of Clayton County Human Resources had previously notified the Board that he was unable to attend the meeting.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:** The minutes of the March 8, 2021 business meeting were read.

**Motion** (Thompson-Kendall/Dixon): To approve the minutes as written.

**Approved**

The Board assented to a change requested by Mr. Nix in the order of the published Agenda.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** Mr. Nix updated the Ethics Board on its resolution dated January 11, 2021, which strongly urges the Board of Commissioners to revoke Ordinance 2019-111. Mr. Nix confirmed that Chairman Turner had received the resolution, which to date has not been addressed at a Commissioners' regular business meeting pending the possible introduction of a related State measure during the 2021 Legislative Session. Mr. Nix was uncertain if the resolution had reached all of the Commissioners. Mr. Elliott confirmed that the resolution became a matter of public record when the Ethics Board approved it, and observed that an individual could question the Board of Commissioners about it at a regular business meeting. Mr. Nix said he would seek to ascertain if all of the Commissioners have received the resolution.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Mickey Garber, of unincorporated Rex, was in attendance and was invited by Mr. Nix to comment; Mr. Garber replied that he had no comment.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Mr. Nix announced that the next CCBOE meeting will take place on Monday, May 10, 2021 at 6:30 PM.

**MOTION** (Sullivan/Thompson-Kendall): That the Board enter into Executive Session for an attorney/client privileged discussion of a pending complaint before the Board.

**Approved** at 6:42 PM.

The Board's business meeting resumed at 7:13 PM.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Mr. Elliott drew the Board's attention to the final sentence of the Ethics Code/Ordinance 2014-288, Sec. 70-79, paragraph (f), Terms of Office: "The member elected as Chair of the Board will serve only one year as such regardless what length term this individual is serving." He acknowledged that it could be understood in more than one way and sought the Board's views on this. Mr. Dixon recollected that this sentence had been addressed by the Board some years ago, when the Board concluded that the Chair must be elected each year, but that a current or past chair who remains a member of the Board could be re-elected as Chair, and

could serve in consecutive years. Ms. Martin-Stokes concurred with this recollection, stating her belief that the people who drafted the Ethics Code language had not intended the most restrictive reading of the final sentence, i.e., that each elected Chair must never have served as Chair before, and could be not re-elected as Chair.

**Motion** (Sullivan/Thompson-Kendall): That the meeting be adjourned.

**Approved**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Samuel Dixon  
Secretary