

**CITY OF DENTON**

**BOARD OF ETHICS  
MEETING MINUTES**

**July 22, 2019**

After determining that a quorum of the Board was present, the Board of Ethics of the City of Denton, Texas convened on Wednesday, July 22, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. in the City Hall Conference Room at City Hall, 215 E. McKinney Street, Denton, Texas.

**PRESENT:** Lara Tomlin, Chair; David Zoltner, Vice Chair; and Board Members Charla Bradshaw, Ron Johnson, Deborah Cosimo, and Rob Rayner, Don Cartwright, Ronnie Mohair, Karen McDaniels

**ABSENT:**

**ALSO PRESENT:** City Council Member, Paul Meltzer; City Auditor, Umesh Dalal; Recording Secretary, Betsy Snodgrass

Chair of the Board Tomlin opened the meeting at 5:30 PM

**ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:**

- A. Consider approval of the minutes of July 10, 2019.

Motion made to approve the minutes of July 10, 2019.

Motioned: Board Member Rayner

Seconded: Vice-Chair Zoltner

Motion Carried Unanimously

- B. Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction regarding an update from the July 16, 2019 City Council Work session presentation and discuss additional amendments to the Ethics Ordinance and take possible action.

Chair Tomlin gave a report on the July 16, 2019 City Council Work Session where she presented the Board of Ethics recommendations to the City Council for Ethics Code changes. Discussion followed on how to proceed with more specific recommendations. Motion made to send City Council members specific recommendations on several amendments to the Ethics Ordinance representing those unanimously agreed on by the

Board. The motion also included the directive to staff to set another meeting for August 29<sup>th</sup> to further discuss recommendations.

Motioned: Board Member Mohair  
Seconded: Board Member Bradshaw

Motion Carried Unanimously

- C. Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction regarding the scheduling of regular Board of Ethics Meetings.

The Board had unanimous agreement to schedule regular meetings the last Thursday of each month.

- D. Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction regarding an update on the Board of Ethics meetings audio file posting.

City Auditor Umesh Dalal informed the Board that the audio files of all prior meetings have now been linked to the Board of Ethics webpage.

- E. Address preliminary matters related to hearing and take necessary action.

Chair Tomlin asked Complainant and Accused if they had any preliminary matters to discuss. Board Member McDaniels and Vice-Chair Zoltner recused. No preliminary matters were given.

- F. Consider and take possible action on Ethics Complaint No. 19-003, found to be actionable 3/27/19 by a Panel of the Board of Ethics, concerning alleged violations of Ethics Ordinance Sections 2-272 and 273. This Hearing is being conducted under the authority of Ethics Ordinance Section 2-281 (c).

Complainant and Accused presented evidence and arguments regarding the alleged violation. Chair Tomlin called a recess at 7:08 pm and Board reconvened at 7:20 pm. Board Members deliberated in open session on the evidence and arguments submitted. Members were then asked for a Violation or No Violation vote by Chair Tomlin:

Chair Tomlin – Violation  
Board Member Mohair – Violation  
Board Member Bradshaw – No Violation  
Board Member Cosimo – Violation  
Board Member Cartwright – Violation  
Board Member Rayner – Violation  
Board Member McDaniels - Abstain

The Board Members were then asked if a Letter of Reprimand would be appropriate. After discussion, Members voted on the issuance of a Letter of Reprimand:

AYES (5): Chair Tomlin, Board Members Mohair, Cosimo, Cartwright, Rayner

NAYS (1): Board Member Bradshaw

ABSTAIN (1): Board Member McDaniels.

Finding that a Violation occurred, Chair Tomlin stated that she would draft the Letter of Reprimand to be distributed to Complainant, Accused, City Council Members, City Auditor and City Attorney.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.



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LARA TOMLIN  
CHAIR – BOARD OF ETHICS  
CITY OF DENTON, TEXAS



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BETSY SNODGRASS – RECORDING SECRETARY

MINUTES APPROVED ON August 29, 2019