

**Ethics Review Board**

**City of New Orleans**

**March 10, 2015**

**3:30 – 6:00 P.M.**

**Norman Mayer Library | 3001 Gentilly Boulevard | New Orleans, Louisiana 70122**

**Minutes**

Present: Dr. Michael Cowan, Chair; Mr. Allen Miller, Vice Chair; Mr. James Brown; Mr. Howard Rodgers; Dr. Joe Ricks; Rev. Brandon Boutin; Rev. Dr. Donald Frampton  
Guests: Mr. Ed Quatrevaux, Inspector General  
Ms. Susan Hutson, Independent Police Monitor

At 3:36 p.m., a quorum being present, the chair called the meeting to order. On a motion by Mr. Rodgers seconded by Mr. Miller, the board unanimously approved the minutes of January 13, 2015.

Inspector General Quatrevaux referenced the following findings issued by the OIG since the ERB's January meeting: The City of New Orleans Procurement has improved since the previous audit. Payroll liabilities have been corrected. The follow up report on the Coroner's Office determined that the same problems still exist within its administration.

Inspector General Quatrevaux told the board that he had received the Independent Police Monitor's (IPM) counter proposal to the OIG offer submitted on January 29, 2015 on March 6, 2015. Inspector General Quatrevaux said that he hoped an amicable solution was possible. The letter offered one-time moving costs, a grant of \$120,000 and .16% of the general fund.

Independent Police Monitor Susan Hutson updated the board. Year to date there have been 16 complaints, 6 liaisons with crime victims, 5 case monitoring's, 1 commendation, 2 contacts only, 2 mediations and 2 critical incidents. She also said that negotiations are ongoing with the OIG and is optimistic that they will reach an agreement.

The IG noted that no agreement is official until enacted legally. A charter change has to be made at some point. An ordinance change is also being worked on.

(OIPM) Mediation Coordinator Alison McCrary presented the overview and structure of the Mediation program. She stated that the program is a voluntary and confidential process. Community members and officers share how their interactions made them feel. It is a process facilitated by two neutral and professionally-trained mediators. It is a participant-guided process that helps the community member and the officer come to a mutually-agreeable solution, create mutual understanding and improve relationships.

Some feedback assists with the program's "growing edges" and helps staff understand what we need to change or reconsider. NOPD Policy 1025 states that the policy will be reviewed annually so in addition to making minor changes in the administration and implementation of the mediation program, we consider proposing policy changes that will best develop the program.

Mr. Miller stated that the Mediation Program should be highlighted.

After discussion Rev. Dr. Frampton moved acceptance of the ERB 2014 Annual Report with Mr. Brown seconding. The motion passed.

Dr. Cowan stated that Inspector General offered to staff ERB. Mr. Brown recommended that this be tried for one year. After discussion, Dr. Ricks moved acceptance first, the motion was seconded by Mr. Rodgers, and passed unanimously.

Dr. Cowan stated that the ERB appointment to Quality Assurance Review Advisory Committee must be made. There was discussion amongst the ERB board members of two resumes of possible appointees. After discussion, Dr. Cowan moved acceptance for Ms. Washington and passed unanimously.

There are no active complaints.

Dr. Cowan welcomed Rev. Brandon Boutin to the Ethics Review Board.

At 4:47 p.m., Dr. Cowan moved that the meeting adjourn, a second was offered by Mr. Miller. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned.