

WASHINGTON SUBURBAN SANITARY COMMISSION

BOARD OF ETHICS

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

Wednesday, April 9, 2025
RGH 3003 Conference Room
Microsoft Teams Platform
Laurel, Maryland

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

Chair 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

Also present:

Angelique Dorsey White, Ethics Officer
Lisa Arnquist, Legal Counsel to the Board (virtual)
Tamika Taylor, Office of Inspector General Associate General Counsel (virtual)
Latonya Allen, Administrative Assistant.

Open Session

Approval of Open Session Minutes – March 12, 2025

The Board reviewed the draft Open Session Minutes from the March 12, 2025 meeting.

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

Matters of Discussion

Ethics Program Monthly Report

Ms. Dorsey White provided an update on Ethics Office activities for March 2025. She reported that she provided ethics training to 27 new employees. She also shared that the Ethics Office provided guidance on 19 matters. The category that received the most inquiries was Soliciting or Acceptance of Gifts.

Ms. Dorsey White announced that the annual disclosure request process was launched for employees on April 1, 2025. Statements from employees are due April 30, 2025.

CY 2024 Ethics Program Annual Report (Final)

Ms. Dorsey White presented the final version of the annual ethics program report. The Board recommended one change and had no questions. They complimented Ms. Dorsey White for the visual appeal and thorough content.

Delinquent Financial Disclosure Filer(s)

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

Annual Selection of Board Chair

Mr. Pruden recused himself from the discussion regarding the Board of Ethics Chair. Dr. Hausman nominated Mr. Pruden to continue in this role.

On motion of Dr. Hausman and seconded by Mr. Hysen, three members of the Board (Hausman, Hysen, and Slaughter) voted for George E. Pruden II to continue serving

as the Board of Ethics Chair. Mr. Pruden abstained from the vote of Board Chair due to being the subject of the matter.

Closed Session Approval

Chair Pruden stated that he had reviewed and approved the closing statement.

At 1:19 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 March 12, 2025 Closed Session Minutes; General Provisions Article § 3-305(b)(13) and WSSC Code of Ethics Ch. 1.70.110 to address seven Complaints; General Provisions Article § 3-305(b)(1)(ii) to discuss personnel matters that affect one or more specific individuals; and General Provisions Article § 3-305(b)(7) to obtain legal advice regarding Complaints, Personnel Matters, and Potential Complaints/Legal Investigations.

Attendees: Chair George Pruden; Member Steven Hausman; Member Jeffrey Hysen (virtual); and Alternate Member Chandria Slaughter. Staff present: Ethics Officer Angelique Dorsey White; Legal Counsel to the Board Lisa Arnquist (virtual); and Administrative Assistant Latonya Allen.

Closed Session

Approval of Closed Session Minutes – March 12, 2025

The Board reviewed the draft Closed Session Minutes from the March 12, 2025 meeting.

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

Complaints

Complaint C-24-08

Ms. Dorsey White provided an update on this case.

Complaint C-25-01

Ms. Dorsey White provided an update on this case.

Complaint C-25-02

Ms. Dorsey White provided an update on this case.

Complaint C-25-03

Ms. Dorsey White provided an update on this case.

Complaint C-25-04

Ms. Dorsey White provided an update on this case.

Complaint C-25-05

Ms. Dorsey White provided an update on this case.

Complaint C-25-06

Ms. Dorsey White provided an update on this case.

Potential Complaints

PC2025-04

Ms. Dorsey White provided an overview of this matter.

On motion of Mr. Hysen and seconded by Dr. Hausman, three members of the Board (Hysen, Hausman, and Pruden) voted to file a complaint, on its own motion pursuant to WSSC Code Ch. 1.70.080(b), for an alleged violation of Code Ch. 1.70.260(d).

Mr. Hysen left the meeting at 2:28 p.m.

Personnel Matter


The Board considered the personnel matter.

Legal Investigations

There were no updates on legal investigations.

Adjournment

On motion of Dr. Hausman and seconded by Ms. Slaughter, three members of the Board (Hausman, Slaughter, and Pruden) voted to adjourn the meeting at 3:05 p.m.



Angelique Dorsey White, Esq.
Ethics Officer