



# City of Milwaukee

200 E. Wells Street  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin  
53202

## Meeting Minutes ETHICS BOARD

*DWIGHT ELLIS III, CHAIR*  
*Martha Toran, Vice Chair*

*Devon Turner, Patricia Hintz, Annie Wacker, Joanne Barndt, and Robert Shelledy*

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Wednesday, February 18, 2009

9:00 AM

Room 301- G, City Hall

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*Meeting convened: 9:04 A.M.*

**Present:** 5 - Toran, Ellis, Bernstein, Wacker, Barndt

**Excused:** 2 - Turner, Hintz

**1. Roll call and approval of the minutes from the January 21, 2009 meeting.**

*Amend item #5 in the minutes to note that the nominations were passed without opposition.*

*Approve, as amended, by Mr. Bernstein, seconded by Ms. Toran. There were no objections.*

**2. The Board may convene into closed session to hear disciplinary matters and related information pursuant to s. 19.85(1)(b) and/or (f), Wis. Stats., and to consider and render confidential advice pursuant to s. 19.85(1)(h), Wis. Stats.**

*Ms. Wacker moved, seconded by Ms. Barndt, to convene into closed session to hear disciplinary matters and related information pursuant to s. 19.85(1)(b) and/or (f), Wis. Stats., and to consider and render confidential advice pursuant to s. 19.85(1)(h), Wis. Stats. There were no objections.*

**3. The Board may then convene into open session as authorized by s. 19.85(2), Wis. Stats.**

*During closed session the Board considered three requests for confidential advisory opinions and will be rendering the requested opinions.*

**4. Report from research assistant relative to office activities of the previous month.**

*Ms. Devereaux has been very busy answering questions related to the statements of economic interests. Two forms were returned to individuals, either for not signing the forms or for not disclosing employment. Ms. Toran and Ms. Turner will be up for reappointment in 2009.*

*She also met with the City Clerk and Deputy City Clerk relating to how the fines will be administered for individuals who fail to file in a timely manner.*

*Ms. Devereaux is meeting with the mayor's office tomorrow to revise the appointment letter sent out by that office.*

*As of 8:30 today, 212 forms have been filed (out of 463 sent out).*

**5. Update on implementing of late filing fees and penalty procedures.**

*Jim Owczarski, Deputy City Clerk, reviewed the ordinance with the Board that was passed by the Common Council creating fines for failure to file statements of economic interests in a timely manner and how the fee system will be administered. Mr. Ellis noted that the purpose of the ordinance seems to be that all nominations must have the forms submitted prior to appearing before a Common Council committee, rather than after the oath is administered. Ms. Devereaux noted that individuals who file their forms 10 or more days late will be invoiced; those who do not file forms will be referred to the city attorney's office. The Board discussed how this would be administered among itself, the City Clerk's Office and the City Attorney's Office. The City Clerk's Office will begin date stamping all documents received for the Ethics Board prior to placing them into Ms. Devereaux's secure mailbox.*

**6. Update on returns of the 2008 Statement of Economic Interest forms.**

*This was discussed under item #4.*

**7. Review newly filed Statement of Economic Interest Forms for clarity and completeness.**

*The Board reviewed and approved the forms of Monica Ray, Christopher Strohbehn, Eric Biernat and Gregory Habeck.*

**8. Set next meeting date(s).**

*March 18th at 9 a.m.*

*Meeting adjourned: 11:23 A.M.*

*Linda M. Elmer*

*Staff Assistant*