

ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF ETHICS

MINUTES

July 19, 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 3:01 p.m.

Present:

Gail Sicina
Marcus A. Horrego
Paul Johnson
Richard B. Golden

Also in Attendance:

James T. Towne, Board Counsel
Christine E. Taylor, Board Counsel

Absent:

Jeffrey G. Berry
Raymond G. Cooper

Dr. Johnson moved to accept the minutes of June 28th, 2018 as submitted. The motion was seconded by Mr. Horrego. All in favor. Carried.

After a review of changes to various sections of the Ethics Law, the following motions were made:

Mr. Golden moved regarding Section 5.B.(2) (Complaints) to have the Board Counsel draft language suggesting an amendment to the Ethics Code to provide for a preliminary investigation and review process by the Board prior to any determination of probable cause. The motion was seconded by Dr. Johnson. All in favor. Carried.

Mr. Golden moved regarding Section 8.L. and M. that the Board not request the Legislature to modify any of the FOIL related sections from the Ethics Code as was previously discussed. The motion was seconded by Dr. Johnson. All in favor. Carried.

Mr. Golden moved regarding Section 8.G. and the Disclosure Form that the Board suggest language to the Legislature that the Local Law be amended by eliminating the necessity for a notarized signature on the Annual Financial Disclosure Statements to the Board of Ethics; and substituting in its place, a statement above the signature stating that in fact by signing it one is certifying under penalty of perjury that one has reviewed the contents and are affirming the truth of the information contained therein. The motion was seconded by Mr. Horrego. All in favor. Carried.

Mr. Golden moved that the Board ask the Legislature to delete Section 5.B.8 from the Local Law. The motion was seconded by Dr. Johnson. All in favor. Carried.

A report of the delinquent filers was presented to the members for their review.

Mr. Golden moved to have the Board authorize Chair Sicina to send a letter to the remaining delinquent filers who were previously sent a first letter with a due date of the first of July, giving final notice with a due date in another two weeks, and after that, to send a letter to the District Attorney identifying all delinquent filers for 2017. The motion was seconded by Mr. Horrego. All in favor. Carried.

The next meeting is scheduled for September 13, 2018 at 3:00 p.m.

Mr. Horrego moved and Dr. Johnson seconded to approve June Counsel Bill in the amount of \$1486.25.

Chair Sicina advised the members of the Board that the proposed changes to the Ethics Law will be presented before the Rules Committee meeting of the Legislature on August 22, 2018 at 3:00 p.m. and asked if anyone could attend. Counsel Christine Taylor agreed to attend the August meeting.

The Chair further advised that the Board of Ethics will be moving to 40 Matthews Street in Goshen, New York, pending the purchase of new office furniture.

Motion to adjourn at 4:15 p.m. by Mr. Golden, seconded by Dr. Johnson. All in favor. Carried.