

WASHINGTON SUBURBAN SANITARY COMMISSION

BOARD OF ETHICS

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

Wednesday August 10, 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 George Pruden called the meeting to order at 1:10 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
Heather Ashbury, Acting Counsel to the Board
Latonya Allen, Administrative Assistant
Tamika Taylor, OIG Associate General Counsel
Larry Carr, OIG Criminal Investigator.

Open Session

Approval of Open Session Minutes – July 21, 2022

The Board reviewed the draft Open Session Minutes from the July 21, 2022 meeting.

On motion of Dr. Hausman and seconded by Mr. Hysen, three members of the Board (Hysen, Hausman, and Pruden) voted to approve the July 21, 2022 Open Session Minutes.

Matters of Discussion

Ethics Program Monthly Report

Ms. Dorsey White provided an update on the activities in the Ethics Office for July 2022. She reported that she provided ethics training to 12 new employees as part of the onboarding process.

Ms. Dorsey White shared that the Ethics Office provided guidance on 37 matters, of which the leading categories were Disclosure Statements, Outside Employment / Interests, and General Inquiry / Administration. She shared that the Ethics Spotlight topic “Gifts & Donations” had been scheduled to be presented at the August 17, 2022 Commission meeting. However, due to the abbreviated Commission agenda, the spotlight will not be considered.

Chair Pruden asked for the status of the annual financial disclosures for all employees. Ms. Dorsey White stated that she would research and report the results at the September meeting.

Informational Items

Delinquent Financial Disclosure Filer(s)

Ms. Allen reported that there were three overdue financial disclosure filers.

Closed Session Approval

At 1:17 p.m., on motion of Dr. Hausman and seconded by Mr. Hysen, three members of the Board (Hausman, Hysen, and Pruden) voted to enter into closed session to approve July 21, 2022 Closed Session Minutes; General Provisions Article § 3-305(b)(13) and WSSC Code of Ethics Ch. 1.70.110 to address five 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 five Complaints, one Advisory Opinion Request, and Potential Complaints / Legal Investigations.

Attendees: Chair George Pruden; Member Steven Hausman; Member Jeffrey Hysen; and Alternate Member Chandria Slaughter. Staff present: Ethics Officer Angelique Dorsey White; Acting Counsel to the Board Heather Ashbury; Designated Counsel to the Board Margaret Ann Nolan, Designated Investigative Counsel Steven Wrobel, and Administrative Assistant Latonya Allen.

Approval of Closed Session Minutes – July 21, 2022

The Board reviewed the draft Closed Session Minutes from the July 21, 2022 meeting.

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

Complaint C-22-04

Designated Counsel to the Board Margaret Ann Nolan and Designated Investigative Counsel Steven Wrobel joined the meeting at 1:25 p.m.

Mr. Wrobel presented his preliminary report on this case.

On motion of Mr. Hysen and seconded by Dr. Hausman, three members of the Board (Hysen, Hausman, and Pruden) voted to dismiss the complaint pursuant to Code Chapter 1.70.080(e).

Complaint C-22-05

Mr. Wrobel presented his preliminary report on this case.

On motion of Mr. Hysen and seconded by Dr. Hausman, three members of the Board (Hysen, Hausman, and Pruden) voted to dismiss the complaint pursuant to Code Chapter 1.70.080(e).

Ms. Nolan and Mr. Wrobel left the meeting at 2:30 p.m.

Advisory Opinion A-22-02

Ms. Ashbury joined the meeting at 2:32 p.m.

Ms. Dorsey White provided an update on this advisory opinion.

Complaint C-22-06

Ms. Dorsey White provided an update on this case.

Complaint C-22-07

Ms. Dorsey White provided an update on this case.

Complaint C-22-08


Ms. Dorsey White provided an update on this case.

Potential Complaints / Legal Investigations

The Board received updates on four legal matters.

Adjournment

On motion of Dr. Hausman and seconded by Mr. Hysen, three members of the Board (Hausman, Hysen, and Pruden) voted to adjourn the meeting at 3:17 p.m.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Angelique Dorsey White", written over a horizontal line.

Angelique Dorsey White, Esq.
Ethics Officer