

**DRAFT MINUTES
LANSING CITY BOARD OF ETHICS
REGULAR MEETING
April 14, 2026, 5:30 PM**

Meeting Room
Lansing Elections Office
701 W Jolly Rd Lansing

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jim DeLine, Chairperson
Rachelle Franklin, Vice Chairperson
Jim Cavanagh
Luna Brown
Ryan Wier
R Cole Bouck
Charles Filice

ABSENT: Janielle Houston, Excused

A QUORUM WAS PRESENT

OTHERS PRESENT:

Emelia Pierce, member of the public
Duncan Darnell, City Clerk's Office Intern
Brian Jackson, Chief Deputy City Clerk
Chris Swope, City Clerk
Greg Venker, City Attorney

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Moved by Jim Cavanagh to approve the agenda

MOTION CARRIED

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Luna Brown to approve the Minutes of March 10, 2026
MOTION CARRIED

Resignation of Board of Ethics Member Janielle Houston

Moved by Jim Cavanagh to accept the resignation
MOTION CARRIED

Communication from Councilmember Clara Martinez Reporting Recusals
Placed on file

Requests for Formal Opinion on Council Member Conflict of Interest

Board discussed the requests, and were provided legal guidance on the options available to the Board to respond to a request for a formal opinion.

City Attorney shared that a similar question has been asked to the City Attorney previously at an open meeting and stated his determination that it was not a legal conflict of interest.

Board discussed whether the matter is still ripe since the resolutions at issue were withdrawn and no vote occurred.

Moved by Cole Bouck that the Board will not provide an opinion at this time, as the matter is no longer ripe, in response to the requests for a formal opinion.
MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS:

Affidavit of Disclosure, Joseph Sterle, Police Department

Moved by Cole Bouck to place Joseph Sterle's Affidavit of Disclosure on file, having found no violation of the Ethics Ordinance at this time.
MOTION CARRIED

Statements of Financial Interests with no items disclosed

Jake	Brower	Mayor's Office	Chief Strategy Officer
Dennis	Parker	Human Resources Department	Chief Labor Negotiator
Melissa	Glasscoe	Mayor's Office	Manager

Moved by Cole Bouck to place all Statements of Financial Interests with no items disclosed listed above on file, having found no violation of the Ethics Ordinance or other issues to further debate or discuss at this time.
MOTION CARRIED

Statements of Financial Interests with items to be reviewed

Statement of Financial Interests Peter Spadafore, City Council Member

Moved by Jim Cavanagh to place the Statement of Financial Interests on file having found no violation of the Ethics Ordinance or other issues to further debate or discuss at this time.

MOTION CARRIED

Statement of Financial Interests Christopher Wright, Treasurer

Moved by Cole Bouck to return the Statement back to Christopher to finish Part I to note if his past employer has any funding or contracts with the City of Lansing.

MOTION CARRIED

Statement of Financial Interests Brian Jackson, Chief Deputy City Clerk

The Statement provided in the packet was the draft version of his Statement that was not signed and notarized. However, the final notarized and signed copy was available and was reviewed at the meeting by members of the Board.

Moved by Jim Cavanagh to place the amended Statement of Financial Interests on file having found no violation of the Ethics Ordinance or other issues to further debate or discuss at this time.

MOTION CARRIED

Statement of Financial Interests Mark Lawrence, Mayor's Office Chief of Staff

Moved by Ryan Wier to place the Statement of Financial Interests on file having found no violation of the Ethics Ordinance or other issues to further debate or discuss at this time.

MOTION CARRIED

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT: None.

CHAIR'S REPORT:

Chairperson DeLine thanked Patrick Abood and the Board in general for their work over the past year and a half to review the Ethics Manual, Ethics Ordinance and review the minutiae of the ordinances and procedures.

TABLED ITEMS: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Continued Review of [Ethics Ordinance Chapter 290](#)

The Board of Ethics reviewed and discussed the first draft of proposed edits to the Ethics Ordinance and made additional recommendations which will be reviewed and provided suggested language by the City Attorney's Office. The second draft will be reviewed at a future meeting.

MOTION CARRIED

Moved by Jim Cavanagh to adjourn.

MOTION CARRIED

ADJOURNED: approximately 6:15 p.m.