

LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS

Minutes

April 2, 2026

The Board of Ethics met on April 2, 2026 at 9:12 a.m. in the LaBelle Room on the first floor of the LaSalle Building located at 617 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana with Board Members Amato, Bryant, Crigler, Danos, Fremin, Grand, Grimley, Huval, Nowlin, Roberts and Scott present. Board Members Colomb, Davis and Whipple were absent. Also present were the Ethics Administrator, David Bordelon; the Executive Secretary, Carolyn Abadie Landry; and Counsel Tracy Barker, Kathryn Calmes, Jessica Meiners and Charles Reeves.

The Board considered a waiver request in Docket No. 25-419 submitted by Donald Ray "Don" Cravins, Sr., former member of the Louisiana Racing Commission, regarding a \$1,500 late fee assessed for filing his amended 2021 Tier 2.1 Annual personal financial disclosure 348 days late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board deferred the matter to a future meeting.

The Board considered a waiver request in Docket No. 25-627 submitted by Timothy Burbach, Helix Network of Educational Choices, Mentorship Academy, Helix Community Schools, Baton Rouge Charter Schools, regarding a \$500 late fee assessed for filing his amended 2022 Tier 3 Annual personal financial disclosure 598 days late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board rescinded the late fee since Mr. Burbach has filed the amendment.

On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board deferred Docket No. 25-653 for later in the meeting.

The Board considered Docket No. 25-693 regarding a reconsideration request that the regarding its decision to decline to waive a \$500 late fee assessed against Caleb Atwell,

candidate for Mayor / Town of Killian / Livingston Parish in the March 29, 2025 election, for filing his 2024 Tier 3 Candidate personal finance disclosure 218 days late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board deferred the matter to a future meeting.

In its capacity as the Supervisory Committee for Campaign Finance, the Board considered a waiver request in Docket No. 26-002 regarding two (2) \$300.00 and two (2) \$1,000 campaign finance late fees (total of \$2,600) assessed against Tiffany Foxworth, a successful candidate for District Judge, 19th Judicial District Court, ES 2, Division M in the July 11, 2020 and November 3, 2020 elections, whose 2023 and 2024 Supplemental reports were filed 5 and 73 days late; and, an untimely request that the Board waive the \$60.00, seven (7) \$2,000, the \$840, and the \$1,620 late fees (total \$16,520) assessed against Tiffany Foxworth, whose 10-G, EDE-G, 40-G, 2020 & 2021 Supplemental campaign finance reports were filed 1, 188, 160, 149, 183, 111, 99, 14, 27 and 58 days late respectively. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board deferred the matter to a future meeting.

The Board considered a waiver request in Docket No. 26-075 regarding the \$250 and \$50 late fees assessed against Mr. Adrian Bruneau for the late filing of the November 2025 and December 2025 Lobbying Expenditure Reports. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board deferred the matter to a future meeting.

Docket No. 26-093 will be deferred to the end of the meeting.

On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board agreed to take action on items G8-G21 en globo subject to any items being removed from the en globo listing for further discussion.

On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board adopted the staff recommendations on items G8-G21, excluding item G14, taking the following action:

The Board considered an advisory opinion request in Docket No. 25-795 regarding whether the Code of Governmental Ethics prohibits an Ascension Parish Councilman from renting a food truck stall on Parish property that is administered by the City of Gonzales. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board declined to render an advisory opinion for lack of information and instructed staff to advise Mr. Dupaty if he submits the additional information, it will be presented to the Board at a future meeting.

The Board considered an advisory opinion request in Docket No. 26-041 regarding the applicability of the post-employment restrictions for Reid Bohlinger, an employee of the Louisiana Department of Conservation and Energy. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board concluded that the Code of Governmental Ethics' post-employment restrictions would apply to Mr. Bohlinger's future employment with a petroleum consulting firm, in which he would be required to testify on behalf of legal entities at oil and gas hearings conducted by the Office of Permitting and Compliance. The Board also advised that, should a specific situation arise that may present a potential violation of the post-employment restrictions, Mr. Bohlinger should seek an updated advisory opinion.

The Board considered an advisory opinion request in Docket No. 26-071 regarding whether the Code of Governmental Ethics prohibits a former member of the Slidell City Council from being employed by the Office of the Mayor of the City of Slidell. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board concluded that the Code of Governmental Ethics permits Mayor Randy Fandal to hire a former Slidell City Council member to work for the City of Slidell, and the former councilmember is not required to wait two years from their termination of office in order to accept the employment.

The Board considered an advisory opinion request in Docket No. 26-074 from Shawn Eller, hearing officer with the 15th Judicial District Court, regarding as to whether the Code of Governmental Ethics permits him to run for office while being employed as a hearing officer. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board concluded that Mr. Eller's campaign for state legislative office and service as a legislator does not pose an issue under the Code of Governmental Ethics. However, he should be advised that this opinion request may present an issue associated with the Code of Judicial Conduct, which is under the jurisdiction of the Louisiana Supreme Court. The Board suggests that Mr. Eller contact that office regarding the application of those laws. A copy of his request and this opinion has been forwarded to the Louisiana Supreme Court.

The Board considered an advisory opinion request in Docket No. 26-076 from Larry Horacek, on behalf of the Shenandoah Estate Crime Prevention and Improvement District (the "District"), as to whether the Code of Governmental Ethics permits the District to use public funds to purchase plaques or trophies honoring volunteers. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board concluded that the purchase of these items does not present an issue under the Code of Governmental Ethics. However, Mr. Horacek should be advised that this opinion request may present an issue associated with the proper use of public funds, which is under the jurisdiction of the Attorney General's office. The Board suggests that he contact that office regarding the application of those laws. A copy of his request and this opinion has been forwarded to the Attorney General's office.

The Board considered an advisory opinion request in Docket No. 26-077 regarding whether the Code of Governmental Ethics prohibits Brad Daigle, a candidate for House of Representatives - District 60, from continuing to represent political subdivisions through his

private companies, Insurance & Financial Services, Inc. ("IFS") and Allied Benefits Solutions, LLC ("ABS"), should he get elected. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board concluded that the Code of Governmental Ethics permits Mr. Daigle to continue to represent political subdivisions through his private companies, IFS and ABS, should he get elected to the House of Representatives – District 60.

The Board considered an advisory opinion request in Docket No. 26-082 from Brenda Breaux, the Executive Director of the New Orleans Redevelopment Authority (“NORA”), as to whether her agency is permitted to contact with a joint venture team comprised of HRI Communities, LLC ("HRI") and Travelers Aid Society of Greater New Orleans ("TASGNO"), her husband's employer. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board concluded that the Code of Governmental Ethics does not prohibit NORA from entering into a contract with the joint venture team of HRI and TASGNO, and Brenda Breaux will not be prohibited from receiving the benefit of her spouse’s employment compensation from TASGNO while NORA has a contract with TASGNO, provided Ms. Breaux and her husband meet all six of the conditions listed under La. 42:1111C(5)(a). Forms 405 and 423 can be found at ethics.la.gov/disclosures.

The Board considered an advisory opinion request in Docket No. 26-098 from Mamie Gasparecz, as to whether the Code of Governmental Ethics permits UNITY of Greater New Orleans ("UNITY"), a non-profit organization for which she serves as a director, to receive grants from the French Quarter Management District (the "District") the agency for which she serves as a commissioner. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board concluded that the Code of Governmental Ethics does not prohibit Ms. Gasparecz from serving as a director of UNITY, while UNITY is seeking to obtain grants administered by the District.

Furthermore, the Code of Governmental Ethics does not prohibit her from participating in matters relating to UNITY.

The Board considered an advisory opinion request in Docket No. 26-106 regarding whether the Code of Governmental Ethics prohibits Ben Westerburg, an Alderman for the City of West Monroe, from continuing to work as a disc jockey at an FM radio station during his re-election campaign. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board concluded that the Code of Governmental Ethics does not prohibit Mr. Westerburg from continuing to work at K-104/KJLO-FM Radio Station while he campaigns for re-election as Alderman for the City of West Monroe during the May 16, 2026, election season.

The Board granted the withdrawal of an advisory opinion request in Docket No. 26-107 by Tristan Gruspier on behalf of the Louisiana Bridge Builders (“LBB”), as to whether the Code of Governmental Ethics prohibits LBB from making payments to certain entities serving as potential subcontractors on a project with Louisiana Department of Transportation since the facts giving rise to the potential ethics question sought by LBB appear to render the opinion moot.

The Board granted the withdrawal of an advisory opinion request in Docket No. 26-118 regarding whether the Code of Governmental Ethics prohibits Jenny Moran, an employee with Louisiana Department of Education, from working for Savvas Learning Center since the opportunity is no longer available, thus rendering the opinion moot.

The Board considered an advisory opinion request in Docket No. 26-120 from Yolanda Righteous, former administrator for Waste Permits Division (“WPD”) of Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, as to whether the Louisiana Code of Governmental Ethics permits her company YMR Environmental LLC (the “Company”) to work on matters relating to WPD following termination of her employment. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed,

the Board concluded that the Code of Governmental Ethics prohibits Ms. Righteous and the Company, for a period of two years, from receiving compensation to provide assistance to persons in matters with the WPD if she worked on such matters during her employment with the WPD.

The Board considered an advisory opinion request in Docket No. 26-121 from Russell J. Stutes, Jr., on behalf of the City of Lake Charles (the "City") and the members of the Lake Charles City Council (the "City Council") as to whether the Louisiana Code of Governmental Ethics permits the City and the City Council to act with respect to matters that may have involved a suspected violation of the Code of Governmental Ethics. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board concluded that the Code of Governmental Ethics does not prohibit the City or the City Council from acting upon matters related to designating the City as a special taxing district.

The Board considered an advisory opinion request in Docket No. 26-081 regarding whether the Code of Governmental Ethics prohibits Nolan Marshall, a member of the Orleans Parish School Board, from working for certain non-profits. Mr. Marshall is currently working to establish The Learning Community Center as a 501(c)(3) organization. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board deferred the matter to a future meeting.

The Board considered the following general business agenda items:

Board Member Grand recused himself from voting on the March 2026 minutes.

On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board approved the March 5th and March 6th, 2026 Board meeting minutes.

The Board considered a consent opinion in Docket No. 23-836 regarding Debbie Stilley related to violation of Section 1113A of the Code of Governmental Ethics with a \$1,000 civil

penalty. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board adopted the consent opinion for publication and authorized staff to dismiss the charges filed against Ms. Stillely with the Ethics Adjudicatory Board.

The Board considered a consent opinion in Docket No. 24-113 regarding Thomas D. Durrett, Jr. related to charges for violating Section 1115 of the Code of Governmental Ethics with a \$2,000 civil penalty. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board adopted the consent opinion for publication and authorized staff to dismiss the charges filed against Mr. Durrett with the Ethics Adjudicatory Board.

The Board considered a consent opinion in Docket No. 24-510 regarding Adam Coleman and Coleman Culture Basketball LCC (“CCB”) related to a violation of Section 1113A(1)(a) of the Code of Governmental Ethics. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board adopted the consent opinion for publication.

The Board considered a waiver request in Docket No. 25-750 regarding Frank Scurlock, candidate for Governor in the October 14, 2023 election, regarding a \$10,500 late fee assessed for filing his 2022 Tier 1 Annual personal financial disclosure 21 days late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board declined to waive the fee since no supporting documentation has been submitted.

The Board moved G27 and G28 to the end of the meeting.

In its capacity as the Supervisory Committee on Campaign Finance, the Board unanimously agreed to take action on the requests for “good cause” waivers of campaign finance disclosure late fees assessed against individuals included in item G29, en globo, subject to any items being removed from the en globo listing for further discussion.

On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board adopted the staff

recommendations on the items in G29, taking the following action:

In its capacity as the Supervisory Committee on Campaign Finance Disclosure, the Board unanimously declined to waive the campaign finance late fees assessed against the following:

Docket No. 26-048 from Wilton R. Dunaway, 40-G of a \$500 late fee;
Docket No. 26-072 from Nadine Ramsey, 2017 SUPP of a \$2,000 late fee; and
Docket No. 26-100 from Carlos Jackson/YVC PAC, 2023 Annual of a \$3,000 late fee.

The Board unanimously agreed to take action on the requests for “good cause” waivers of Lobbying registration late fees assessed against individuals included in item G30, en globo, subject to any items being removed from the en globo listing for further discussion.

On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board adopted the staff recommendations on the items in G30, taking the following action:

The Board unanimously waived the Lobbying late fees assessed against the following:

Docket 26-102 from Brett Michelin, 2026 registration, 7 days late of a \$200 late fee; and
Docket 26-108 from Mary LeFebvre, 2026 registration, 8 days late of a \$250 late fee.

The Board unanimously agreed to take action on the requests for “good cause” waivers of personal financial disclosure late fees assessed against individuals included in item G31, en globo, subject to any items being removed from the en globo listing for further discussion.

On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board adopted the staff recommendations on the items in G31, taking the following action:

The Board unanimously suspended all of the personal financial disclosure late fees based on future compliance for the following:

Docket 26-073 Trayvean Scott, Amend 2022 Tier 3, 531 days late of a \$500 late fee;
Docket 26-079 Stephen W. Prator, Amend 2024 Tier 2, 3 days late of a \$300 late fee; and
Docket 26-080 Danny Lipari, Amend 2022 Tier 2.1, 89 days late of a \$1,500 late fee.

The Board unanimously waived the personal financial disclosure late fees assessed against the following:

Docket 26-099 Katelyn L. Cockerham, Amend 2024 Tier 2, 9 days late of a \$900 late fee.

In its capacity as the Supervisory Committee on Campaign Finance, the Board considered a request in Docket No. 25-322 that it reconsider its decision to reduce to \$600 the \$1,000 campaign finance late fee assessed against Scott Leehy, a successful candidate for District Judge, 4th Judicial District Court, ES2, Div.A in the September 30, 2006 election, whose 2024 Supplemental campaign finance disclosure report was filed 62 days late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board reaffirmed its decision to reduce the fee to \$600 based on Rule 1205C and decline to waive.

In its capacity as the Supervisory Committee for Campaign Finance, the Board considered a waiver request in Docket No. 25-653 regarding that the Board reconsider its decision to affirm the reassessments for two (2) \$400.00 late fees that were suspended against Tehmi Chassion, a successful a candidate for Member of School Board, District 4, Lafayette Parish in the November 4, 2014 and October 2, 2010 election, whose 2017 Supplemental campaign finance disclosure reports were filed 10 days late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board reconsidered the waiver request. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board declined to consider the reassessments.

The Board considered Mr. Bordelon's Administrator's Notes in Docket No. 3126-01:

1. Tier 2 Personal Financial Disclosure Forms are due May 15th. The forms must be filed electronically beginning this year as a result of Act 301 of the 2025 Regular Session. Please contact Ashley Wimberley and/or Jerri Brees to create an electronic filing profile in our filing system.
2. Dianne Calmes was recognized for five years of service at the Board of Ethics.

The Board took no action on an updated legislation report in Docket No. 3126-02 regarding proposed legislation filed for the 2026 Legislative Session as to the laws administered by the Louisiana Board of Ethics.

The Board considered an advisory opinion request in Docket No. 26-093 regarding as to whether the Code of Governmental Ethics would prohibit Joe Caldarera, as a property owner within the jurisdiction of the Kenner Historic District Design Commission (the "HDDC"), from serving as a member of the HDDC. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board concluded that the Code of Governmental Ethics does not prohibit Mr. Caldarera, as the owner of property within the HDDC's jurisdiction, from serving as a member of the HDDC. The Board does prohibit him from entering into transactions with the HDDC or participating in matters in which he has a substantial economic interest.

On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board adjourned at 10:03 a.m.

Secretary

APPROVED:

Chairman