

Iowa County Ethics Board Minutes

**Monday, November 24, 2008
UW Extension Conference Room, Courthouse**

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. Board members present: Jim Palzkill, Dave Gollon, Brad Glass and Dana Perry.
Absent/Excused: Beryl Melcher.

Also present: Randy Terronez, County Administrator.
3. Randy Terronez welcomed the members and provided brief history of the Board. The Ordinance was adopted in 1999 but the Board never met. Dave Gollon noted that concerns with the Highway Department prompted the adoption of the ordinance. Dave Gollon noted that the ordinance was an effort to make the County more transparent.

Last year as the County Board restructured several committees, the Committee on Committees felt the need to re-establish the Ethics Board and expand from three members to five members.
4. Election of Officers:

Chair: Dave Gollon moved and Brad Glass seconded to nominate Dana Perry as Chair. Motion passed unanimously.

Vice-Chair: Dave Gollon moved and Dana Perry seconded to nominate Brad Glass as Vice-Chair. Motion passed unanimously.
5. A motion to approve certification of notice for this meeting was made by Dave Gollon seconded by Brad Glass. Motion carried.
6. A motion to approve the agenda for this November 24, 2008 meeting was made by Jim Palzkill second by Brad Glass. Motion carried.
7. Opportunity for members of the audience to address the committee: none.
8. Review of Ordinance/Code

Randy Terronez noted that Corporate Counsel Tim Helmberger would be available at the next meeting to review the ordinance. Several years ago, the UW Extension conducted an Ethics workshop for County Board members. The individual at UW Extension has retired and the UW Extension is in the process of replacing the person. Randy Terronez suggested getting the UW Extension to provide training for not only for County Board members for the department heads and county-wide elected officials.

Brad Glass noted concerns with the definitions section, “(l)” substantial financial interest – there is no definition of this phrase and one needs to be defined. This item will be referred to Corporate Counsel for follow up and a possible amendment to the ordinance.

Dave Gollon commented on Highway Department salt policy and appearance of conflict.

It was noted that in addition to the ordinance, a set of policies be developed with specific examples that will encourage – promote compliance.

Discussion given on role of Ethics Board as processing ethics-related complaints (conducting hearings, etc.) and issuing advisory opinions. In regard to hearing complaints, the Board would probably be represented by Corporate Counsel, particularly when the complainant has an attorney.

Brad Glass inquired in Section 701.24 – Appointed Official. This probably refers to the County Board Chairman who makes appointments to various Boards/Commissions.

In regard to section 701.26 Sanctions – it was noted that with the exception of imposing \$100 fine, the Board recommends to the County Board of Supervisors for follow-up sanctions which may include referral to the District Attorney.

9. Next meeting: To be determined.

A motion to adjourn at 6:40 p.m. was made by Jim Palzkill second by Dave Gollon. Motion Carried.

Minutes by Randy Terronez, County Administrator