City of Atlanta
Ethics Board
March 19, 2026, Meeting Minutes

Ethics Officer Jabu Sengova confirmed that a quorum was present and called the first meeting of the newly seated City of Atlanta Ethics Board to order at 6:02 p.m.

Attending the meeting were:

- Board members: Gabriella Cole, Keith Lamar, Nkoyo Effiong Lewis, and Drew Williamson;
- Ethics Office staff: Jabu Sengova (Ethics Officer), Carlos Santiago (Deputy Ethics Officer), Sherry Dawson (Business Manager), and other staff members.

1. Election of Temporary Presiding Officer

Mr. Williamson moved to select Mr. Lamar to preside until the election of a permanent chair. The motion was seconded by Ms. Cole and unanimously approved by the Board.

2. Adoption of Agenda

Temporary Presiding Chair Keith Lamar moved to adopt the agenda. The motion was seconded by Ms. Lewis and unanimously approved by the Board.

3. Election of Board Chair

Mr. Williamson nominated Nkoyo Effiong Lewis as Chair, noting her experience and leadership. With no further nominations, Ms. Lewis was unanimously elected Chair.

4. Roll Call

Board Chair Lewis conducted roll call and confirmed member attendance.

5. Election of Vice Chair

Mr. Lamar nominated Mr. Williamson to serve as Vice Chair. With no additional nominations, Mr. Williamson was unanimously elected Vice Chair.

6. Adoption of 2026 Meeting Schedule

Mr. Williamson moved to adopt the proposed 2026 meeting schedule. Mr. Lamar seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

7. Approval of Minutes of January 9, 2026 Board Retreat

Ms. Cole moved to approve the minutes of January 9, 2026, the board retreat. Mr. Lamar seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved with one abstention.

ENFORCEMENT REPORT

Deputy Ethics Officer Carlos Santiago presented the quarterly enforcement report. For the period January 1-February 28, 2026, the Ethics Office received 48 complaints and opened four new ethics matters after jurisdictional review. The Office currently has 21 open matters and four appeals were pending.

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES (SOPs)

Mr. Santiago presented the proposed Investigative SOPs, which require Board approval under the City Charter.

Amendments Adopted

Mr. Williamson moved to approve the following amendments, and Mr. Lamar seconded the motion.

1. Anonymous Complaints SOP language was amended to state that the Ethics Office may proceed with any complaint containing sufficient information to establish reasonable suspicion, regardless of format.
2. Subpoena Authority SOP Section 5.1 was amended to specify that subpoena authority over witnesses applies only to appeal hearings, not investigations.
3. Appeal Hearing Procedures SOP Section 6.2 was amended to authorize the Board to adopt supplemental procedural rules for appeal hearings, with advance notice to appellants.

Thereafter, Ms. Cole moved to approve the Investigative SOPs as amended. The motion was seconded by Ms. Lewis and unanimously approved by the Board.

FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE REPORT

Business Manager Sherry Dawson presented the March 2026 Financial Disclosure Report with 2,966 required filings for the year, an increase due to position reclassifications.

ETHICS OFFICER'S REPORT

Ethics Officer Jabu Sengova presented highlights from the Annual Ethics Report. Over 9,000 employees were trained in 2025. Ms. Sengova also reported on new automation tools and case management system launched. Further, the website redesign and new e-learning ethics training was underway.

BUDGET REPORT

The Ethics Office provided an update on the FY26 budget cycle and early planning for FY27. Funding sources and major expense categories were reviewed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were submitted.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Williamson moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lamar and unanimously approved by the Board. The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.