

**CITY OF JACKSONVILLE**



W. BRAXTON GILLAM, IV  
*CHAIR*

GENE FILBERT  
L. E. HUTTON  
JOE JACQUOT

**ETHICS COMMISSION**

MINUTES  
February 6, 2012  
Conference Room 2C  
City Hall

KIRBY OBERDORFER  
TATIANA SALVADOR  
MARY SWART  
JAMES YOUNG

The meeting was called to order by Braxton Gillam, Chair at 5:00 p.m., a quorum was present.

Attendees: Braxton Gillam, Gene Filbert, L.E. Hutton, Joe Jacquot, Kirby Oberdorfer, Tatiana Salvador, Mary Swart, and James Young

Others in attendance: Carla Miller, Director of the ECO Office; Jason Gabriel, Office of General Counsel; Jon Phillips, Ethics Officer, and Susan Stewart, Ethics Coordinator

Minutes from the January 25, 2012 meeting, as amended, were unanimously approved.

Carla provided the Ethics Report: She updated the Commission on the symposium she attended at Harvard University, relating to institutional corruption. She provided a succession plan for vacancies on the Ethics Commission and reported on legislation that has been introduced.

Mr. Jacquot was welcomed as the appointee from the Public Defender's Office, who provided remarks on his background.

Jason offered the OGC Report: He reported that he and Carla edited the current Boards and Commission application, tailoring it to the Ethics Commission, (handout); in response to a previous Ethics Commission inquiry, he stated there are provisions for independent counsel 108.505, Ordinance Code, regarding special counsel and there are times when that can be utilized such as targeted and specialized legal issues and in certain cases where there may be a conflict, however such a matter would be discussed between the chair and the General Counsel. He then provided copies of Ordinance 2012-85, as introduced by Councilman Clay Yarborough, that allocates a budget and makes an appropriation for the ECO office, proposes to repeal part 11, (Ethics Office) and was based on the resolution that the Ethics Commission passed from the last meeting (handouts available). Upon request from the Ethics Commission, Jason will get the dates and details of the Ordinance for the EC Members.

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Jon Phillips, Ethics Officer had no official report. He addressed questions relating to the email account ethics@coj.net and will make sure emails are not missed. Questions and answers followed.

A motion was made for the Chair, on behalf of the Ethics Commission to request that the email address ethics@coj.net be re-appropriated to Carla Miller so she can address hotline complaints. The Chair will send a letter to the General Counsel and Mayor. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

The Chair requested that the Nominating Subcommittee address the leadership positions at the meeting scheduled for February 13. He also suggested that the subcommittee recommend a small number of people (preferable four) to be considered by the full commission. Applicants will be notified of the meeting.

The members discussed the succession plan, a handout was provided, which was discussed. Joe Jacquot will replace Rhonda Peoples-Waters. Discussion followed regarding appointments and the succession plan.

The Chair advised the members he and Mr. Filbert attended the Rules Agenda meeting regarding 2012-10, the resolution to appoint Carla Miller as the Director of the ECO office and that the bill was deferred. Mr. Filbert reported that he and two citizens met with Council Member Bishop who offered three concerns he had with the appointment and asked the commission to identify if the position is full or part-time position; his concern about competing and conflicting priorities and that some members of the Council were concerned that a search for other qualified individuals was not conducted when the EC made the appointment. Discussion followed.

The Chair requested clarification on the hotline issue, from Jon Phillips. Questions and answers followed.

Public Comments were received.

The Chair announced the Nominating Subcommittee meeting is Monday, February 13th and the next monthly meeting will be Monday, March 5, 2012 at 5:00 p.m.

Braxton appointed James Young as the Chair of the Legislative Subcommittee. The Chair asked that the subcommittee meet and organize an effort to participate in the various City Council subcommittee meetings. The Legislative Subcommittee will meet Monday, February 13th at 4:00 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:16 p.m.

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Susan Stewart, Ethics Coordinator

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Date of Approval