

METROPOLITAN COUNCIL BOARD OF ETHICAL CONDUCT
MINUTES OF MEETING
September 16, 2015

A meeting of the Metropolitan Council Board of Ethical Conduct was held on September 16, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. in the Metropolitan Courthouse, Committee Room 2.

Members in attendance were: Rodney Caldwell, Diane Dilanni, Keith Frazier, Council Member Lonell Matthews, Larry E. Patton, Sr., and Gulam Zade.

Staff members present were: Metropolitan attorneys, Director Saul Solomon and Nicki Eke, and board secretary, Shannon Hall.

The meeting was called to order by Shannon Hall, who confirmed a quorum present for the conduct of business.

The first order of business was the election of Chair and Vice Chair of the Board. Lonell Matthews moved to elect Diane Dilanni as Chair, which motion was seconded by Gulam Zade and unanimously approved. Keith Frazier moved to elect Larry Patton as Vice Chair, which motion was seconded by Lonell Matthews and unanimously approved.

Chair Diane Dilanni asked if there were any amendments or corrections to the minutes of the August 5, 2013 meeting. Hearing none, Larry Patton moved to approve the minutes of August 5, 2013 meeting which motion was seconded by Lonell Matthews and unanimously approved.

Complaint filed by Mr. Timothy Jester against Council Member Robert Duvall

A complaint was filed on July 30, 2015 by Timothy Jester of Old Hickory, Tennessee against Metro Council Member Robert Duvall. The complaint pertained to a conversation regarding legislation that was under current Council consideration which would limit potential quarry operations. Mr. Jester alleged that Council Member Duvall stated because he was personal friends with the owner of the property which would house the proposed quarry that he felt obligated to support their efforts to mine the land with which Mr. Jester was concerned.

A legal analysis of the complaint was completed by the Metropolitan Department of Law which concluded that the complaint against Council Member Duvall could potentially be deemed a violation of the Standards of Conducts outlined in the Metro Code if the allegations set forth in the complaint were proven to be true. The Department of Law then reviewed the possible actions and outcomes if the Board found that, after a public hearing, the Standards of Conduct were violated in this case. It was noted there were little to no possible actions or outcomes that could be assessed for a violation in this particular case based on the alleged complaint and the fact that Council Member Duvall is no longer in office. As a result, Mr. Jester requested to formally withdraw the complaint, which request was accepted by the Board.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

/s/ Elizabeth Waites
Secretary

/s/ Diane Dilanni
Diane Dilanni, Chair