



Ethics Complaint Resolution

Meeting Date:	May 28, 2026
Agenda Item:	Alleged Ethics Code Violation by CDA Member Thayer Coburn
From:	City of Whitewater Ethics Board
TO:	Brad Ceranske, Complainant; Thayer Coburn, Respondent; Heather Boehm, City Clerk

BACKGROUND

(Enter the who, what, when, where, why)

The Ethics Board was unable to convene a quorum of at least four members, due to two members recusing themselves for potential conflicts, and one member failing to attend the meetings. The two remaining members of the Ethics board took no action on the complaint, a formal action adopted in open session took place on May 28, 2026. The Ordinance requires that the formal action be filed with the city clerk and a copy sent to the complainant and respondent.

The investigation consisted of a review of the applicable provisions of the Code, all relevant documents associated with the Complaint, statements of employees, and emails from the Respondent. Based upon the investigation, no action was decided to be taken due to the inability to obtain a quorum. Pursuant to Whitewater Ordinance Sec 7.04.090(e) because the Ethics Committee failed to receive three or more votes finding probable cause as a result of abstentions the matter is to be treated as a dismissal and requires a formal finding be filed with the City Clerk.

The Ethics Board considered the findings of the investigation and took no further action regarding the finding of probable cause that a violation took place.

ACTIONS – COMMITTEE DECISION

(Dates, committees, action taken)

On February 3, 2026, the City received an ethics complaint filed by Andrea Svec, and against CDA Member Thayer Coburn.

On February 17, 2026, the Ethics Committee meet and requested the City obtain outside council to complete an initial recommendation and provide a report to the Committee based upon the investigation.

On May 7, 2026, the Ethics Committee reviewed the investigatory findings into the alleged Ethics Code violations by Respondent Thayer Coburn as alleged by Brad Ceranske on February 3, 2026.

On May 28, 2026, the Ethic Committee adopted this Memo as its formal findings and dismissal of this matter.