# WASHINGTON SUBURBAN SANITARY COMMISSION BOARD OF ETHICS

## **OPEN SESSION MINUTES**

Wednesday, November 12, 2025 Commissioners Conference Room and Virtual via 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 1:05 p.m. with the following

# members present:

George Pruden II, Chair Steven Hausman, Member Michael Kraft, Member Chandria Slaughter, Alternate Member

## Also present:

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

## **Open Session**

## New Ethics Staff Member Introduction and Welcome

Ms. Dorsey White introduced Associate General Counsel for Ethics Denesha James. Ms. James provided an overview of her legal and ethics experience. Chair Pruden explained the growth of WSSC Water's ethics program over the years, with Dr. Hausman concurring. Members Kraft and Slaughter welcomed Ms. James.

# Approval of Open Session Minutes - October 8, 2025

The Board reviewed the draft Open Session Minutes from the October 8, 2025 meeting.

On motion of Dr. Hausman and seconded by Mr. Kraft, three members of the Board (Hausman, Kraft, and Pruden) voted to approve the October 8, 2025 Open Session Minutes.

# **Matters of Discussion**

# **Ethics Program Monthly Report**

Ms. Dorsey White provided an update on Ethics Office activities for October 2025. She reported that Ms. James conducted ethics training on October 27, 2025, for 14 new employees as part of new employee orientation. Ms. Dorsey White stated that she and Ms. James will alternate the ethics training.

Additionally, Ms. Dorsey White shared that the Ethics Office provided guidance on 5 matters. Outside Employment / Interests received the most inquiries. Further, she stated that the topic for the Ethics Spotlight is gifts due to the upcoming holiday season.

Lastly, Ms. Dorsey White provided an update on the financial disclosure platform. The contract has been finalized, and implementation is scheduled for January or February 2026.

# **Ethics Office Quarterly Report**

Ms. Dorsey White presented her report. She shared that it would also be presented at the November Commission meeting.

During the presentation, Ms. Dorsey White reviewed the upcoming activities for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> quarters of FY 2026, which includes rollout of the ethics training for all employees. Chair Pruden asked if the Board would have an opportunity to see the training beforehand. She replied that she will email the link.

# **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 1:30 p.m., on motion of Dr. Hausman and seconded by Mr. Kraft, three members of the Board (Hausman, Kraft, 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 October 8, 2025 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)(1)(ii) to discuss a personnel matter for an individual over whom the Board of Ethics has jurisdiction; and General Provisions

Article § 3-305(b)(7) to obtain legal advice regarding three Complaints, potential complaints, and legal investigations.

Attendees: Chair George Pruden; Member Steven Hausman; Member Michael Kraft; and Alternate Member Chandria Slaughter. Staff present: Ethics Officer Angelique Dorsey White; Legal Counsel to the Board Lisa Arnquist; Associate General Counsel for Ethics Denesha James; Administrative Assistant Latonya Allen; and Associate General Counsel Matthew Gallagher.

## **Closed Session**

# Approval of Closed Session Minutes - October 8, 2025

The Board reviewed the draft Closed Session Minutes from the October 8, 2025 meeting. One edit was requested.

On motion of Dr. Hausman and seconded by Mr. Kraft, three members of the Board (Hausman, Kraft, and Pruden) voted to approve the October 8, 2025 Closed Session Minutes as amended.

## Complaint C-25-07

Associate General Counsel Matthew Gallager arrived at 1:31 p.m.

Mr. Gallagher presented the findings of his investigation.

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

On motion of Dr. Hausman and seconded by Mr. Kraft, three members of the Board (Hausman, Kraft, and Pruden) voted to accept the preliminary report and dismiss the complaint.

# Complaints C-25-03

Ms. Dorsey White provided an update on this case.

# Complaints C-25-04

Ms. Dorsey White provided an update on this case.

# Potential Complaint PC2025-07

Ms. Dorsey White provided an overview of this matter.

## **Personnel Matters**

The Board discussed personnel matters.

# **Legal Investigations**

Ms. Arnquist provided an update on legal investigations.

# Adjournment

On motion of Dr. Hausman and seconded by Mr. Kraft, three members of the Board (Hausman, Kraft, and Pruden) voted to adjourn the meeting at 3:41 p.m.