

WASHINGTON SUBURBAN SANITARY COMMISSION

BOARD OF ETHICS

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

Wednesday, January 12, 2022
Laurel, Maryland

The Board of Ethics (“Board”) met via videoconference to conduct an Open Session pursuant to Maryland Code Annotated, General Provisions Article § 3-305(b)(13).

Chair Pruden called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m. with the following members present:

George Pruden II, Chair
Steven Hausman, Member
Jeffrey Hysen, Member
Chandria Slaughter, Alternate Member.

Also present:

Angelique Dorsey White, Ethics Officer
Russel Beers, Deputy General Counsel and Counsel to the Board
Latonya Allen, Administrative Assistant
Larry Carr, Office of Inspector General Criminal Investigator
Tamika Taylor, Office of Inspector General Associate Counsel.

Open Session

Approval of Open Session Minutes – December 8, 2021

The Board reviewed the draft Open Session Minutes from the December 8, 2021 meeting.

On motion of Mr. Hysen and seconded by Dr. Hausman, three members of the Board (Hysen, Hausman, and Pruden) voted to approve the December Open Session Minutes.

Matters of Discussion

Ethics Program Monthly Report

Ms. Dorsey White provided an update on the activities in the Ethics Office for December 2021. She reported that she provided ethics training to 5 new employees as part of the onboarding process.

Ms. Dorsey White also shared that the Ethics Office provided guidance on 16 matters, of which the leading categories were Training and Disclosure Statements.

Further, Ms. Dorsey White provided the results of the annual mandatory ethics training for all employees. She reported that 98 percent of employees had completed the training and that the remaining 2 percent is most likely due to employee departures and extended leave.

Informational Items

Delinquent Financial Disclosure Filer(s)

Ms. Allen stated that there were no overdue financial disclosure filers to report.

Closed Session Approval

At 1:07 p.m., on motion of Dr. Hausman and seconded by Mr. Hysen, three members of the Board (Hausman, Hysen, and Pruden) voted to approve December 8, 2021 Closed Session Minutes; General Provisions Article § 3-305(b)(13) and WSSC Code of Ethics Ch. 1.70.110 to approve December 8, 2021 Closed Session

Minutes; General Provisions Article § 3-305(b)(13) and WSSC Code of Ethics Ch.

1.70.110 to address three Complaints; General Provisions Article § 3-305(b)(13) and

WSSC Code of Ethics Ch. 1.70.060 to address one Advisory Opinion request; and

General Provisions Article § 3-305(b)(7) to obtain legal advice regarding three

Complaints, and Potential Complaints / Confidential Legal Investigations.

Attendees: Chair George Pruden; Member Steven Hausman; Member Jeffrey Hysen; and Alternate Member Chandria Slaughter. Staff present: Ethics Officer Angelique Dorsey White; Deputy General Counsel and Counsel to the Board Russel Beers; Administrative Assistant Latonya Allen, and Designated Counsel Steven Wrobel.

Closed Session

Approval of Closed Session Minutes – December 8, 2021

The Board reviewed the draft Closed Session Minutes from the December 8, 2021 meeting.

On motion of Mr. Hysen and seconded by Dr. Hausman, three members of the Board (Hysen, Hausman, and Pruden) voted to approve the December Closed Session Minutes.

Complaint C-20-07

Ms. Dorsey White provided an update on this investigation.

On motion of Mr. Hysen and seconded by Dr. Hausman, three members of the Board (Hysen, Hausman, and Pruden) voted to set Day Two (2) of the hearing in this matter for either February 10th or February 11, 2022, subject to availability of all parties.

Complaint C-21-02

Designated Counsel Steven Wrobel joined the meeting at 1:57 p.m.

Mr. Wrobel provide an update on this matter.

On motion of Dr. Hausman and seconded by Mr. Hysen, three members of the Board (Hausman, Hysen, and Pruden) voted to dismiss Complaint C-21-02.

Mr. Wrobel left the meeting at 2:19 p.m.

Complaint C-21-06

Ms. Dorsey White provided an update on this complaint.

Advisory Opinion A-22-01

Ms. Dorsey White provided an overview of this Advisory Opinion request.

Potential Complaints / Confidential Legal Investigations

Potential Advisory Opinion #1

Ms. Dorsey White provided an overview of a request for guidance received via email.

On motion of Dr. Hausman and seconded by Mr. Hysen, three members of the Board (Hausman, Hysen, and Pruden) voted to formally address this guidance request as an Advisory Opinion.

Potential Complaint #1

Ms. Allen provided an overview of this matter.

On motion of Dr. Hausman and seconded by Mr. Hysen, three members of the Board (Hausman, Hysen, and Pruden) voted to file a complaint on its own motion pursuant to Code of Ethics Ch.1.70.080(b) for a violation of Ch. 1.70.340(c).

Potential Complaint #2

Ms. Dorsey White provided an overview of this matter.

On motion of Dr. Hausman and seconded by Mr. Hysen, three members of the Board (Hausman, Hysen, and Pruden) voted to file a complaint on its own motion pursuant to Code of Ethics Ch.1.70.080(b) for violations of Ch. 1.70.180(a) and Ch. 1.70.200(a), subject to confirmation of certain facts in the allegation.

Ms. Allen and Mr. Beers left the meeting at 3:30 p.m.

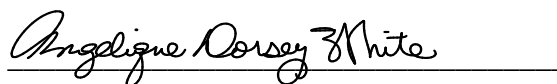
Potential Complaint #3

Chair Pruden provided an overview of this matter.

On motion of Dr. Hausman and seconded by Mr. Hysen, three members of the Board (Hausman, Hysen, and Pruden) voted to request an independent legal advisor and independent investigative counsel for this complaint.

Adjournment

On motion of Mr. Hysen and seconded by Dr. Hausman, three members of the Board (Hysen, Hausman, Hysen, and Pruden) voted to adjourn the meeting at 4:01 p.m.



Angelique Dorsey White, Esq.
Ethics Officer