

TONI PRECKWINKLE
PRESIDENT, COOK COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



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

GINA SMITH
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

COOK COUNTY BOARD OF ETHICS

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OPEN SESSION MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING
January 14, 2021

OPEN SESSION I:

A. Call to Order: The January 14, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Cook County Board of Ethics (“Board”) was called to order at 2:02 p.m.

Board Members Present: Dr. Susan Gaffney, Von Matthews, Hon. Marcus Salone and Tom Szromba

Board Members Absent: None

Staff Members Present: Deputy Director G. Smith, Investigator A. Cahn, Investigator J. Brown, Investigator J. Jones, Investigator L. Fisher 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

Mark Denzler, President and CEO of the Illinois Manufacturer’s Association requested the board to waive lobbyist filing deadline fines due to the pandemic.

D. Approval of the December 3, 2020 Regular Meeting Open Minutes

A motion to approve the December 3, 2020 regular meeting open minutes was made and adopted by unanimous voice vote.

E. Approval of 2021 Meeting Schedule

Per chair, the 2021 meeting schedule was approved at a previous board meeting; no action required.

F. Director’s Report

Deputy Director Smith introduced Department of Human Rights and Ethics new director Sisavanh Baker. Deputy Smith noted that A. Crawford and S. Mercado with the State’s Attorney’s Office were present and would be joining the executive session.

At 2:13 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 2:53 p.m., the Board voted unanimously to reconvene into open session.

OPEN SESSION II:

G. Approval of the Closed Session Minutes of the December 3, 2020 Regular Meeting

The minutes of the closed session of the Board's December 3, 2020 regular meeting were approved and adopted by unanimous voice vote.

H. Approval of the Closed Session Minutes of the December 21, 2020 Special Meeting

The minutes of the closed session of the Board's December 21, 2020 special meeting were approved and adopted by unanimous voice vote.

I. Voting Regarding Executive Session Items

The Board voted unanimously on a motion to close case 19I05 modifying the proposed notice of determination.

The Board voted unanimously on a motion to close case 18I23 based on the notice of determination which will be slightly amended.

J. Adjourn

The Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 3:13 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Board Staff