

ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF ETHICS

MINUTES

July 20, 2023

The meeting was held at the Board of Ethics' office located at 40 Matthews Street, Suite 101, Goshen, NY 10924.

Chair Johnson called the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m.

Agenda Item I – Roll Call: Roll call was taken by Secretary LaVelle and a quorum was present:

Present:

Paul K. Johnson, Chair
Daniel B. Clarino
Jeffrey G. Berry
Melissa Bonacic
Gordon L. Dean

Also in attendance:

Christine Taylor, Towne Law
Board Counsel – via Zoom

Absent:

Marcus A. Horrego

Agenda Item II – Approve Minutes from June 15, 2023, Meeting: After the Board reviewed the minutes, Ms. Bonacic moved to approve them, which was seconded by Mr. Dean. All in favor. Carried.

Agenda Item III – Approve Counsel Invoice for June 2023: Chair Johnson reviewed Counsel's June invoice in the amount of \$668.75. There is no unpaid back balance. Judge Berry made a motion to pay the June invoice as submitted. This motion was seconded by Mr. Clarino. All in favor. Carried.

Agenda Item IV – Review of Budget Submitted for 2024: Secretary LaVelle shared with the Board the 2024 Budget and Budget Narrative that has been submitted to the County Executive's Office for approval. Although the Budget shows an over all slight increase, many individual lines were decreased. Chair Johnson advised the Board that he is scheduled to meet with the County Executive's Office on 8-10-23 to review this Budget with them and to answer any questions they may have.

Agenda Item V – Statistical Review of Financial Disclosure Forms: Secretary LaVelle reviewed the progress made regarding the collection of the 2022 Annual Statement of Financial Disclosure Forms. It is expected that there will be 410 Disclosure Form filers this year. 385 forms have been received so far and of this number, 381 have been reviewed and approved by the Board, 2 are still under Board review, and 2 have been sent back by the Board for correction. There are 25 individuals who have not yet filed their form and letters have been sent to these individuals by Chairman Johnson.

At 3:24 p.m., Mr. Clarino moved to enter Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Ms. Bonacic. All in favor. Carried.

Agenda Item VI - Review of Complaints: a. C-02-23 - The recent correspondence received from Complainant was reviewed by the Board. **b. C-03-23** - This complaint, along with all submitted supporting documentation, was reviewed by the Board.

At 3:51 pm, Ms. Bonacic moved to exit the Executive Session. This motion was seconded by Mr. Dean. All in favor. Carried.

Agenda Item VII – Response to Executive Session: A motion was made by Chair Johnson for Ms. Taylor, Counsel to the Board of Ethics, to draft letters to the individuals involved with the above referenced C-02-23 and C-03-23 all in accordance with the discussion held in Executive Session. This motion was seconded by Mr. Clarino. All in favor. Carried.

Agenda Item VIII – Follow Up on Any Old Business: No old business to follow up on.

Agenda Item IX – Any Other Business That May Come Before the Board: No new business in front of the Board.

Agenda Item X – Schedule Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for August 17, 2023.

At 3:53 p.m., Chair Johnson moved that the meeting be adjourned, which was seconded by Judge Berry. All in favor. Carried.