

WASHINGTON SUBURBAN SANITARY COMMISSION

BOARD OF ETHICS

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

Thursday, October 12, 2023
Commissioners' Conference Room
Laurel, Maryland

The Board of Ethics ("Board") met in person to conduct an Open Session pursuant to Maryland Code Annotated, General Provisions Article, Title 3, Open Meetings Act, § 3-305(b)(13).

Chair George Pruden called the meeting to order at 1:07 p.m. with the following members present:

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

Also present:

Angelique Dorsey White, Ethics Officer
Russel Beers, Legal Counsel to the Board
Latonya Allen, Administrative Assistant.

Open Session

Approval of Open Session Minutes – September 13, 2023

The Board reviewed the draft Open Session Minutes from the September 13, 2023 meeting.

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

Matters of Discussion

Ethics Program Monthly Report

Ms. Dorsey White provided an update on the activities in the Ethics Office for September 2023. She reported that she provided ethics training to seven new employees as part of the onboarding process.

Ms. Dorsey White shared that the Ethics Office provided guidance on nine matters. The category that received the most inquiries was Soliciting or Acceptance of Gifts.

Delinquent Financial Disclosure Filer(s)

Ms. Allen reported that there were no delinquent financial disclosure filers.

Closed Session Approval

At 1:18 p.m., on motion of Dr. Hausman and seconded by Mr. Hysen, three members of the Board (Hausman, Hysen, and Pruden) voted to conduct a Closed Session pursuant to Maryland Code Annotated, General Provisions Article, Title 3, Open Meetings Act, § 3-305(b)(13) to approve September 13, 2023 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)(1)(ii) to discuss a personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals; and General Provisions Article § 3-305(b)(7) to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice regarding five Complaints, a Personnel Matter, 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; Legal Counsel to the Board Russel Beers; and
Administrative Assistant Latonya Allen.

Closed Session

Approval of Closed Session Minutes – September 13, 2023

The Board reviewed the draft Closed Session Minutes from the September 13, 2023, meeting.

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

Complaint C-23-05

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 dismiss the complaint pursuant to Code Chapter 1.70.080(a)(3).

Complaint C-23-06

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 dismiss the complaint pursuant to Code Chapter 1.70.080(a)(3).

Complaint C-23-07

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 dismiss the complaint pursuant to Code Chapter 1.70.080(a)(3).

Complaint C-23-08

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 dismiss the complaint pursuant to Code Chapter 1.70.080(a)(3).

Potential Complaints / Legal Investigations

Ms. Dorsey White and Mr. Beers provided updates on these matters.

Personnel Matter

The Board discussed this matter.

Complaint C-23-01

Due to being recused from this case, Ms. Dorsey White and Mr. Beers left the meeting at 1:44 p.m.

Adjournment

On motion of Mr. Hysen and seconded by Dr. Hausman, three members of the Board (Hysen, Hausman, and Pruden) voted to adjourn the meeting at 1:50 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Angelique Dorsey White", is written over a horizontal line.

Angelique Dorsey White, Esq.
Ethics Officer