

The Ethics Review Board
City of New Orleans

Tuesday, January 5, 2010
2:30 P.M.

Loyola University New Orleans, Danna Student Center
2nd Floor, Octavia I

Present: Rev. Cornelius Tilton, Vice Chair; Elizabeth Nalty, Secretary; Professor Kathryn Lorio; and Mrs. Leah Chase

Excused: Rev. Kevin Wildes, Chair; Dr. Beverly Favre

Guests: Steven Scheckman, General Counsel to ERB; Jill Poutré, Executive Director to ERB; and Edouard Quatrevaux, IG

Rev. Cornelius Tilton called the meeting to order at 2:35 P.M.

Leah Chase moved to approve the minutes from the November 3, 2009, and December 1, 2009, meetings. Elizabeth Nalty seconded, all were in favor – motion passed.

Steven Scheckman updated the Board on the COGEL conference that both he and Rev. Tilton attended in December. Scheckman stated that he found the information on ethics education most helpful and relevant for the ERB as developing an education program is a high priority. Rev. Tilton said the conference was extremely helpful and the Board should continue to budget for it.

Jill Poutré reiterated the need for the ERB to have its own office space and updated the Board on the negotiations for 2,161 square feet at \$14.75 per sq. ft. in 1340 Poydras Street. She requested permission to move forward with a lease agreement. Professor Kathryn Lorio moved to allow the ERB staff to proceed with a lease agreement for 1340 Poydras Street. Leah Chase seconded, all were in favor – motion passed.

Steven Scheckman discussed some of the legal issues concerning ERB confidentiality and subpoena authority under state law of which the ERB may want to include in its state law reform agenda during the 2010 legislative session. He also updated the Board on the status of a requested en banc meeting with the Civil District Court judges which will serve as a short term solution to the subpoena authority problem.

Jill Poutré updated the board on the status of developing a protocol with the La Board of Ethics. She stated that the ERB staff had met with the Ethics Administrator for the La Board of Ethics and discussed how to develop a complaint referral procedure, coordinating on ethics education, handling advisory opinions, and acquiring access to the La Board of Ethics case law database.

Elizabeth Nalty moved to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Ethics Review Board and Office of Inspector General as submitted. Kathryn Lorio seconded, all were in favor – motion passed.

Inspector General Edouard Quatrevaux presented the board with the OIG's governing policies and operations manual and stated that these documents fulfilled the IG's statutory requirements. He also provided an update on some reports the OIG will work on in 2010 including a review of the City's Disadvantaged Business Enterprise program, a review of professional services contracts, monitor all contracts over \$15,000, launch a fraud awareness program, and fully implement the Independent Police Monitor when the City Council completes its review of the IPM selection process.

Elizabeth Nalty made a motion to enter into executive session, Leah Chase seconded, all were in favor – motion passed.

The Board entered into executive session at 3:17 P.M.

Elizabeth Nalty made a motion to resume open session, Professor Lorio seconded, all were in favor – motion passed.

The Board resumed open session at 4:07 P.M.

Rev. Tilton proposed a resolution to thank David Marcello for his dedication and service to the Ethics Review Board since its inception, all were in favor.

The Board also proposed a resolution to thank Gail Howard for her service to the ERB during its first year, all were in favor.

There being no further business to discuss, Leah Chase moved to adjourn, Elizabeth Nalty seconded, all were in favor – motion passed.