

ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF ETHICS

MINUTES

May 20, 2021

The meeting was held via Zoom, due to social distancing requirements, and called to order by Dr. Raymond G. Cooper at 3:04 p.m.

Present:

Richard B. Golden, Chair
Paul K. Johnson
Marcus A. Horrego
Daniel B. Clarino
Jeffrey G. Berry
Raymond G. Cooper
Gordon L. Dean

Also in attendance:

Christine Taylor, Board Counsel

Dr. Johnson moved to approve the minutes of March 18, 2021. Seconded by Judge Berry. All present in favor. Carried.

Judge Berry moved to approve the March 2021 Counsel Bill in the amount of \$718.21. Seconded by Dr. Johnson. All present in favor. Carried.

Mr. Horrego arrived at 3:09 p.m.

Chair Golden and Mr. Dean arrived at 3:19 p.m., due to attendance at training.

At 3:14 p.m., Dr. Johnson moved to go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue. Seconded by Mr. Horrego. All present in favor. Carried.

At 3:17 p.m., Mr. Clarino moved to come out of Executive Session, seconded by Dr. Johnson. All in favor. Carried.

Dr. Cooper advised the Board he will be moving out of state. October will be his last Board of Ethics meeting.

Dr. Cooper announced that Gordon L. Dean has officially been named to the Board.

In other business, regarding the filer who is refusing to fill out a Financial Disclosure Statement, it was agreed that he will be sent an email, then a hard copy form will be mailed to him with a return envelope, and a letter notifying him of his obligation to file.

Regarding the three filers whose forms all included a disclaimer such as “none to the best of my knowledge”, Mr. Horrego moved that the board send an email to the filers, with a “read receipt”. They will be advised the answers are unacceptable. They must gain the knowledge to properly answer the questions. The form will be attached, and they will be asked to send an amended form without the disclaimer. Seconded by Judge Berry. All in favor. Carried.

Chair Golden discussed the virtual formats of the meetings. Once the New York State directive regarding working remotely is rescinded, the Board will meet in person. Until such time, Chair Golden proposed that the meetings be entirely virtual. An exception will be made for in-person meetings for Dr. Cooper when he is out of state. Judge Berry also suggested that Board of Ethics Counsel be allowed to attend virtually even after in-person meetings resume. Motion made and seconded by Dr. Johnson. All in favor. Carried.

At 3:30 p.m., Dr. Johnson moved to go back into Executive Session since Chair Golden arrived late. Seconded by Mr. Horrego. All in favor. Carried.

At 3:36 p.m., Mr. Clarino moved to come out of Executive Session. Seconded by Mr. Horrego. All in favor. Carried.

Dr. Cooper discussed Sharefile and the procedure for checking and initialing the Financial Disclosure Forms. He will present a tutorial at the June meeting.

At 3:40 p.m., Mr. Horrego moved that the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Judge Berry. All in favor. Carried.