

Baltimore City Ethics Board
626 City Hall
Baltimore, MD 21202
March 11, 2014

Minutes of the Public Session

The Ethics Board met on March 11, 2014 in the Conference Room of the Office of Department of Legislative Reference, 626 City Hall, Baltimore, Maryland.

Call to Order: Chairwoman Linda Pierson called to order the meeting of the Baltimore City Ethics Board at 9:42 a.m. with a quorum present. Present in person were Board members Linda Pierson, Dawna Cobb, and Jennifer Burdick. **Alicia Wilson participated by telephone.** Also present was **Avery Aisenstark**, Director of the Ethics Board, Thaddeus Watulak, Deputy Director of the Ethics Board.

A. Chair's Report: There was none. Ms. Pierson will contact the Mayor's Office about re-appointing members of the Board whose terms have expired.

B. Approval of Minutes from February 2014: The Board approved the minutes with minor corrections by a vote of 3-0.

C. Director's Status Updates: Ongoing investigation-Mr. Watulak reported that the IG is still trying to arrange meeting with respondent and respondent's counsel.

D. Solicitation requests-The Board ratified its e-mail approval of Councilwoman Holton's solicitation request for the Links, Inc.

E. Online financial disclosure project-Mr. Watulak provided an update and schedule of the roll-out of the on-line process. Final updates installed last night. Training sessions on how to use the on-line process are being scheduled. Because of a delay in launching the program, the Board voted 3-0 to approve a motion to waive assessment of late fees through June 30, 2014. The program's developer, Eastbanc, has offered and MOIT has recommended that the Board purchase a maintenance agreement with Eastbanc. The Board has no budget, but Board staff will explore whether funds can be located to cover this expense.

F. The Board voted 3-0 to go into closed session at 10:11 a.m. to discuss pending complaints.

G. Draft Annual Report: Ms. Burdick shared the most recent draft for everyone to proofread.

H. Board of Estimates lobbying issue-This issue was deferred in January. The Board

deferred the issue until it can be discussed at a meeting when every member of the Board is present.

I. The next Board meeting will be April 8, 2014.

J. A motion to adjourn was made and approved at 11:30 a.m.