

City of Lyndon, Kentucky Ethics Committee Meeting Minutes

July 16, 2025

Attendees: Mera Corlett, Malick Diallo, Calvin Shaak. City Attorney John Singler, Mayor Brent Hagan

Meeting Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 10:06am

Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the July 9, 2025, meeting were approved. Motion by Calvin Shaak, seconded by Malick Diallo.

Ethics Committee Webpage Language Review

- Mera Kathryb presented drafted language for the Ethics Committee webpage.
- Suggested additions: a sworn statement, a willingness to testify, and a committee purpose statement.
- Motion to approve the revised language for the website by Calvin Shaak, seconded by Malick Diallo. Motion passed.

Financial Disclosure Form

- John Singler will modify the financial disclosure form, using the Pee Wee Valley, KY, example as a template.

Section-by-Section Review of KLC Model Code

- John Singler reviewed changes from the KLC Model Code to the current Lyndon ordinance, creating a basic document to address gaps in the existing structure.
- Key Discussion Points: Sections 1, 2, 3 (Preamble): Retained from KLC Model Code as the purpose statement.
- Definition Section: Replaced "they" for clarity. Added definitions for "domestic partner" and "social media platforms" (as public interactions). Mera Corlett suggested adding "subordinate" and "insubordinate" language.
- Section 5: Aligned with KLC Model Code. Added a social media section to ensure city business is not conducted on private domains. Standards for officials' conduct emphasized, distinguishing council from employees. Mera Corlett proposed a public-facing format to define and enforce conduct.
- Conflicts of Interest: Added Section "F" to define conflicts. Discussed abstention procedures, recommending officials leave the room during majority votes to avoid influence.
- Section 7 (Financial Disclosure): Changed "ethics officer" to "ethics commission" and increased detail. Added language on reporting gifts, setting a \$300 threshold for gifts after filing disclosure (per Section 6B). Added ongoing responsibility to avoid accepting gifts over \$300.
- Gifts Discussion: Extensive discussion on unintended influence on city officials and personnel in their official capacity.
- Preamble Revision: Mera Corlett proposed purpose statement for the city council's ethics committee purpose. John Singler agreed to replace Section 2 with Mera's example, which she will provide in writing.
- Section 3: Added new purpose and authority requirements per KRS 65.003 and KRS 82.082.
- Social Media Policies: Standards, not suggestions, to be included in the ordinance. Emphasized separating private dealings from official interactions (e.g., open records compliance).

Review paused at Section 5 due to time constraints.

Next Meeting:

- Scheduled for Tuesday, August 5, 2025, at 10:00 AM.

Adjournment:

- Motion to adjourn by Calvin Shaak, seconded by Malick Diallo. Meeting adjourned at 11:38 AM.

Mera Corlett

Calvin Shaak

Malick Diallo