



CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER

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DENVER BOARD OF ETHICS

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DENVER BOARD OF ETHICS MINUTES

MEETING OF AUGUST 26, 2010

Vice-Chair Ann Terry called the meeting to order at 3:35 pm. Also present were Edgar Neel, Lori Mack and, participating by conference call, Chair Leslie Lawson. Syl Morgan-Smith was absent. Staff Director Michael Henry and Assistant City Attorney Helen Raabe and Budget Analyst Kelly Greunke were also present.

1. It was moved, seconded and passed to approve the minutes of the July 22, 2010 meeting.
2. Michael Henry and Kelly Greunke reported to the Board the status of the Board's budget request for 2011. The Mayor's Recommended Budget will be published on approximately September 15 and City Council will approve a city-wide budget for 2011 in November 2010.
3. Michael Henry and Kelly Greunke reported that there will likely be no funding for ethics training allocated to the Board of Ethics in 2011, except for \$1100 to hire an ethics trainer to deliver refresher ethics training to supervisors in some of the largest departments. Michael Henry said that he will continue to work with the Career Service Authority to be sure that high-quality consistent ethics training is given to all new city employees before they pass their probationary status.
4. The Board discussed a request for an advisory opinion from the Police Department regarding whether the Department may keep or must return a painting recently donated by a homeless citizen "as a symbol of cooperation between the community and the Police Department." The Board decided that, since the citizen's intent was apparently to donate his painting to the city and not to an individual city employee, there will be no violation of the Code of Ethics for the painting to be accepted.
5. Michael Henry and several Board members and Helen Raabe discussed the performance audit of the Board of Ethics being conducted by the Auditor's Office, which is planned for completion in November 2010. The audit will apparently review not only the Board of Ethics, but also the general system of ethics governance for the City and County of Denver and will also review and compare common practices from other city, state and federal ethics jurisdictions. The tentative date for presentation of the audit to the Audit Committee will be November 18, 2010 and Board members are

invited to attend. It is likely that the Board will be able to see the draft performance audit and prepare a response at the October 28 Board of Ethics meeting.

6. Michael Henry reported on several items from the annual Ethics Update of the Council on Governmental Ethics Laws, which contains reports from 84 member ethics jurisdictions, including some items from other jurisdictions that might be considered for use in the Denver Code of Ethics. The Board decided that the Board should wait to recommend any possible changes to City Council until after the completion of the performance audit.
7. The meeting adjourned at 4:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Henry, Staff Director

Approved by Board of Ethics: September 23, 2010