

**LOUISVILLE/JEFFERSON COUNTY
METRO ETHICS COMMISSION MINUTES
June 21, 2012**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Ms. Thelma Clemons
Mr. Terry Conway
Mr. Skip Daleure
Mr. Jonathan Ricketts
Ms. Vickie Tabler
Ms. Enid Frances Trucios-Haynes

OTHERS PRESENT

Ms. Janet Black, Admin. Support, HR
Mr. Pete Karem, Attorney
Ms. Deborah Kent, Legal Counsel
Mr. Sheldon Shafer, Courier-Journal
Ms. Sherri Toohey-Taylor, Asst. Dir., HR
Ms. Kellie Watson, Dir., HR

Meeting Called to Order

The meeting of the Louisville/Jefferson County Metro Ethics Commission was called to order at 4:20 pm by Chair Jonathan Ricketts. Mr. Ricketts commented that the Commission did meet with The World Affairs Council of Kentucky and Southern Indiana. Mr. Ricketts asked for a motion to accept the minutes of the May 17th meeting. Mr. Terry Conway made a motion to accept the minutes as amended and Ms. Vicki Tabler seconded and the minutes were accepted.

Old Business

Mr. Ricketts asked Legal Counsel to update the Commission on opinion 12-C-003 concerning nepotism. Ms. Kent reported that she had spoken with Ms. Elizabeth McKinney Hoffman, Majority Caucus Director, for clarification on who was supervising the Legislative Aide and his grandson. Ms. Hoffman replied that both employees were supervised by the Council Member and followed up with an email to that effect. After discussion Mr. Ricketts stated the commission could provide a conditional approval until all members receive documentation of the email. Mr. Ricketts made a motion that the Commission will conditionally approve the opinion. Mr. Skip Daleure seconded and the motion was moved.

New Business

Legal Counsel provided to the Commission a draft of the 2012 Annual Report for review. As in the 2011 Annual Report, the draft previews recommended amendments to the ordinance. Commissioners were asked to review before the next meeting.

Response to Complaint 12-P-013

Mr. Ricketts opened the floor to Mr. Karem, who responded to the complaint against his client and noted several errors in the complaint and asked for the complaint to be dismissed. Mr. Karem asked that the complaint be referred to the Commonwealth Attorney under §.21.06 (E), and could be considered as a "political ambush" against a candidate by sending out bulk mailing three weeks before an election by saying he was currently under investigation for ethics violations, which were not true.

Executive Session

Mr. Terry Conway made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss Complaint 12-P-013. Ms. Enid Frances Trucios-Haynes seconded. Closed session began at 4:45pm. The Commission reconvened at 5:05 pm.

Chair Ricketts asked for a motion to Complaint 12-P-013. Mr. Daleure stated that he would like to make a two-part motion, one to dismiss Complaint 12-P-013 and the second would be to refer the complaint to the Commonwealth Attorney under §21.06 (E) based on belief that complaint may have been filed in bad faith or with malice and without probable cause. Ms. Thelma Clemons seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

Adjournment

As there was no other business to discuss, Ms. Tabler made a motion to adjourn, Ms. Trucios-Haynes seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 5:15 pm.