



# **MINUTES OF THE ETHICS BOARD**

**THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 2022, 5:00 PM**  
**Virtual Meeting. Public may join via Zoom.**

## **A. ZOOM MEETING INSTRUCTIONS.**

I. This item contains documents which provide call in information and instructions for the Zoom meeting.

## **B. ROLL CALL.**

I. William Vande Castle, Chair; Aaron Weinschenk, Vice Chair; Alder Bill Galvin; Cheryl Renier-Wigg; Said Hassan; Janet Hathaway

Present: Chair William VandeCastle, Vice Chair Aaron Weinschenk, Alder Bill Galvin, Cheryl Renier-Wigg, Janet Hathaway.

## **C. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.**

I. Approval of the Agenda for the April 28, 2022 Ethics Board meeting

Moved by Ald. Bill Galvin, seconded by Staff Cheryl Renier-Wigg to approve the agenda.

Motion Passed.

Yes- Bill Galvin, William VandeCastle, Cheryl Renier-Wigg, Aaron Weinschenk, Janet Hathaway, No-None, Abstain- None.

## **D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.**

I. Approval of the Minutes from the February 24, 2022 Ethics Board meeting

Moved by Ald. Bill Galvin, seconded by Aaron Weinschenk to approve the minutes from February 24, 2022.

Motion Passed.

Yes- Bill Galvin, William VandeCastle, Cheryl Renier-Wigg, Aaron Weinschenk, Janet Hathaway, No-None, Abstain- None.

## **E. REGULAR BUSINESS.**

### **1. Deliberation with possible action on the Ethics Complaint filed by Kimber Rollin against Mayor Eric Genrich under the City of Green Bay Code of Conduct for Elected Officials**

The Board may convene in closed session pursuant to Section 19.85(1)(a), Wis. Stats., for purposes of deliberating concerning a case which was the subject of any judicial or quasi-judicial trial or hearing before that governmental body. The Board will thereafter reconvene in open session pursuant to Section 19.85(2), Wis. Stats., to take action on items discussed in closed session, if appropriate, and to consider the remainder of the agenda.

Moved by Aaron Weinschenk, seconded by Board Member William VandeCastle to enter closed session.

Motion Passed.

Yes- Bill Galvin, William VandeCastle, Cheryl Renier-Wigg, Aaron Weinschenk, Janet Hathaway, No-None, Abstain- None.

Moved by Staff Cheryl Renier-Wigg, seconded by Board Member William VandeCastle to return to regular session.

Motion Passed.

Yes- Bill Galvin, William VandeCastle, Cheryl Renier-Wigg, Aaron Weinschenk, Janet Hathaway, No-None, Abstain- None.

Moved by Aaron Weinschenk, seconded by Board Member William VandeCastle to approve Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Decision.

Motion Passed.

Yes- Bill Galvin, William VandeCastle, Cheryl Renier-Wigg, Aaron Weinschenk, Janet Hathaway, No-None, Abstain- None.

### **2. Schedule next Board meeting for discussion of revised ethics ordinance**

Next Ethics Board meeting will be May 12, 2022 to discuss revised ethics code

## **F. ADJOURNMENT.**

Moved by Aaron Weinschenk, seconded by Staff Cheryl Renier-Wigg to adjourn.

Motion Passed.

Yes- Bill Galvin, William VandeCastle, Cheryl Renier-Wigg, Aaron Weinschenk, Janet Hathaway, No-None, Abstain- None.

## **VERBATIM MINUTES**

- Go ahead.

- All right, so we're ready to start?

- Hmm.

- Do we have a quorum?

- Yes.

- All right, very good. So, we are started, this is the city of Green Bay Ethics Board meeting for Thursday, April 28th, 2022. This meeting is being conducted via Zoom, and we have an agenda. We've got roll call electronically. So, we'll move into first action item here, which is approval of the agenda. You all would've received that in your packet. Are there any additions or modifications to the agenda?

- No.

- Hearing none, is there a motion to approve?

- No, move.

- Is there a second?

- Second.

- We have a motion and a second to approve the agenda for the April 28th, 2022 meeting of the City of Green Bay Ethics Board all in favor, signify by saying aye.

- [Panel] Aye.

- Aye.

- Any oppose? Hearing none, motion carries. Item D, approval of minutes from the February 24th, 2022 Ethics Board meeting. That was also in your packet. Are there any additions or corrections to those minutes? Good, hearing none, I forgot, is there a motion to approve?

- Motion to approve.

- Is there a second? All right, you have a motion and a second. And I'd just like to say, having read through those minutes, Aaron, nice job conducting that meeting. That was a complicated set of procedural things to go through and it was done very well, nicely done, very good. All right, all in favor of approval of those minutes from February 24 signified by saying aye.

- [Panel] Aye.

- Any opposed? Motion carries. Item E. Excuse me. Deliberation of possible action on ethics complaint filed by Kimber Rollin against Mayor Eric Genrich under the City of Green Bay Code of Conduct for elected officials. So, we will be considering going into closed sessions, so, I will read that provision from the statute. It states the following, "The board may convene in closed session pursuant to section 19.85 .8. of the Wisconsin statutes for the purpose of deliberating concerning the case, which was the subject of any judicial or hearing before that governmental body. The board will thereafter reconvene an open session pursuant to 19. of the Wisconsin statutes to take action on any items discussed and close the session if appropriate and to consider the remainder of the agenda." And just before we take a vote, I'm going into closed session, I'd like to say that as chair, I think this meeting was scheduled sooner, I know attorney May was out of town for a while and then I ended up being out of the office for most of March and early April. So, this was as soon as we could get it available when have a quorum, so my apologies. So, we've a consideration to go into closed session is there a motion to go into closed

session?

- Motion.

- Alright, I'll make the second for that. And so to do that, we need a roll call vote. So , you wanna call the roll on that?

- You bet. Alder Galvin.

- Aye.

- VandeCastle.

- Aye.

- Miss Reiner-Wigg.

- Aye.

- Mr. Weinschenk.

- Aye.

- Ms. Hathaway.

- Yes, aye.

- That passes, it's five to zero.

- All right. So, as soon as we get everybody separated in their appropriate rooms, we'll go into closed session.

- Okay and I'm going to do breakout rooms this time, so that I don't have to leave my office 'cause I gotta keep running.

- Okay. Very good. We are coming out of closed session, is there a motion to return to open session. Cheryl. All right, you have a motion and I will make the second to come out of closed session. All in favor, signify by saying aye.

- [Panel] Aye.

- All right. Any opposed? Motion carries. We are back in open session. All right, for the record, we've been in closed session in a discussion. Is there a motion from the board with respect to the findings and conclusions of law and decision that was discussed with the changes?

- I'll make the motion.

- And I will second that motion. So, the motion on the floor is to approve the findings-

- Bill Lindsey?
- We're good, thank you. I'm just making sure it was a motion to approve.
- Yeah, motion to approve, yes. The findings of fact conclusions of law in decision of the Ethics Board in regard to Ms. Rowland's complaint against mayor Genrich with the changes that were discussed in closed session. So, we have a motion and a second, any discussion? Hearing none, all in favor of the motion signify by saying aye.
- [Panel] Aye.
- Any opposed? Hearing none, the motion carries. So, based on the discussion in closed session, we will be issuing a full set of findings of fact conclusions of law and a written decision regarding those findings and conclusions but the substance of that decision is that because the complaint was found to be deficient under the provisions of section 8 of the code of conduct for the city of Green Bay elected officials and because it alleges actions that are not encompassed by the code of conduct, that complaint is hereby dismissed. And again, the full findings of fact, be a document about four pages in length listing the findings and the conclusions of law that, that decision was based on, as soon as the revised draft that was discussed in closed session tonight is made available, it will be entered into the record and provided to all the parties. All right. Anything further on this issue from the board before we move on to item two and regular business? Hearing none. Okay, item two, schedule the next board meeting for discussion of revised ethics ordinance. Lindsey, is that something you wanna work out with the board as to when we could get together next or do you wanna set a date now?
- I would like us to or like you all to discuss a date that works. I wanted to do this while attorney May was here because he's been on outside counsel working on the revisions but we're very excited 'cause we're very close on presenting you with our ethics ordinance.
- Okay.
- And I will defer to attorney May but I think, relatively soon or relatively quick turnaround time is appropriate.
- Okay.
- As far as when we would be ready to bring this back. So, it's really going to depend on everyone's availability as far as that goes. We typically try for Thursday evenings at 5:00, if that continues to work for everyone.
- Yeah.
- Yeah, if we are gonna do that, I would suggest if it works in people's schedules, either May 12th or May 19th.
- The 19th doesn't work for me.
- What time are we thinking?

- At 5:00 again. Sorry, Alder, I couldn't hear you.
- I was just mumbling.
- Oh. You're allowed.
- Yeah, the 12th, is fine.
- 12th, works for me as well.
- And for me.
- Okay.
- Yep, 12th, is fine.
- Great, looks like we have a date.
- Fantastic.
- Lindsey, has this ordinance been drafted in a rough form already or is this like discussion starting from square one?
- No, it's been- Well, attorney May, do you wanna speak to it?
- Sure, it has been drafted. We've gone back and forth. I've had several consultations with the city attorney's office on the draft. And we would like to have to you hopefully, well, ahead of that meeting a copy of the draft and we're including some commentary on what is the change, if any, from the existing code? If there's a change, where did it come from? And why do we think it's important? And hopefully if you get it it'll give you some time to think about that and be ready to discuss it. I'm sure it'll take more than one meeting for the board to go through it and figure out where we go with it. But I think the attorneys are pretty confident that we're in a state where probably sometimes next week, we can get that out to you.
- Very good. That's something that we've been waiting for, for at least five years.
- Five.
- If not longer.
- I won't say anything about the liquor laws.
- It's next I promise.
- I hope I'm still here by then.
- I've said that to you, how many times now though?

- Yeah, I could have lost this time and then what would that have accomplished?
- Yeah, there you go, yeah.
- What was you asking about Alder Gavin?
- I asked to have the liquor laws revised.
- Oh my God.
- About five, six years ago.
- Yeah, that's a real, well, yeah. I won't comment.
- Yeah.
- Yeah. Okay, so we've got a date for the meeting. Anything more on that issue before we move to adjournment? No. Is there a motion to adjourn?
- Yes.
- Got a motion, is there a second?
- I'll second.
- All right, motion to adjourn is second. All in favor of adjournment, signify by saying aye.
- [Panel] Aye.
- Looks like the motion carries. Thank you all very much for your time tonight. And hopefully we will get a new updated current code of conduct here shortly. So, very good. Thank you all. Very good. Have a good night.
- [Panel] Goodnight.
- Thank you all, goodnight everyone.