

**METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY
AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
August 30, 2019**

On Friday, August 30, 2019, at 1:00 p.m., the Metropolitan Nashville Audit Committee met in the Metropolitan Courthouse, 2nd Floor, Committee Room 2. The following people attended the meeting:

Committee Members

Brackney Reed, Chamber of Commerce
Charles Frasier, Tennessee Society of CPAs
Jim Shulman, Vice-Mayor
Bob Mendes, Council Member
Talia Lomax-O'dneal, Director of Finance

Others

Gina Pruitt, Interim Metropolitan Auditor
Theresa Costonis, Department of Law
Patricia Cottrell, Chief Compliance Officer
Shannon Hall, Human Resources
Jason Lusk, Human Resources
Kenny Clark, EY
Bill Brown, BerryDunn
Yoko McCarthy, BerryDunn
Phil Carr, Department of Finance
Lauren Riley, Office of Internal Audit
Bill Walker, Office of Internal Audit
Seth Hatfield, Office of Internal Audit

Committee Member Absent

John Cooper, Council Member

Quorum present? Yes

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mr. Reed called the meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A **motion** was made to approve the July 10, 2019, July 19, 2019, and August 12, 2019, meeting minutes as presented to the Metropolitan Nashville Audit Committee via email, was seconded, and carried.

Unfinished Business

Consensus Discussion/Next Steps for Metropolitan Auditor Position

Ms. Costonis discussed steps taken to address an August 12, 2019, Audit Committee motion. The motion requested the Department of Law work with the Human Resources department to perform due diligence procedures on the seven candidates interviewed. Ms. Costonis advised this was normally outside the scope of work of both departments. However, each of the seven candidates were required to submit to Criminal Justice Information Systems (CJIS) background checks. This is a more involved and thorough background check than what is normally performed. Ms. Hall stated the results of the CJIS background checks were still pending. Ms. Pruitt noted the Committee could also consider hiring an independent investigator to perform research on each candidate.

Councilmember Mendes stated the Metropolitan Auditor is a position within the Metropolitan Government of Nashville that needs to be held by a person of the utmost integrity and they should be beyond reproach. Councilmember Mendes communicated concerns that if Google searches produced negative information, the next Metropolitan Auditor could be the subject of negative media reports shortly after being selected.

Vice-Mayor Shulman inquired if Human Resources had ever experienced this type of situation in the past. Ms. Hall stated a similar situation occurred with the Community Oversight Board. In

that situation, concerns were noted before the interview process and were addressed by the interview panel during interviews.

A discussion ensued over how to address the due diligence question.

A **motion** was made for the members of the Audit Committee to conduct their own individual research into the seven candidates. Any concerns raised from this research should be presented to Ms. Pruitt by Friday, September 6, 2019, and will be discussed at the September 10, 2019, meeting. The motion was seconded and carried.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 10, 2019, at 4:00 p.m.

The public meeting adjourned after approximately 45 minutes.

A **motion** to move into executive session to discuss draft audit reports was made, seconded, and carried.

The minutes for the August 30, 2019, Metropolitan Nashville Audit Committee meeting are respectfully submitted to the Metropolitan Nashville Audit Committee.

Gina Pruitt, Interim Metropolitan Nashville Auditor
Secretary, Metropolitan Nashville Audit Committee

Approved by the Metropolitan Nashville Audit Committee on September 10, 2019.