

## BOARD OF ETHICS

### Open Session Minutes

March 17, 2010 - 3:11 p.m.  
740 North Sedgwick, Suite 500

#### Board Members Present

Michael F. Quirk  
Thomas McCarthy  
Lisa M. Taylor  
John L. Wilhelm, M.D.

Miguel A. Ruiz, Chair(Absent)

#### Staff Present

Steven I. Berlin, Executive Director  
Richard J. Superfine, Legal Counsel  
Courtney L.D. Kimble, Attorney/Investigator  
Edward Primer, Program Director  
Pauilly Casillas, Staff Assistant

After a quorum of Board members (Miguel A. Ruiz, absent) assembled, the members present elected Michael Quirk to act as Chair *Pro Tem* for the March meeting of the Board of Ethics.

#### **I. Approval of Minutes**

The Board VOTED 4-0 (Miguel A. Ruiz, absent) to approve the Open Session Minutes of the February 17, 2010 meeting.

#### **II. Chair's Report**

None.

#### **III. Executive Director's Report**

##### **A. Education—Classes**

Since the last Board meeting, staff has conducted 5 regularly and 4 specially scheduled classes for persons required to attend ethics training, on February 18, 22, 24, 25 and March 2, 4, 9 and 11. A total of 77 persons attended. There are 5 scheduled to attend tomorrow, and we will hold another class for City Council members and staff on March 23.

On March 24, at the request of the Mayor's Office, staff will make a one hour presentation on its work and on government ethics in Chicago to 18 visiting officials from the City of Anshan, in the Peoples' Republic of China.

On March 26, staff will present two classes at departmental request: in the morning, we will present the first of 4 classes to Department of Aviation contractors (we expect about

150 attendees). In the afternoon, we will present a class focusing on outside employment to nurses in the Department of Public Health.

**B. Education–Mandatory Annual Ethics Education**

We intend to have the 2010 all employee training program posted on the web by the end of next week. Unfortunately, we have been unable to coordinate the posting of the program with DOIT.

**C. Statements of Financial Interests**

On February 26, all 10,961 Statements of Financial Interests were sent to “reporting individuals” who, City records show, are required to file them with the Board in 2010. To date, approximately 2,200 persons have filed—about 20%.

**D. Updated Brochures, Newsletter**

On February 26, the Board’s newsletter, “Ethics Matters in Chicago” was e-mailed to all persons in the City’s Outlook program, and a hard copy was distributed with paychecks.

**E. Lobbyist Registration**

There are currently **510** lobbyists that have registered with the City for this year. To date, \$230,450.00 in lobbyist registration fees have been deposited with the Department of Revenue

I am also pleased to report that all lobbyists have filed their registration statements and activity reports.

**F. Illinois Freedom of Information Act**

Since the last regularly scheduled Board meeting, the office has received 3 new requests under the Freedom of Information Act, comprising 1 request for information or documents not kept by this agency, and 2 requests for 17 lobbyists’ filings for periods covering from 1 to 8 years. This resulted in the production of 66 filed records and copying of 83 of the pages from those records.

On a related FOIA note, most of the City’s new website went live last Friday, March 12, the “Transparency” pages, including the 2009 Statements of Financial Interests and search engine, will go live probably next week.

**IV. Old Business**

None.

**V. New Business**

None.

The Board VOTED 4-0 ((Miguel A. Ruiz, absent) to adjourn into Executive Session at 3:16 p.m. to review matters concerning the conduct of employees and officials of the City that could result in their discipline or dismissal, to review questions concerning matters of professional ethics and performance, to review matters in which litigation is ongoing, and/or to review matters in which the Board finds that litigation against or affecting the Board is probable or imminent.