

METROPOLITAN WATER RECLAMATION DISTRICT OF GREATER CHICAGO  
ETHICS COMMISSION  
OPEN SESSION MINUTES

October 8, 2014  
100 East Erie Street, Chicago, Illinois  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor – Main Board Room

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Jose A. Lopez  
Zelda B. Harris  
Michael J. Weicher, Chair

STAFF PRESENT

James B. Murray, Jr., Principal Attorney

- I. The meeting convened with a call to order at 2:31 p.m.
- II. PUBLIC COMMENT: None
- III. INITIAL TERMS OF OFFICE:
  - a. In accordance with Article 20 of the Ethics Ordinance (Ordinance No. 04-001), Section 20-2, lots were drawn to determine the initial terms of the Commissioners. Commissioners Lopez and Weicher shall serve 2-year terms and Commissioner Harris shall serve a 1-year term. Terms effective May 15, 2014.
  - b. Further, Commissioner Weicher shall serve as Chairperson for the Ethics Commission.
- IV. NEW BUSINESS
  - a. The Commissioners decided to promulgate procedures and rules governing the performance of its duties and the exercise of its powers pursuant to Article 20, Section 20-4 of the Ethics Ordinance. Commissioner Harris will forward to Commissioners Lopez and Weicher examples of Rules and Regulations from the Cook County Board of Ethics and the City of Chicago Board of Ethics. Commissioner Lopez agreed to prepare a draft of the Rules and Regulations for the MWRD Ethics Commission to consider at the next open meeting.
- V. OTHER BUSINESS
  - a. Pending complaints. The Commissioners acknowledged receipt of an email dated August 27, 2014 from Bob Mavet. Discussion was had on the public posting of the procedures for filing a complaint with the Ethics Commission. James Murray advised the Commissioners that the procedures for filing a complaint with the Commission are posted on the MWRD website and he would have IT staff perform a test to ensure that the site is working properly. The Commissioners decided that the email does not meet the requirements of a valid complaint and falls outside the jurisdiction of the Ethics Commission as limited to Article 10 of the Ethics Ordinance. The Commissioners decided that Commissioner Weicher as Chairperson shall send a response to Bob Mavet by email informing him of the determination of the Commission. James Murray agreed to provide the Commissioners with a list of current MWRD employees.

- b. Open meetings. Discussion was had by the Commissioners on the application of the Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120/1.02) to the Commission. The Commissioners determined that the Ethics Commission shall be bound by the requirements of the Open Meetings Act. James Murray was in agreement with the determination of the Commissioners. Mr. Murray provided the Commissioners with a copy of 5 ILCS 120/2.06 pertaining to the requirement that minutes be kept of open meetings of public bodies. Commissioner Harris agreed to draft the minutes for the meetings.
- c. Schedule of meetings. Discussion was had by the Commissioners on the schedule for regular open meetings. The Commissioners determined that meetings shall be held quarterly in 2015 beginning on second or third Tuesday in January.

The Commission adjourned at 2:55 p.m.