



Mableton Ethics Board Meeting Minutes

City of Mableton

Ethics Board Minutes

Date: October 14, 2025

Time: 6:38 PM EDT

Location: 1245 Veterans Memorial Highway Suite 20 (Administrative Building)

Board Members Present: Board Member Brandon Mitchell, Board Member Angela Weston, Board Chair Joel Cope, Board Secretary Patricia Thomas, Board Vice-Chair Tammi Daniel

Board Member Absent: Board Member Ebony McCants, Board Member Karen Clarke

Others Present: Attorney Earle Turner, City Clerk Susan Hiott

1. **Call to order:** Meeting was called to order at 6:38 PM EDT
2. **Roll Call:** Board Secretary Patricia Thomas called the roll: A quorum (5) of the board was present.
3. **Approval of Minutes:** *Motion* was made by Board Member Brandon Mitchell and seconded by Board Secretary Patricia Thomas to accept the meeting minutes for September 17, 2025. The motion carried, 5-0.
4. **Organizational and Procedural Items**
 - a. **Training**
 1. Bylaws training for the City of Mableton (Board of Ethics) was given by Attorney Earle Turner. A copy of his PowerPoint presentation is to be sent to the Board for review.
 2. City Clerk Susan Hiott will help the Board collect insight into how ethics complaints are handled for three comparable cities. This will help the Board develop Mableton's process.
 3. Attorney Earle Turner will get back to the Board with a response to the following questions:
 - Should hearings be public or private?
 - Can we engage a law firm that would be independently consulted for issues presented to the Ethics Board? This is so there would be no conflict of interest in using the City of Mableton's attorney to deal with ethics complaints filed against City Officials.



- Are members of the Board protected legally with any choices/recommendations they make as the result of an ethics violation?

b. Updates to Bylaws

1. Board Chair Joel Cope suggested making changes to sections 4.2, 4.3, 8.1, 9.1 of the Bylaws to add 'the members would be present' to each section. A *motion* was made by Board Member Brandon Mitchell and was seconded by Board Secretary Patricia Thomas to make these changes. The motion carried, 5-0.

c. Process and Procedures Discussion

1. Attorney Earle Turner will be back to the board on the following:
2. How will complaints against the City Clerk be handled since the Clerk receives and delegates the ethics complaints filed.

5. **Unfinished Business:** There was discussion around the possibility of having electronic meetings. It was advised that meetings be in person to meet the quorum rule.
6. **New Business:** The members of the Board discussed the language and possible edits to the Bylaws in detail. After such discussion a *motion* was made by Board Secretary Patricia Thomas to change our meeting cadence from monthly to a 'special called meeting' schedule. Board Member Brandon Mitchell seconded. The motion carried, 5-0. There will be no meeting in November. The next meeting will take place on December 9, 2025.
7. **Adjournment:** *Motion* was made by Board Chair Joel Cope to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 PM EDT. Board Member Angela Weston seconded. The motion carried, 5-0.

