

BOARD OF ETHICS

Open Session Minutes

July 22, 2010 - 3:10 p.m.
740 North Sedgwick, Suite 500

Board Members Present

Michael F. Quirk
Thomas McCarthy
Lisa M. Taylor
John L. Wilhelm, M.D.

Miguel A. Ruiz, Chair (Absent)

Staff Present

Steven I. Berlin, Executive Director
Richard J. Superfine, Legal Counsel
Courtney L.D. Kimble, Attorney/Investigator
Pully Casillas, Staff Assistant

After a quorum of Board members (Miguel A. Ruiz, absent) assembled, the members present elected Michael Quirk to act as Chair *Pro Tem* for the July meeting of the Board of Ethics.

I. Approval of Minutes

The Board VOTED 4-0 (Miguel A. Ruiz, absent) to approve the Open Session Minutes of the June 16, 2010 meeting.

II. Chair's Report

None.

III. Executive Director's Report

A. Education—Classes

Since the last Board meeting, there haven't been any regularly scheduled classes, as there has been a glitch in the system. We are working with DOIT to resolve the glitch and schedule approximately 48 people into 2 classes in August.

On June 25, staff presented the second of 4 classes to about 225 Department of Aviation contractors at O'Hare, at the request of the Commissioner of Aviation.

On July 13, staff presented a one hour session to the 9 Commissioners of the Wicker Park SSA, and 3 employees of its Service Provider, at the request of the Chair of that Commission.

B. Education–Mandatory Annual Ethics Education

I'm pleased to announce that, to date, we are at 60% compliance City-wide with the 2010 all-employee online training: 33,902 scheduled, 20,365 completions.

I'm also pleased to announce that during the week of June 28, we posted both the 2010 aldermanic training and the 2010-2011 lobbyist ethics training programs on line. We were able to post the lobbyist training at nominal cost to the City due to the truly outstanding assistance and cooperation we received from 3 professionals at the Chicago Police Department, as we are using CPD's e-learning program and associated website. A letter of thanks was sent to the Superintendent of Police and the Chief of Staff (and the 3 Police officers) in appreciation of this assistance.

At this time, no aldermen have yet completed their program, and 65 lobbyists have completed theirs.

C. Statements of Financial Interests

To date, there remain 50 employees and 12 appointed officials who have yet to file their 2010 forms. We are at 99% compliance. There will be more on these individuals in closed session.

To date in 2010, the office has collected \$11,100 in late filing fees.

Staff is working diligently on the on-line filing, retrieval, and data processing system for Statements of Financial Interests. The project is now well into the design phase.

D. Lobbyist Registration

There are currently **539** lobbyists that have registered with the City for this year. To date, **\$254,475.00** in lobbyist registration fees have been deposited with the Department of Revenue.

July 20 was the deadline for lobbyists to file their semi-annual activity reports. To date, we have received approximately 85% of these reports. In accordance with the Ordinance, staff will send out any and all required delinquency notices to lobbyists.

E. Illinois Freedom of Information Act

Since the last regularly scheduled Board meeting, the office has received 2 new requests under the Freedom of Information Act, comprising, 1 request for historic registered lobbyist lists and 1 request for 1 lobbyist's filings for 2006, resulting in production of all filed records and copying of 9 of those records (including pages from them).

F. 2011 Budget

We are in the process of preparing the agency's 2011 budget, as with our Preliminary Request, this submission will request 3 new/restored attorney positions: 2 Deputies and 1 Investigator/Attorney, and will represent an increase in our appropriation of about 68% from 2010.

G. New Publication

Staff is in the process of revising its brochures for candidates and elected officials, in preparation for upcoming municipal elections. As in past years, we will prepare packets to be sent to the Chicago Board of Election Commissioners for distribution, and these new brochures will be included in these packets, along with instructions on filing a Statement of Financial Interests.

IV. Old Business

None.

V. New Business

None.

The Board VOTED 4-0 (Miguel A. Ruiz, absent) to adjourn into Executive Session at 3:20 p.m. to review matters concerning the conduct of employees and officials of the City that could result in their discipline or dismissal, to review questions concerning matters of professional ethics and performance, to review matters in which litigation is ongoing, and/or to review matters in which the Board finds that litigation against or affecting the Board is probable or imminent.