

CITY OF DENTON

BOARD OF ETHICS MEETING MINUTES

August 29, 2019

After determining that a quorum was present, a meeting of the Board of Ethics of the City of Denton, Texas convened regular meeting on Thursday August 29, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. in the City Hall Work Session Room, 215 E. McKinney Street, Denton, Texas.

PRESENT: Lara Tomlin Chair; and Board Members Ronnie Mohair, Charla Bradshaw, Deborah Cosimo, Rob Rayner, Robert Swanbeck and Karen McDaniels

ABSENT: Ron Johnson (Excused), Don Cartwright (Unexcused), David Zoltner (Unexcused)

ALSO PRESENT: Aaron Leal, City Attorney; Umesh Dalal, City Auditor; Betsy Snodgrass, Recording Secretary

Chair Tomlin opened the meeting at 5:34 p.m.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:

- A. BOE 19-036: Consider approval of the minutes for July 22, 2019 and August 15, 2019

After discussion, Board Member Rayner motioned, and Board Member Bradshaw seconded to approve the July 22, 2019 minutes as written. Motion carried unanimously.

After discussion, Board Member McDaniels motioned, and Board Member Rayner seconded to approve the August 15, 2019 minutes as written. Motion carried unanimously.

- B. BOE19-037: Hold a discussion on updates to the current membership of the Ethics Board.

Chair Tomlin introduced new alternate Member Robert Swanbeck, and all Board Members welcomed him to the Board of Ethics.

- C. BOE 19-038: Receive nominations and hold an election of a Vice-Chairperson for the Board of Ethics of the City of Denton.

Board Member McDaniels nominated Board Member Bradshaw to be appointed Vice Chair of the Board. Motion carried unanimously to approve Member Bradshaw as Vice Chair.

- D. BOE 19-039: Receive a report, hold a discussion, and take necessary action to consider the addition of Board Member email addresses and pictures to the Board of Ethics webpage.

All Board Members agreed that they did not want pictures or email addresses published on the Board of Ethics webpage. They noted that correspondence can be directed through the contact information listed on the City Auditor's webpage.

- E. BOE 19-040: Receive a report, hold a discussion regarding the Board of Ethics public meeting video recording.

City Auditor Umesh Dalal reported that the City Council has agreed to video record the Board of Ethics meetings in the City Hall Work Session Room beginning October 1, 2019. The Ethics Board members agreed to discuss and add an action item to the September 11, 2019 meeting regarding which Board of Ethics meetings they would like video recorded.

- F. BOE 19-041: Receive a report, hold a discussion, take necessary action confirming the recommended changes to Ordinance 18-757 as outlined in the Board of Ethics Letter of Recommendations dated July 23, 2019, and provide staff with direction regarding ordinance amendment language.

Chair Tomlin began the discussion regarding the four recommendations outlined in the July 23, 2019 Letter of Recommendations and asked for any Board comments or changes. Board Member McDaniels motioned and Board Member Mohair seconded the motion to include the first three items of the letter but delete the whistle blower item until further discussion on the next agenda item BOE19-042. The motion passed unanimously.

- G. BOE 19-042: Receive a report and hold a discussion regarding additional potential recommendations to the City Council for amendments to the Ethics Ordinance, pursuant to Denton Ethics Ordinance, Division 3, Section 2-277 (i), and take necessary action to approve recommended changes.

Initial discussion referred back to the whistle blower item in the July 23, 2019 Letter of Recommendations. Following discussion, Board agreed to add a proposed revision under 2-279 (I) titled "Retaliation Prohibited" to the Letter of Recommendations for presentation to the City Council. Board Member Bradshaw motioned, and Board Member Rayner seconded to approve this addition. Motion passed unanimously.

Chair Tomlin called for a recess 6:25 PM; the meeting reconvened at 6:30 PM.

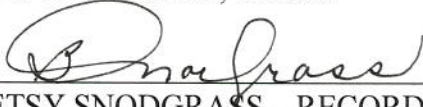
Discussion followed on the topic of conflict of interest. City Attorney Leal detailed the history of how the current Ethics Ordinance definition of conflict of interest was initially

developed. As no decisions on conflict of interest were reached, the Board agreed to discuss additional revisions of the Ethics Code at the September 11, 2019 meeting to include conflict of interest and reconsideration.

Meeting adjourned at 8:03 PM



LARA TOMLIN
CHAIR – BOARD OF ETHICS
CITY OF DENTON, TEXAS



BETSY SNODGRASS – RECORDING SECRETARY

MINUTES APPROVED ON 9-11-19