

ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF ETHICS

MINUTES

May 17, 2018

The meeting was held in the Ethics Conference Room 2163, 255-275 Main Street, Goshen, NY 10924 and called to order by Chair Gail Sicina at 3:10 p.m.

Present:

Gail Sicina

Richard B. Golden

Paul Johnson

Jeffrey G. Berry

Also in Attendance:

James T. Towne, Board Counsel

Absent:

Marcus A. Horrego

Raymond G. Cooper

Mr. Golden moved to approve the minutes of April 12, 2018, second by Dr. Johnson. All in favor. Carried.

At 3:11 pm Mr. Golden called for an Attorney-Client discussion between the Ethics Board and Ethics Counsel.

Mr. Golden moved to enter into executive session at 3:26 p.m. regarding complaint (C-01-18); regarding request for opinion (RFO-03-18); and regarding Disclosure Letter (DL-04-18); The motion was seconded by Dr. Johnson. All in favor. Carried.

Dr. Johnson moved and Mr. Berry seconded that the Board move out of Executive Session at 3:38 p.m. All in favor. Carried.

Mr. Golden moved that, after receiving the complaint in this matter, and investigating the allegations, including listening to witnesses the Board of Ethics has called in, it is the determination of the Board that the complaint is unfounded. The motion was seconded by Dr. Johnson. All in favor. Carried.

Mr. Golden moved with respect to RFO-03 that the Board respond by writing an advisory opinion letter to be drafted by Mr. Towne, consistent with the Board's discussions. The motion was seconded by Dr. Johnson. All in favor. Carried.

Mr. Golden moved with respect to DL-04-18 that the Board write their standard letter that the disclosure letter has been received by the Board and filed, and no further action need be taken. The motion was seconded by Dr. Johnson. All in favor. Carried.

Chair Sicina distributed a list of the delinquent filers to the Board for their review.

Mr. Golden moved that all 2017 Disclosure Statement filers who have failed to file in a timely manner will be sent a letter indicating that they are in violation of the Ethics Code. If the Board does not receive these disclosure forms by June 15, 2018, then the matter will be referred to the District Attorney's office for further action consistent with Orange County Ethics law. The motion was seconded by Mr. Berry. All in favor. Carried.

Mr. Golden moved that for those filers who did not initially receive the disclosure form, that they will be sent a letter saying that enclosed is the Ethics form and they are required to file by July 1, 2018. Motion seconded by Mr. Berry. All in favor. Carried.

Mr. Golden moved that the Board of Ethics will take up the matter at the July meeting to set a date as to when those who do not send the disclosure form by July 1 will receive a letter of delinquency. The motion was seconded by Dr. Johnson. All in favor. Carried.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 28, 2018.

Chair Sicina informed the members that Mr. Golden and she looked at office space at 40 Matthews Street that will be more suitable for the needs of the Board; that some furniture was found at Valley View and that there is money in our budget for any additional furniture needed.

Mr. Golden moved to approve payment for the 2018 April bill for Counsel in the amount of \$855.00. The motion was seconded by Mr. Berry. All in favor. Carried.

Motion to adjourn at 4:26 p.m. by Mr. Golden, seconded by Mr. Berry. All in favor. Carried.