City of Atlanta Board of Ethics Special Called Meeting Minutes of June 01, 2016

The special called meeting of the City of Atlanta Board of Ethics was called to order by Board Chair Kate Wasch at 6:00 p.m. in City Council Committee Room 1, 55 Trinity Avenue, Atlanta, Georgia 30303. Attending the meeting were board members Brent Adams, Riah Greathouse, Nichola Hines and Jessica Stern. Staff members Jabu M. Sengova, Carlos Santiago and Sherry H. Dawson also attended. Board member Carol Snype Crawford was absent.

MINUTES

1. Ms. Stern moved to approve the minutes of the March 17, 2016 board meeting which was seconded by Mr. Adams and unanimously approved by the Board.

ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

2. CO-16-001. In the Matter of Lanette Moore

The Board conducted a probable cause hearing in Case Number CO-16-001 concerning Lanette Moore, a Court Clerk at the Atlanta Municipal Court. Ms. Moore was not present at the hearing. Mr. Santiago presented arguments to support a finding of probable cause that Ms. Moore violated Section 2-816(b) of the Code of Ethics when she requested and received tickets to attend an Atlanta Hawks basketball game from a security representative for the National Basketball Association (NBA); when the NBA representative appeared at her window at the Municipal Court to conduct personal business. Mr. Santiago presented the relevant facts of the case and argument for probable cause. Mr. Adams made a motion to find probable cause in this case and to set the matter down for an enforcement hearing. The motion was seconded by Ms. Stern. Following a discussion, the Board approved the motion. Mr. Greathouse abstained from the vote.

3. CO-16-007. In the Matter of Ronnell Collier

Ms. Sengova presented and recommended approval of a settlement agreement with former city employee Ronnell Collier, which included a fine of \$150. Ms. Collier acknowledges that she violated the City's ethical standards when she accepted cash loans from permit expeditor, Tiara Crumby, and agrees to pay the City of Atlanta a civil penalty of \$150 on or before June 1, 2016. Following a brief discussion, Mr. Greathouse moved to adopt the agreement as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Adams and unanimously adopted by the Board.

FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

4. 2016 Roll of Delinguent Filers

Mr. Santiago presented the 2016 Roll of Delinquent Filers. Mr. Adams made a motion to adopt the roll as presented. Ms. Stern seconded the motion which was carried by the Board.

5. Report on 2016 Financial Disclosure Filing Season

Ms. Dawson presented the report on the 2016 Financial Disclosure Filing Season, including the number of required filers this year, the strategies used and the

challenges faced. Ms. Dawson stated that additional job positions and boards were added to the required filers list in 2016.

6. Adoption of Resolution for Transparent Diamond Awards

Ms. Dawson presented the Resolution for the 2016 Transparent Diamond Award. Mr. Adams made a motion to adopt the resolution as presented. Ms. Stern seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the Board.

7. Status Report on Activities Performed under the Work Plan

Ms. Sengova reported on activities that support the Ethics Office Work Plan in the following areas: operations, training, advice, public education and outreach, investigations and enforcement actions, and financial disclosure.

8. FY16 Budget Report and FY17 Budget Update

Ms. Sengova presented the FY16 budget report indicating spending being in line with projected expenditures. Ms. Sengova also provided an update on the FY17 process. The formal budget process has been completed which includes the development of a new e-filing system and creation of a new Ethics Analyst position.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

9. Personnel Matters

Mr. Adams moved to recess into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters. Ms. Stern seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved. Executive Session commenced at 6:33 and ended at 6:54 p.m. After the Executive Session adjourned, Ms. Wasch presented a proposal for the salary adjustment of Ethics Office staff and the addition of a new Ethics Analyst position. Mr. Adams made a motion to approve the proposal and Mr. Greathouse seconded the motion. A brief discussion commenced as to rationale for the pay grade for the Ethics Analyst and Associate Attorney positions being the same. Ms. Sengova stated she would research the basis for the pay grade determination for the Ethics Analyst position and report her findings to the Board. The Board unanimously approved the motion as presented.

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Jabu M. Sengova, Associate Ethics Officer

Approved July 21, 2016