

Minutes of Jefferson Parish Ethics and Compliance Commission
Wednesday, April 29, 2020
Via Video Conference in accordance with Executive Proclamations
JBE 2020-30 and 2020-33

Commission Members Present:

Warren R. Bourgeois, III
Laura Donnaway
Sandra Joseph
Dolores Hall
Howard Maestri

Commission Members Absent:

None

Call Commission Meeting to order

Meeting called to order by Chairman Maestri at 5:00 P.M. Roll call. Quorum is constituted.

Public Hearing

Gina Dabdoub reads an email from Paul Casadaban referencing his unanswered questions submitted through the ECC contact us web portal. Jerry Sullivan outlines the problems with the portal and reports the issue is under investigation and will be resolved soon. Mr. Sullivan states he will craft a written response to Mr. Casadaban.

Review and Approval of Minutes

MOTION by Commissioner Hall to approve the minutes of the March 12, 2020 meeting.

MOTION SECONDED by Commissioner Joseph. The motion was voted upon and **PASSED** unanimously without opposition or abstention.

Millage Renewal

Alison Becknell of the Becknell Law firm speaks to the Commissioners regarding her retention as Election Counsel in connection with the renewal of the ½ mill ad valorem tax in the Jefferson Parish Inspector General special services funding district. Ms. Becknell states the dedicated millage is set to expire at the end of 2021. She summarizes the steps already accomplished and covers the remaining steps left to accomplish prior to the 2020 election date.

Report of Inspector General

1. Reports

Inspector General David McClintock outlines the JPOIG reporting process, as defined by the recent ordinance changes. The IG reports the Security Services audit was released publically today and will be presented by Susan Andrews at the next ECC board meeting. The Council Advertising audit was issued to non-parish recipients on March 12, 2020 and to the ECC on April 23, 2020. He states it will be released to the public shortly. The Vehicle Tracking audit was issued in draft in 2019. The Inspector General states he has had positive response from the Parish. The report was released to the ECC on April 1, 2020. He states it will be released to the public shortly. The Bus Bench Advertising/Go Graphics Audit was released to the non-parish recipient and responses are due May 4, 2020. The final report will be released to the ECC on May 5, 2020 and to the public on or about May 11, 2020. The Parish has requested extensions on the Lafreniere Park Investigation due to COVID-19. The Inspector General reports the Fire Services Audit will be released in draft within the next two weeks. Kim Chatelain outlines the changes in surplus property ordinances which was a direct result of the JPOIG Surplus Audit and subsequent Surplus Follow-Up Audit. She reports the JPOIG asked the Parish to make remedial actions to the surplus ordinances. District 4 Councilman Dominic Impastato drafted various amendments and allowed the JPOIG the opportunity to give feedback on the proposed amendment changes. The IG reports the information request ordinance passed in December 2019 has caused the OIG significant delays in obtaining information pertinent to active investigations and audits.

BP Funds

Paul Lumpkin outlines the BP fund was originally allocated 32 million dollars in 2015. The balance remaining is approximately 4.2 million dollars. In March 2020, no funds were expensed with the exception of indirect costs associated with administrative maintenance.

Resolutions

Resolution 41 – A resolution extending and renewing for an additional three (3) year term effective September 20, 2020, and to automatically terminate three years thereafter on September 20, 2023, the professional services contract entered into by and between the Jefferson Parish Ethics & Compliance Commission and Leefe, Gibbs, Sullivan, & Dupre, LLC, that became effective September 20, 2017 and terminates September 20, 2020. **MOTION** by Commissioner Bourgeois to approve. **MOTION SECONDED** by Commissioner Hall. The motion was voted upon and **PASSED** unanimously, without opposition or abstention.

New Business

None

Next Meeting Date

The next regular meeting TBD.

Adjournment

MOTION by Commissioner Hall to adjourn. **MOTION SECONDED** by Commissioner Donnaway. The motion was voted upon and **PASSED** unanimously without opposition or abstention.

MEETING ADJOURNED