

ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF ETHICS

MINUTES

November 19, 2020

The meeting was held in Conference Room 110 at 40 Matthews Street, Goshen, NY 10924, due to social distancing requirements, and called to order by Chair Gail Sicina at 3:01 p.m.

Present:

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

Also in attendance via Zoom:

Jeffrey G. Berry
Raymond G. Cooper
Daniel B. Clarino

James T. Towne, Jr., Board Counsel

Dr. Cooper moved to approve the minutes of October 22, 2020. Seconded by Mr. Horrego. All in favor. Carried.

Mr. Golden moved to approve the Counsel Bill for October 2020 in the amount of \$1178.75. Seconded by Mr. Clarino. All in favor. Carried.

Chair Sicina presented the Legislature's changes to Local Law 9 of 2018 per last month's motions by the Ethics members. The changes were related to the Annual Statement of Financial Disclosure which involved no longer requiring original signatures and each filer certifying they had reviewed the searchable supplier list prior to completed their form.

Chair Sicina reported there are still four delinquent filers. The District Attorney's office has been notified.

At 3:15 p.m., Mr. Golden moved to go into Executive Session to address a filer and a complaint received. Seconded by Dr. Cooper. All in favor. Carried.

At 3:35 p.m., Mr. Golden moved to come out of Executive Session, seconded by Dr. Johnson. All in favor. Carried.

Regarding a complaint received, Chair Sicina notified the Board that she requested that the individual submit a signed complaint form prior to any further action by the Board.

Regarding the filer, Mr. Golden moved that the Board take no further action regarding the individual's disclosure form at this time. Seconded by Mr. Horrego. All in favor. Carried.

Chair Sicina informed the Board that Counsel's contract will expire at the end of April 2021. Mr. Golden moved that the contract be extended for two years commencing on that date. Seconded by Judge Berry. All in favor. Carried.

Chair Sicina informed the Board that Mr. Golden, Dr. Cooper, and Dr. Johnson have agreed to co-chair the Board when she resigns. She is composing a list of duties of the Chair. Mr. Golden consulted the law and it was clear that there is no restriction as to party affiliation when a permanent replacement for the Ethics Board is found.

Due to audio issues experienced in the meeting today, Mr. Golden suggested that all future Board meetings be held entirely via Zoom.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 17, 2020.

At 3:54 p.m., Mr. Golden moved that the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Mr. Horrego. All in favor. Carried.