

Clayton County Board of Ethics (CCBOE)
Minutes of the March 8, 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, as well as County Board of Commissioners HR Researcher/Trainer Ryan Shaw, participated on-site.

ROLL CALL: Present: CCBOE members Walter Nix (Chair), Samuel Dixon, Tiffany Jones, Shonterria Martin-Stokes, Karen Sullivan, and Marla Thompson-Kendall; Mr. Shaw; and legal counsel Jim Elliott.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: The minutes of the February 8, 2021 business meeting were read, with amendments proposed by Mr. Dixon and Ms. Sullivan.

Motion (Thompson-Kendall/Sullivan): To approve the minutes as amended.

Approved

NEW BUSINESS: Mr. Nix sought comment from the Board on the *Clayton News-Daily* article dated March 6, 2021, "No movement on Board of Commissioners code of conduct resolution," a link to which he had circulated via email on March 7 to Board members and Mr. Elliott. The link included the related Ordinance No. 2021-51. The article reported that three Commissioners voted to remove the code of conduct from the Board of Commissioners' March 2 meeting agenda at the request of Commissioner Gail Hambrick. Mr. Nix stated that more than two months had passed since the ordinance was expected to be addressed at the Board of Commissioners' January 19, 2021 regular business meeting. Questions and discussion ensued. Mr. Elliott advised that such a code of conduct would address the interests of Clayton County citizens, and that a recommendation made by the Board of Ethics to the Commissioners on a Commissioners' code of conduct would fall within the scope of County's Code of Ethics (Ordinance No. 2014-288).

Motion (Dixon/Thompson-Kendall): That Mr. Elliott draft, for review by Ethics Board members, a short Board of Ethics resolution that endorses Ordinance No. 2021-51 to the Board of Commissioners and recommends that the Board of Commissioners take action on it.

Approved

PENDING BUSINESS: Mr. Elliot had circulated via email his draft of the resolution regarding Ordinance No. 2019-111 per action taken by the Board of Ethics at its January 11, 2021 meeting, to which Board members had submitted comments to Mr. Elliott.

Motion (Dixon/Martin-Stokes): That Mr. Elliott read the changes he made to his draft arising from Board members' comments.

Approved

Mr. Elliott complied with the approved motion. Discussion followed.

Motion (Dixon/Thompson-Kendall): That Mr. Elliott read the entirety of the draft with all changes.

Approved

-continued-

Mr. Elliott complied with the approved motion.

Motion (Dixon/Sullivan): That the revised draft with final changes suggested by Ms. Sullivan to correct a spelling and the year of the January meeting be accepted, and that the resolution with date January 11, 2021 be forwarded to the Board of Commissioners.

Approved

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mickey Garber, of unincorporated Rex, requested a copy of the final resolution language regarding Ordinance No. 2091-111 as approved by the Board of Ethics. Mr. Nix granted his request.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Mr. Nix announced that the next CCBOE meeting will take place on Monday, April 12, 2021 at 6:30 PM.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None.

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

Approved

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Samuel Dixon
Secretary