

**MILWAUKEE COUNTY ETHICS BOARD**

**Thursday, November 12, 2009**

**3:00 P.M.**

**Courthouse, Room 203-R**

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Present: David Carr, Chairman  
Paul Hinkfuss  
Henry Hamilton  
Christian Flores  
Helen Sobehart

Excused: Rebecca Blemberg, Vice Chair

Also present: Robert Andrews, Deputy Corporation Counsel

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1.0 Roll Call

Roll call was taken. All were present, except for Rebecca Blemberg, who was excused, and there was a quorum.

2.0 Approval of the Minutes for the Meeting of September 17, 2009

Ms. Sobehart moved, Mr. Flores seconded, and the Board, by vote (5-0), approved the minutes for the meeting of September 17, 2009 as written.

3.0 Report of the Chairman

3.1 Welcome to the County Executive's New Appointee-Helen Sobehart

Chairman Carr welcomed Ms. Helen Sobehart as a member of the Ethics Board and thanked her for her participation. Ms. Sobehart indicated that the County Clerk had officially sworn her into office.

3.2 Requests for Confidential Advisories and

### 3.3 Status Report on Confidential Complaints

Mr. Hinkfuss moved, Mr. Hamilton seconded and the Board voted (5-0), pursuant to Section 19.85(1) (f), Wis. Stats, to meet in closed session to discuss “*Item 3.2- Requests for Confidential Advisories,*” and, “*3.3 - Status Report on Confidential Complaints.*” Upon reconvening in open session, Chairman Carr stated there was no further public action for the Board to take at this time.

### 3.4 Reports on Lobbyists- Lobbyist Registration Reports, 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2009

The Board reviewed the Lobbyist Registration Reports, 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2009, from County Clerk Czarnecki dated October 6, 2009. The report was received and placed on file. No action was required.

### 4.0 Report from the Executive Director

#### 4.1 Progress Report on Ethics Board Website

The Executive Director reported the Ethics Website was produced on November 9, 2009 and that Ethics Board members were notified so that they could look at the final product before notice was sent to all county employees and a press release was sent to the media. The Ethics Board Director had been assured by the IMSD project manager that the website would be online by September 2009, but the project got bumped for another project that would generate revenue for the County.

#### 4.2 Progress Report on Ethics Board Request-for-Proposal

The Executive Director informed the Board that a request for a fund transfer for the \$170,000 for ethics training and education, was made to the Committee on Finance and Audit for their meeting of October 29, 2009, but that the Chairman of Finance removed the request from the agenda. A request was also made before the Committee on Judiciary, Safety and General Services on October 22, 2009, to enter into a professional services contract and to recommend to the Committee on Finance and Audit to release the \$170,000 for ethics training and education from the Allocated Contingent Fund into the Ethics Board budget for expenditure on the contract over a three-year period. Finance Committee Chairman Beth Coggs appeared before the Judiciary Committee to say that the current budget deficit for 2009 required cutbacks in many areas and that the training contract would be needed as part of an overall program to cutback costs. The Judiciary Committee voted to approve the professional services contract for Centofanti Phillips, S.C. and the release of funds, which matter went before the County Board at their meeting of November 5, 2009, and was referred to the Committee on Finance. There was no 2010 budget amendment to carry-over the remaining \$170,000 for training education into the following year. If the Committee on Finance schedules the fund transfer request for consideration, it would be at their meeting of December 10, 2009.

5.0 Adjournment

Chairman Carr reminded the Board that a meeting schedule for a minimum of four required meetings needed to be set for the 2010 year. The Board agreed to meet on the following dates in 2010: Thursday, February 18, 2010; Thursday, April 29, 2010; Thursday, October 14, 2010; and Thursday, December 9, 2010. The meeting will be in Room 203-R unless otherwise notified. Reminder e-invites will be sent to Board members to remind them of the meeting dates.

Mr. Flores moved, Mr. Hamilton seconded and the Board voted (5-0) to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan C. Shields

Susan C. Shields, Executive Director