

TONI PRECKWINKLE
PRESIDENT, COOK COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



BOARD OF ETHICS MEMBERS
DR. SUSAN GAFFNEY
VON MATTHEWS
HON. MARCUS SALONE
THOMAS SZROMBA, CHAIRPERSON

SISAVANH BAKER
DIRECTOR

COOK COUNTY BOARD OF ETHICS
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OPEN SESSION MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING
September 23, 2021

OPEN SESSION I:

- A. Call to Order:** The September 23, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Cook County Board of Ethics (“Board”) was called to order at 2:00 p.m.

Board Members Present: Dr. Susan Gaffney, Von Matthews, Honorable Marcus Salone and Thomas Szromba

Staff Members Present: Director S. Baker, Legal Counsel J. King, Investigator J. Brown and Administrative Analyst K. Johns

B. Agenda Approval

A motion to approve the agenda was made and adopted by unanimous voice vote.

C. Statements by the Public

There were no statements by the General Public.

D. Approval of the August 26, 2021 Regular Meeting Open Minutes Transcript

The Board decided to resume using the former meeting minutes format. Board staff will prepare August 26, 2021, regular meeting open minutes for Board approved at the November 4, 2021, meeting.

E. Director’s Report

Director Baker reported that there are currently two open cases. She stated that due to the upcoming campaign season, staff sent out reminders to Cook County employees regarding their obligations under the Ethics Ordinance. Director Baker reported that the Clerk of the Circuit Court requested ethics training for new employees and Board staff will present a “Lunch and Learn” for the Office of the President. Director Baker stated that the ethics online training platform has been updated. It will provide annual ethics training for all Cook County employees under the Office of the President. She noted that she would be reaching out to separately elected officials to request their participation.

G. Illinois Ethics Reform Bill – Status Update

Legal Counsel J. King stated that both houses have accepted the Governor’s amendatory veto and the bill is awaiting the Governor’s signature. She stated that staff will continue to monitor and update the Board.

At 2:12 p.m., the Board voted unanimously to adjourn into Executive Session to discuss matters

regarding specific investigations, public litigation, and approval of minutes for prior closed sessions, pursuant to sections 2(c)(4) of the Open Meetings Act.

At 2:45 p.m., the Board voted unanimously to reconvene into open session.

OPEN SESSION II:

A. Approval of the Closed Session Minutes of the August 26, 2021 Regular Meeting Transcript

The Board decided to resume using the former meeting minutes format. Board staff will prepare August 26, 2021, regular meeting closed minutes for Board approved at the November 4, 2021, meeting.

B. Adjourn

The Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 2:47 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Board Staff.