



Denver Board Of Ethics

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**DENVER BOARD OF ETHICS
MINUTES
MEETING OF MAY 15, 2019**

Chair Patrick Tooley called the meeting of the Denver Board of Ethics to order at 8:00 am in Conference Room 2 D 4 of the Wellington Webb Municipal Office Building. Also present were Board Members Julia Yeckes (henceforth Julia Hoffmeier, due to her recent marriage), Andrew Armatas and Sylvia Smith. Also in attendance were Executive Director Michael Henry and Assistant City Attorney Lori Weiser.

1. Steven Chester, a former employee of the Community Planning and Development Department, discussed with the Board his request for an advisory opinion regarding subsequent employment.
2. John Courtney, an employee of the Public Works Department, discussed with the Board his request for an advisory opinion regarding a potential conflict of interest.
3. Presiding County Court Judge Theresa Spahn swore in Dianne Criswell as a new member of the Board of Ethics to replace Roy Wood, whose term has expired. Ms. Criswell is an attorney in private practice, who used to work for the Denver Department of Finance and the Colorado Municipal League.
4. Four members of the Auditor's Office introduced themselves: Emily Owens, Vilma Balnyte, Kristin McCormack and Alexandra Dickerson. They will be doing a performance audit of Denver's Citywide Ethics Program. The last such audit was done in 2010.
5. Lance Jay and Andrew Miskell of the Purchasing Division reported to the Board about their trip to a national conference/trade show organized by a large manufacturer/supplier (Grainger) in Florida in early March 2019. They had requested an advisory opinion from the Board, which determined that acceptance of lodging, meals and registration for the conference from Grainger would violate the gift section of the Denver Code of Ethics, because they would have direct official action power regarding Grainger, which is doing business with the city. The Board, however, granted them a waiver because it found that attendance at the conference

Executive Director
L. Michael Henry

Board Members
Patrick D. Tooley – Chair
Julia C. Hoffmeier – Vice Chair
Dianne Criswell
Andrew S. Armatas
Sylvia Smith

would be in the best interests of the city. In that decision, the Board requested them to report to the Board about the benefits that the city received from their attendance at the conference. Mr. Jay and Mr. Miskell described various seminars and conferences that they attended and discussions with representatives of other cities. They also described and showed samples of various new safety-related products that will benefit city workers in many departments. The Board thanked them for their report.

6. Jessica Skibo and Nikki McCabe, from the Budget Office discussed with the Board its budget request for 2020, which the Board approved. It is a status quo budget, with no expansion request.
7. The Board moved, seconded and passed the approval of the minutes of the March 20, 2019 Board meeting, with one slight change.
8. The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 am.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael Henry".

Michael Henry
Executive Director

NOTE: Copies of decisions in the cases mentioned above or any other cases may be obtained by contacting the Board's Executive Director, Michael Henry – michael.henry@denvergov.org.

Approved by the Board of Ethics on June 19, 2019