

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
BOARD OF ETHICS AND GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY

Monthly Meeting of the Board

January 9, 2014, 1:00 p.m.
Room 540 South (BEGA Board Hearing Room)
One Judiciary Square

AGENDA

I. Call to Order

The Monthly Meeting of the Board was called to order at 1:00 pm by Board member Laura Richards in Hearing Room 540 South at One Judiciary Square, 441 4th Street NW, Washington, DC 20001.

II. Ascertainment of Quorum

Board members Deborah Lathen and Laura Richards were present constituting a quorum. Chairman Spagnoletti was not in attendance.

III. Adoption of the Agenda

The Agenda was adopted unanimously.

IV. Acknowledgment of Adoption of the Minutes

The Minutes of the December 5, 2013, meeting were acknowledged as previously adopted unanimously.

V. Report by the Director of Open Government

a. Website

i. Soft Launch

The Director of the Office of Open Government (OOG), Traci Hughes, announced to the Ethics Board that the BEGA website has had a soft launch but has not formally been announced to the public. **Track DC** Director Hughes is working on posting the Track DC data on the new website. Director Hughes informed the Board that Track DC is a website that is maintained by the City Administrator that includes purchase data, budget data, and FTE's.

b. Opinion – Housing Production Trust Fund Board

Director Hughes informed the Board that the Office of Open Government issued its first Advisory Opinion on December 12, 2013, to the Housing Production Trust Fund Board.

c. DC Bar Media Law Committee

Director Hughes met with The DC Bar Media Law Committee to inform them of the initiatives of the Office of Open Government and BEGA as a whole.

VI. Report by the Director of Government Ethics

a. Update on Status of Office of Government Ethics (OGE) Operations – Recap of Previous Month's Activities (Statistics)

- i. Investigations opened since the last Board meeting: 3**
- ii. Investigations closed since the last Board meeting: 4**
- iii. Open Investigations: 14**

b. Publication and Reporting Obligations

- i. Best Practices Report issued December 31, 2013**
- ii. Current on all other reporting obligations. FY 2014, first quarter report of investigations was posted.**

c. Trainings

d. Advisory Opinions

- i.** No requests outstanding
- ii.** No formal, written Advisory Opinions issued since the last Board meeting, but The Office of Government Ethics (OGE) responded to

e. Lobbyist Matters

- i.** Director Sobin stated that the electronic registration and payment systems are now live.
- ii. Updates on two previously denied waiver requests**

f. Budget Matters

g. BEGA Legislation

**h. New District Personnel Manual Published by DCHR/Executive –
Proposed Rulemaking Published in the D.C. Register January 3 –**

Director Sobin informed the Board that this proposed rulemaking would bring significant changes to the District's Code of Conduct.

i. Non-Confidential Investigations

- i.** #AI-007-12 – S. Allen
- ii.** #1087-001 – R. Moten
- iii.** #AI-017-13 –L. Hicks
- iv.** #1122-001 – D. Bryant

VII. Opportunity for Public Comment

No comment from the public. The Open Meeting ended at 1:50 pm.

VIII. Executive Session (non-public) to Discuss Ongoing, Confidential Preliminary Investigations pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b)(14), to deliberate on a decision in which the Ethics Board will exercise quasi-judicial functions pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b)(13), and Personnel matters pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b)(10).

IX. Resumption of Public Meeting

a. Discussion of any remaining public items

X. Adjournment

Having no further business and there being no comments from members of the public, the open meeting was adjourned at 3:50 pm.