

# CITY OF JACKSONVILLE

ELLEN SCHMITT  
CHAIR

DARCY GALNOR  
VICE CHAIR



CARLTON DEVOOGHT  
J.J. DIXON  
ERICH FREIBERGER

LATONYA LIPSCOMB SMITH  
MARY BLAND LOVE  
JUDGE LINDA MCCALLUM

## ETHICS COMMISSION

### MEETING MINUTES

City Hall, First Floor, Lynwood Roberts Room  
Monday, October 10, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 4:34 p.m. by Ms. Schmitt. A quorum for the meeting was established. Attendees: Mary Bland Love, Erich Freiberger, LaTonya Lipscomb Smith, J.J. Dixon and Linda McCallum. Excused Absences: Carlton DeVooght and Darcy Galnor. Others in attendance: Kirby Oberdorfer, Director of the Office of Ethics, Compliance and Oversight (OECO); Andrea Myers, Program and Training Manager (OECO); Cherry Shaw Pollock, Office of General Counsel (OGC); and Sandy Homrighouse, Executive Assistant (OECO).

Public In Attendance: Paige Johnston, Chief of Legislative Affairs and Land Use, OGC

#### Minutes Approval:

May 4, 2022 Ethics Commission minutes: Judge McCallum made a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Smith seconded the motion. There being no discussion, the motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously with a vote of 6-0.

July 25, 2022 Internal Operations Committee minutes: Ms. Love made a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Smith seconded the motion. There being no discussion, the motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously with a vote of 6-0.

July 27, 2022 Nominating Committee minutes: Judge McCallum made a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Smith seconded the motion. There being no discussion, the motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously with a vote of 6-0.

August 31, 2022 Ethics Commission minutes: Ms. Smith made a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Dixon seconded the motion. There being no discussion, the motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously with a vote of 6-0.

#### Staff and Committee Reports:

OECO: Ms. Oberdorfer provided a report regarding the following categories:

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1. Administrative: The Ethics Attorney II vacancy exams have been graded. Ms. Oberdorfer will work with Employee Services on next steps. The Ethics Office budget was approved by City Council.
2. Advice: The Ethics Office is working on pending conflicts of interest inquiries and advice calls.
3. Training: OECO recently trained a new City Council member and new Executive Council Assistant. Future trainings include Jacksonville Transportation Authority managers, Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department higher level employees, Public Works, City Council and the Office of General Counsel.

OGC: Ms. Pollock had no report.

Complaints Committee: Ms. Oberdorfer advised that the Complaints Committee has one pending complaint.

Internal Operations Committee: Ms. Love advised the Internal Operations Committee met regarding proposed changes to the Internal Operating Procedures establishing a standard for remote attendance and participation by Ethics Commission members at meetings. Ms. Pollock provided a draft of the changes. A discussion occurred regarding shade meetings and a section that was stricken due to redundancy. Ms. Love made a motion to approve the changes to the Internal Operating Procedures. Judge McCallum seconded the motion. There being no discussion, the motion to approve the changes passed unanimously with a vote of 6-0.

Nominating Committee: Judge McCallum advised that the Nominating Committee met, interviewed four applicants, and recommends that the Ethics Commission appoint Jamie Buller for the vacancy on the Ethics Commission. Judge McCallum make a motion to nominate Jamie Buller. Ms. Schmitt advised that she spoke with Ms. Oberdorfer earlier in the day and Ms. Buller currently serves on a Board appointed by the Governor and the Ethics Office would like to investigate this matter further. Judge McCallum withdrew the motion and the item was tabled.

Ms. Schmitt expressed a heartfelt thank you to the members of the Internal Operations Committee and the Nominating Committee for their work.

#### New Business:

Legislative Process Training: Ethics Commission members received training on the Legislative Process from Ms. Johnston. Ms. Schmitt thanked Ms. Johnston for her presentation.

Election of Officers for 2023, Including Potential Waiver of Section V of the Ethics Commission Internal Operating Procedures "Election of Officers": In follow-up to the discussion at the August meeting, Ms. Oberdorfer stated that she polled all eligible Ethics Commission members to obtain preference for Chair and Vice Chair for 2023. Only Ms. Schmitt expressed an interest in serving

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as Chair again and only Ms. Dixon expressed an interest in serving as Vice Chair. Judge McCallum made a motion to waive Section V which states a person can only serve as Chair for two consecutive terms. Ms. Love seconded the motion. Ms. Schmitt asked for public comment. There was no public comment. There being no further discussion, the motion to waive Section V passed unanimously with a vote of 6-0.

Judge McCallum made a motion to accept the nomination of Ms. Schmitt as Ethics Commission Chair for 2023. Ms. Love seconded the motion. Ms. Schmitt asked for public comment. There was no public comment. There being no further discussion, the motion to approve the nomination of Ms. Schmitt as Chair of the Ethics Commission for 2023 passed unanimously with a vote of 6-0.

Judge McCallum made a motion to accept the nomination of Ms. Dixon as Ethics Commission Vice Chair for 2023. Dr. Freiburger seconded the motion. Ms. Schmitt asked for public comment. There was no public comment. There being no further discussion, the motion to approve the nomination of Ms. Dixon as Vice Chair of the Ethics Commission for 2023 passed unanimously with a vote of 6-0.

Public Comment:

Ms. Schmitt requested public comment. None was given.

Announcements:

Ms. Schmitt announced a pediatric ethics conference will be held virtually on November 4 from 8:00 a.m. until noon. Ms. Schmitt and Ms. Oberdorfer will look into having an Ethics Commission holiday dinner.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:46 p.m.

*Sandy Homrighouse*

_____	1-11-23_____
Sandy Homrighouse, Executive Assistant, OECO	Date of Approval

This is a summary of the meeting and not a verbatim transcription. A recording of these proceedings is available at <http://www.coj.net/departments/ethics-office/notices,-agendas-minutes> .