#### WASHINGTON SUBURBAN SANITARY COMMISSION

#### **BOARD OF ETHICS**

#### **OPEN SESSION MINUTES**

Wednesday, August 13, 2025 Commissioners Conference Room and Virtual via Teams Platform 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 Pruden called the meeting to order at 1:14 p.m. with the following members present:

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

Also present:

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

### **Open Session**

Approval of Open Session Minutes – July 9, 2025

The Board reviewed the draft Open Session Minutes from the July 9, 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 July 9, 2025 Open Session Minutes as amended.

# **Matters of Discussion**

# **Ethics Program Monthly Report**

Ms. Dorsey White provided an update on Ethics Office activities for July 2025. She reported that she conducted 1 training to 5 new employees. The other training on July 21, 2025 was handled in her absence by Human Resources Talent Development Specialist Demetria Mercer. Ms. Dorsey White stated that Ms. Mercer did well.

Dr. Hausman asked if Ms. Dorsey White presented her semi-annual report to the Commissioners. She responded that she did and that the Commissioners did not have any questions.

Ms. Dorsey White also shared that the Ethics Office provided guidance on 12 matters. The category that received the most inquiries was Lobbying Activity. This was related to the July 31<sup>st</sup> due date for submissions of the Lobbyists Activity Reports covering the period of January to June 2025.

# **Delinquent Financial Disclosure Filer(s)**

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

# **Closed Session Approval**

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

At 1:21 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 July 9, 2025 Closed Session Minutes; General Provisions Article § 3-305(b)(13) and WSSC Code of Ethics Ch. 1.70.110 to address six Complaints; General Provisions Article § 3-305(b)(13) and WSSC Code of Ethics Ch. 1.70.060 to address one Advisory Opinion request; 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 obtain legal advice regarding six Complaints, one Advisory Opinion request, a personnel matter and Potential Complaints.

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 Lisa Arnquist; Retained Investigative Counsel Steven Wrobel; and Administrative Assistant Latonya Allen.

### **Closed Session**

#### Approval of Closed Session Minutes – July 9, 2025

The Board reviewed the draft Closed Session Minutes from the July 9, 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 July 9, 2025 Closed Session Minutes as amended.

# Complaint C-25-02

Investigative Counsel Steven Wrobel joined the meeting at 1:27 p.m.

Mr. Wrobel provided an update on this investigation.

On motion of Dr. Hausman and seconded by Mr. Hysen, three members of the Board (Hausman, Hysen, and Pruden) voted to dismiss the complaint for lack of good cause to believe that a violation of the Code occurred.

### Complaint C-25-03

Mr. Wrobel 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 accept the settlement agreement proposed by the parties and dismiss the case.

# Complaint C-25-04

Mr. Wrobel 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 accept the settlement agreement proposed by the parties and dismiss the case.

### Complaint C-25-05

Mr. Wrobel provided an update on this investigation.

On motion of Dr. Hausman and seconded by Mr. Hysen, three members of the Board (Hausman, Hysen, and Pruden) voted to dismiss this case as unsubstantiated.

# Complaint C-25-06

Mr. Wrobel 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 accept the settlement agreement proposed by the parties and dismiss the case.

Mr. Wrobel left the meeting at 2:21 p.m.

# Complaint C-24-08

The Board deliberated on the evidence presented at the hearing held in July on this case.

On motion of Dr. Hausman and seconded by Mr. Hysen, three members of the Board (Hausman, Hysen, and Pruden) voted to find the Respondent to have violated the Code provisions as alleged in the complaint and to issue a final decision and order.

### **Advisory Opinion A-25-01**

Ms. Dorsey White provided an update on this matter.

# **Potential Complaints**

PC2025-05

Ms. Dorsey White provided an update on this matter.

PC2025-06

Ms. Dorsey White provided an overview of this matter.

PC2025-07

Ms. Dorsey White provided an overview of this matter.

### **Personnel Matters**

Ms. Allen and Ms. Slaughter left the meeting at 4:02 p.m.

The Board discussed this matter.

# **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 4:04 p.m.

Ethics Officer