



Mableton Ethics Board

Special Called Meeting Minutes

City of Mableton Ethics Board Special Called Meeting Minutes

Date: April 21, 2026

Time: 6:46 PM EDT

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

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

Others Present: Mableton Deputy City Clerk Alison Benson and Attorney Earle Turner

1. **Call to order:** Meeting was called to order at 6:46 PM EDT
2. **Roll Call:** Board Secretary Patricia Thomas called the roll: A quorum (7) of the board was present.
3. **Approval of Minutes:** Motion was made by Board Member Angela Weston and was seconded by Board Member Ebony McCants to accept the meeting minutes for the March 10, 2026 meeting with no modifications. The motion carried, 7-0.
4. **Organizational and Procedural Items**

The Board reviewed the following Ethics Board process documents:

A. City of Mableton Ethics Complaint Form

- Attorney Earle Turner moved the **For Office Use Only** section from the back of the document to the top right corner of the complaint form. The text was changed to delete, **For Office Use Only** and add only '**Case #, Date and Received by**'.
- Board Member Ebony McCants moved to approve the document with the suggested changes. The motion was seconded by Board Member Brandon Mitchell. The motion carried 7-0.

B. Investigation Checklist

1. Change 'Matter Number' to 'Case Number'. Put the order of the text to be '**Case Number, Complainant, Respondent**'.



2. Board Member Ebony McCants motioned to accept the changes above. Board Member Angela Weston seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0.

C. Hearing Procedures of the City of Mableton Board of Ethics

1. Justify the text in this document
2. **Section 2.1**, capitalize 'Board Members'.
3. **Section 3.1 (3)** - change 'matter number' to case #.
4. **Section 3.1 (6)** - change 'date of the election' to 'date the election'
5. **Section 3.1 (8)** - change 'place' to 'placed'.
6. **Section 3.1 (9)** - change 'her' to 'his/hers'.
7. **Section 3.3(4)** - capitalize 'members'.
8. **Section 3.3(5)** - capitalize 'members'.
9. **Section 3.5 (5)** - change the first sentence to the following 'Funds for the retention of an investigator shall be made available to the Board by the City Council'.
10. **Section 3.5(7)** – change 'Investigator' to lower case.
11. **Section 3.8(6)** - change the sentence to read: 'The funds for the same will be provided by the Mableton city government and its retained legal counsel subject to its approval'.
12. **Section 3.9(1)** – change the sentence to – 'No one other than the Hearing Panel assigned to the matter will be present in the room during deliberations'.
13. **Section 3.10(2)** – change application retention laws to 'applicable *records* retention laws'.
14. Board Member Ebony McCants motioned to approve this document with the suggested changes above and was seconded by Board Member Karen Clarke. The motion carried 7-0.

D. The Written Findings of Fact and Recommendations document should contain:

- Change Ethics Complaint No. (at the top of the form) to 'Case #'.
- **Section I.** Authority and Jurisdiction
- Capitalize 'complaint' on lines 1 & 2
- **Section II.** Panel Composition and Impartiality
- 1. Add 'Hearing' in front of Panel
- 2. Add 'Hearing' in front of Panel; capitalize 'Member'
- Add 'Hearing' in front of Panel in the sentence; By signing below, the Hearing Panel' affirms that it conducted this matter impartially and without bias.



- **Section III.** Procedural History
- The 'Hearing Panel' makes the following findings regarding the procedural handling of this (capitalize) 'Complaint'.
- Date (capitalize) 'Complaint' served on Respondent
- **Section IV.** Allegations and code provisions at issue
- Capitalize Complaint
- **Section VI.** Findings of Fact
- Add 'Hearing' in front of panel
- **Section VII.** Analysis and Conclusions
- Add 'Hearing' in front of Panel
- **Section VIII.** Panel Determination
- Add colon after Violation found:.
- Add 'Hearing' in front of Panel.
- **Section IX.** Recommendation to Mayor and City Council
- Add Hearing' in front of panel.
- Add (s):' behind (both) 'recommendation'
- **Section X.** Certification
- Add '(s)' behind recommendation
- Delete 'Board of Ethics' and substitute/add 'Hearing' in front of Panel
- After Further, the - Add 'Hearing' in front of Panel
- Add signature lines behind Panel Chair; Panel Member; Panel Member
- We had a discussion around adding a Notary Section to this document. It was determined it was not needed and will not be added.
- Board Member Ebony McCants motioned to accept this document with proposed recommended changes. The motion was seconded by Board Member Angela Weston. The motion carried 7-0.

5. **Unfinished Business:** None



6. **New Business:** Board Chair Joel Cope will reach out to the City Clerk to discuss the following: *Does the City already have investigators?* If so, we need to know their names so as to NOT select them if an investigator is needed.

Adjournment: *Motion* was made by Board Member Angela Weston to adjourn the meeting at 7:36 PM EDT. Board Member Ebony McCants seconded. The motion carried, 7-0.

Prepared By: Board Secretary Patricia Thomas