

ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF ETHICS

MINUTES

February 22, 2018

The meeting was held in the Ethics Conference Room, 255-275 Main Street, Goshen, NY 10924 and called to order by Chair Gail Sicina at 3:00 p.m.

Present:

Gail Sicina
Frederick Witt
Paul Johnson
Marcus Horrego
Jeffrey G. Berry

Absent:

Raymond Cooper
Richard B. Golden

Also in Attendance:

James T. Towne, Board Counsel

Dr. Johnson moved to accept the minutes of November 30, 2017, second by Mr. Horrego. All in favor. Carried.

Dr. Johnson moved to approve payments for the 2017 November bill in the amount of \$475.00, 2017 December bill in the amount of \$750.00 and 2018 January bill in the amount of \$902.50, seconded by Mr. Witt. All in favor. Carried.

Chair Sicina updated the members on the following:

The reappointments for Dr. Johnson and Mr. Golden will be confirmed at the March 1, 2018 Legislative meeting.

The Disclosure Forms will be going out at the end of February to approximately 360 required filers, which are county employees and board members. A more actual accounting will be available at the March meeting.

At 3:10 p.m. Dr. Witt moved to enter into Executive Session for the following: Requests for Opinions (RFO-01-18) and (RFO-02-18); Disclosure Letter (DL-01-17), and update on Delinquent Filers. The motion was seconded by Mr. Horrego. All in favor. Carried.

Mr. Berry arrived during Executive Session at 3:13 p.m.

At 3:55 p.m., Mr. Witt moved and Mr. Horrego seconded that the Board move out of Executive Session. All in favor. Carried.

Mr. Horrego moved and Mr. Witt seconded to have Mr. Towne prepare a draft letter regarding RFO-01-18 as discussed in executive session and the draft will be subject to any comments by the members that the Counsel deems appropriate. All in favor. Carried.

Dr. Johnson moved and Mr. Witt seconded to have Mr. Towne prepare a draft letter regarding RFO-02-18 as discussed in executive session and the draft will be subject to any comments by the members that the Counsel deems appropriate. All in favor. Carried.

Mr. Witt moved and Dr. Johnson seconded to accept Disclosure Letter (DL-10-17.) and acknowledge said letter pursuant to Section 6.E.(3)-(4) that the Board has no conflict based upon the information disclosed.. All in favor. Carried.

Chair Sicina informed the members in executive session on the status of the delinquent filers from 2017.

Mr. Towne left the meeting at 4:03 p.m.

At 4:05 p.m., Mr. Witt moved to enter into Executive Session to discuss the RFPs for Counsel. The motion was seconded by Mr. Horrego. All in favor. Carried.

At 4:45 p.m., Mr. Horrego moved and Dr. Johnson seconded that the Board move out of Executive Session. All in favor. Carried.

Mr. Horrego moved and Mr. Berry seconded that regarding the five proposals received for Ethics Counsel, the members will be interviewing three: Catania Mahon Milligram & Rider; Sokoloff Stern; and Towne Ryan & Partners, two on March 8th and one on March 22nd. In reviewing the remaining two, Cohen Milstein Sellers & Toll and Bond Schoeneck & King were rated a number one as they did not meet the requirements of the Board and therefore, no necessity to interview. All in favor. Carried.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 22, 2018 at 3:30 p.m.

Motion to adjourn at 4:50 p.m., by Dr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Witt. All in favor. Carried.