



Denver Board of Ethics

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**DENVER BOARD OF ETHICS
MINUTES
MEETING OF NOVEMBER 11, 2021**

Chair Joseph G. Michaels called the meeting of the Denver Board of Ethics to order at 9:01 a.m. The Board met in-person at the Wellington Webb Building, and the public meeting was open to interested parties by joining virtually through Microsoft Teams or by telephone. Present in-person were Board members Joseph G. Michaels, Dianne Criswell, Jane T. Feldman, Doris E. Burd, and Rory McLuster. Also in attendance were Jordan Humphreys, Senior Assistant City Attorney, and Executive Director Lori Weiser.

1. Welcome and introductory remarks.
2. The Draft Minutes of the Board's October 13, 2021 meeting were moved, seconded and approved unanimously with amendments to reflect that member Jane T. Feldman did not participate in the votes concerning action on pending complaints as she was unable to attend in-person and could not join in the executive session.
3. The Board welcomed Andy Szekeres, Campaign Finance Administrator, from the Office of the Clerk and Recorder, and engaged in discussion concerning potential changes to the language guiding city officers as to what they need to disclose on the semi-annual gift and city item reports. It was determined that consistent to D.R.M.C. 2-72, the Board would recommend that the forms be updated to ask that officers disclose all gifts accepted from donors doing business with the city and over whom the officer is in a position to take direct official action over the donor. Additionally, the Board decided that it would be important to approach this from educational standpoint, perhaps including a flow chart. Mr. Szekeres informed the Board that the timeframe for launch of the MapLight system had been pushed back to the first week of February 2022, and that the system will have an FAQ section, a Tool Tips section, and a File Library, all allowing for educational opportunities. Board member, Jane T. Feldman, and Executive Director, Lori Weiser, agreed to work on drafting the language for the Board to review at the December 2021 meeting.

Executive Director
Lori Weiser

Board Members
Joseph G. Michaels – Chair
Dianne Criswell – Vice Chair
Andrew S. Armatas
Sylvia S. Smith
Jane T. Feldman

4. In case number 21-47, the Board considered a request from Lieutenant Kevin Edling, for advisory opinion concerning the application of Sections 2-63, Outside Employment or Business Activity, and 2-67, Use of Public Office for Private Gain with respect to his campaigning for public office. After discussing the facts, the Board moved, seconded, and voted unanimously in favor of issuing a written advisory opinion, consistent with prior Board decisions, explaining Lieutenant Edling's obligations under the Denver Code of Ethics.
5. At 10:04 a.m., it was moved, seconded and unanimously approved to move from public session into executive session, following a brief recess, for the purpose of determining whether to accept an anonymous complaint in case number 21-46, and to screen a complaint in case number 21-48.
6. At 10:39 a.m., a motion was offered, seconded, and unanimously approved to return from executive session back into public session, and the Board reconvened in public session.
7. It was moved, seconded, and unanimously approved, in case 21-46, to not accept the complaint for further review, but to have the Executive Director refer the matter out to the appropriate agency.
8. Prior to Board action in case 21-48, Vice-Chair Dianne Criswell disclosed that her husband was employed by the City and County of Denver, and that he works in the same agency as the subject of this complaint. She clarified that her husband works in a different section of this agency and that this would not affect her ability to be impartial. Thereafter, it was moved, seconded, and unanimously approved, in case number 21-48, to request additional investigation by the Executive Director for consideration at the December 2021 meeting.
9. Case 21-46 was recalled, and a second motion was made to include in the advisory opinion a recommendation that Lieutenant Edling notify his appointing authority that he will be campaigning for public office. This motion was seconded and approved unanimously. By doing so, the Board recognized that campaigning for public office is a special circumstance not requiring approval of an appointing authority.
10. Vice-Chair Dianne Criswell requested that any person coming back to the Board for the purpose of updating the Board on a previously granted waiver or advisory opinion provide their updates in writing in advance of the meeting for purposes of efficiency.
11. Chair Joseph G. Michaels ceded his remarks.
12. At 11:00 a.m. a motion to adjourn the meeting was made, seconded, and unanimously approved and the meeting was adjourned.

NOTE: Copies of the written decisions in the cases mentioned above or any other cases may be obtained by contacting the Board's Executive Director, Lori Weiser—lori.weiser@denvergov.org.

APPROVED BY THE BOARD: December 8, 2021.