



Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF NEGROS OCCIDENTAL
Old Capitol Building, Bacolod City
Tel. No. 707-8075 (Admin) * 435-7698 (Board Member) * 709-0121 (Legislative Division)
OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN

EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN OF NEGROS OCCIDENTAL HELD IN THE CITY OF BACOLOD, NEGROS OCCIDENTAL ON THE 24TH DAY OF JUNE 2025.

Present:

Hon. Jeffrey P. Ferrer	Vice Governor / Presiding Officer
Hon. Rommel T. Debulgado	Member - 1 st District
Hon. Araceli T. Somosa	Member - 1 st District
Hon. Sixto Teofilo Roxas V. Guanzon, Jr.	Member - 2 nd District
Hon. Samson C. Mirhan	Member - 2 nd District
Hon. Manuel Frederick O. Ko	Member - 3 rd District
Hon. Andrew Gerard L. Montelibano	Member - 3 rd District
Hon. Jose Benito A. Alonso	Member - 4 th District
Hon. Andrew Martin Y. Torres	Member - 4 th District
Hon. Rita Angela S. Gatuslao	Member - 5 th District
Hon. Anthony Dennis J. Occeño	Member - 5 th District
Hon. Valentino Miguel J. Alonso	Member - 6 th District
Hon. Jeffrey T. Tubola	Member - 6 th District
Hon. Julius Martin D. Asistio	Member-PCL
Hon. Mayvelyn L. Madrid	Member - SK
Hon. Richard Julius L. Sablan	Member - ABC

RESOLUTION NO. 0690
Series of 2025

RESOLUTION DISMISSING ADMINISTRATIVE CASE NO. SP 2025-004 AC BY AND BETWEEN RONA M. GAYONGA, AS THE COMPLAINANT, AND HON. FRANCIS M. GELLANGARIN, AS THE RESPONDENT, BOTH OF BARANGAY SARA-ET, CITY OF HIMAMAYLAN, NEGROS OCCIDENTAL, FOR THE LAPSE OF THE PRESCRIPTIVE PERIOD REQUIRED TO FILE AN APPEAL WITH THE AFFILIATED BODY—THE QUASI-JUDICIAL BODY OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN

Authored by: HON. SIXTO TEOFILO ROXAS V. GUANZON, JR.
Committee on Laws, Rules, and Ordinances

WHEREAS, the decision of the Sangguniang Panlungsod Quasi-Judicial Body, as expressed under Administrative Case No. 2024-01, was dismissed on January 8, 2025, for Lack of Merit, as the Sangguniang Panlungsod cannot render Decisions—much less penalize an elective Barangay Official—based solely on baseless allegations;

WHEREAS, not satisfied with the decision under Administrative Case No. 2024-01, the Complainant, Rona Gayonga, further filed a Motion for Reconsideration dated February 3, 2025, which was correspondingly Denied and Dismissed Outright by the Sangguniang Panlungsod, as per Resolution dated March 5, 2025, accompanied by a statement expressing the discontent and discomfort of the Members of the Quasi-Judicial Body regarding the language used in the motion. The Complainant was strongly reprimanded with a stern warning that any repetition of the same or similar act shall be dealt with more severely;

WHEREAS, following the denial of the Motion for Reconsideration, Rona Gayonga filed a Notice of Appeal before the Sangguniang Panlalawigan, docketed as Administrative Case No. SP 2025-004 AC, which was received on May 2, 2025. A pre-trial was subsequently conducted, followed by a hearing and a public session held at the Sangguniang Panlalawigan Session Hall, which was duly attended by both the Appellant and the Appellee;



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WHEREAS, despite the allegations of violations of Pertinent Rules and National Laws, including the Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards, against Hon. Francis Gellangarin—allegedly for overstepping his Authority as Presiding Officer and lacking professionalism and political neutrality—he cannot be denied due course, as he is mandated under Section 410(b) of the Katarungang Pambarangay to preside over the settlement of complaints within the jurisdiction of his barangay, in this case, Barangay Sara-et;

WHEREAS, even if Rona Gayonga may have presented certain evidence of infractions or violations of the Code of Conduct or other applicable laws allegedly committed by Hon. Gellangarin, such claims can no longer be pursued, as the Appeal is barred by legal technicalities, specifically the lapse of the prescribed period for filing an appeal, as required under Section 67(b) of the Local Government Code of 1991;

WHEREAS, Section 67. Administrative Appeals of the Local Government Code provides that Decisions in Administrative cases may be appealed within thirty (30) days from receipt thereof. In this case, the Appellant failed to comply with the 30-day period. From the date the Decision in Administrative Case No. 2024-01 was rendered dated January 8, 2025, the Notice of Appeal was filed April 21, 2025, showing an accumulated total of 3 months and 13 days beyond the period prescribed by law under Section 67(b) of the Local Government Code;

Section 67. Administrative Appeals – Decisions in administrative cases may, within thirty (30) days from receipt thereof, be appealed to the following:

(a) The sangguniang panlalawigan, in the case of decisions of the sangguniang panlungsod of component cities and the sangguniang bayan;

NOW THEREFORE, premises considered, on motion of Hon. Sixto Teofilo Roxas V. Guanzon, Jr., unanimously seconded by the member present during the regular session of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Negros Occidental, resolved, as it hereby resolves, to pass and approve this resolution to wit:

RESOLUTION DISMISSING ADMINISTRATIVE CASE NO. SP 2025-004 AC BY AND BETWEEN RONA M. GAYONGA, AS THE COMPLAINANT, AND HON. FRANCIS M. GELLANGARIN, AS THE RESPONDENT, BOTH OF BARANGAY SARA-ET, CITY OF HIMAMAYLAN, NEGROS OCCIDENTAL, FOR THE LAPSE OF THE PRESCRIPTIVE PERIOD REQUIRED TO FILE AN APPEAL WITH THE AFFILIATED BODY—THE QUASI-JUDICIAL BODY OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN

RESOLVED FURTHER, that a copy of this Resolution be furnished to the Office of the Ombudsman, the Local Government Operating Office or the Provincial DILG, and the Counsels of both the Appellant and the Appellee;

RESOLVED FINALLY, that both the Committee Report and this Resolution be furnished to the Secretariat of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan as the official repository of all legal documents arising from Administrative Case No. SP 2025-004 AC.



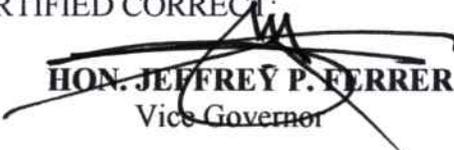
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ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY.

This resolution shall take effect immediately upon approval.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:


HON. JEFFREY P. FERRER
Vice Governor

ATTESTED:


ATTY. MAKI ANGEL O. ASCALON
Provincial Secretary

Copy for all concerned
Res2025@smury

