

**City of Atlanta Governing Board of the Office of the Inspector General
Special Called Remotely Held Meeting
Minutes of August 20, 2020**

The special called meeting of the City of Atlanta Governing Board of the Office of the Inspector General was called to order by Board Chair Nichola Hines at 6:00 p.m. remotely via the Zoom Platform. Attending the meeting were board members Todd Gray, Chris Gilmore, Matt Grosvenor, Vic Hartman, Lisa Liang, Gerry Neumark, and Wesley Tharpe. Ethics Officer Jabu M. Sengova and staff members, Carlos Santiago, Sherry H. Dawson, Janet Keene, Ariyan Marshall, Larry Mason, Ibi Onabanjo and Portia Reeves also attended.

MINUTES

1. Ms. Liang moved to approve the minutes of the February 27, 2020 board meeting which was seconded by Mr. Gray and unanimously approved by the Board.

BOARD OPERATIONS

2. Introduction and welcome of new board member, Vic Hartman

Ms. Hines introduced Victor E. Hartman, Founder of The Hartman Firm, nominated to the Governing Board of the Office of the Inspector General by the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners. Mr. Hartman previously served with the FBI for 25 years and has received specialized training in white collar crime, internal investigations, and forensic accounting matters.

3. Bylaws of the Governing Board of the Office of the Inspector General

Pursuant to a discussion of the drafted Bylaws of the Governing Board of the Office of the Inspector General held during the February 27, 2020 board meeting, Dr. Neumark moved to approve the Bylaws as revised. Mr. Gilmore seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the Board.

FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

4. Report to Board on 2020 Filing Season

Ms. Dawson delivered the 2020 report to the Board on persons required to file an annual financial disclosure statement, those who complied with the filing requirements, and those who failed to file in 2020 as required by law. Ms. Dawson reported that the number of required filers for 2020 as of April 15, 2020 was 3480, an increase of 10 percent over 2019. Ms. Dawson reported that the percentage of timely filers was 87 percent this year based on a total of 3013 timely filers, a rate lower than last year's filing rate. In 2019 there was a filing rate of 92 percent based on 2852 timely filers; in 2018, 95 percent based on 2729 timely filers; in 2017, 96 percent based on 2622 timely filers; and in 2016, 94 percent based on 2384 timely filers. Ms. Dawson stated that this year's rate exceeded the expectations of the Ethics Division due to the compounding effects of COVID 19, implementation of our new e-filing system and an increase in the number of filers.

ETHICS OFFICER'S REPORT

5. Status Report on Activities Performed Under the Work Plan

Ms. Sengova reported on activities that support the Ethics Division Work Plan in the following areas: operations, training, advice, public education and outreach, investigation and enforcement actions, and financial disclosure. She stated that the staff is continuing to work on filling the Board's vacant seat, continues to respond to requests for verbal and written advice and is furthering plans for Ethics e-learning courses. Ms. Sengova stated that investigations are continuing with ten current open ethics cases, and that staff has adjusted well to working virtually.

6. FY20 Budget Report

Ms. Sengova reported that the Ethics Division spent as budgeted for fiscal year 2020 and the budget year has been closed out successfully.

7. FY21 Budget Report

Ms. Sengova reported that the Ethics Division was spending as budgeted for fiscal year 2021.

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:38 p.m.



Jabu M. Sengova, Ethics Officer
Approved September 17, 2020