

WASHINGTON SUBURBAN SANITARY COMMISSION

BOARD OF ETHICS

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

Wednesday, March 11, 2026  
Commissioner's Conference Room  
and  
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 1:18 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  
Denesha James, Associate General Counsel for Ethics  
Latonya Allen, Administrative Assistant.

**Open Session**

**Approval of Open Session Minutes – February 11, 2026**

The Board reviewed the draft Open Session Minutes from the February 11, 2026 meeting.

On motion of Dr. Hausman and seconded by Mr. Kraft, three members of the Board (Hausman, Kraft, and Pruden) voted to approve the February 11, 2026, Open Session Minutes with no changes.

**Matters of Discussion**

**Ethics Program Monthly Report**

Ms. Dorsey White provided an update on Ethics Office activities for February 2026. She reported that ethics training was provided to 20 employees as part of new employee orientation.

Ms. Dorsey White shared that the Ethics Office provided guidance on 17 matters. The category that received the most inquiries was Outside Employment / Interests with eight inquiries. She added that the increase in this category from previous months is likely due to managers and employees becoming more aware of the need to report secondary employment.

**Draft CY 2025 Ethics Program Annual Report**

Ms. Dorsey White provided an update on this report. She stated that it is still being compiled. Impacting the timeline for preparing the report is a new federal rule that all companies must ensure their websites, including linked documents, comply with 508 accessibility requirements.

Ms. Dorsey White is working with the Communications department to finalize the report and will distribute it when ready. She was, however, able to share some metrics that will be included in the report. She reported that there were 174 requests

for guidance, slightly less than in 2024. Also, 96 percent of existing employees completed annual ethics training, down from 98 percent reported in 2024.

### **Annual Disclosure Project Update**

Ms. Dorsey White provided an update on the annual disclosure project. She shared that development ended on February 26, 2026. The testing phase is complete and the system is ready to launch on April 1, 2026. She accessed the development site to demonstrate the system for the Board. Noteworthy features of the system include the ability to save a partially-completed statement so that it can be completed and submitted at a later time; access to guidance and glossary pages within the system; and the ability to easily identify disclosures needing further review. Ms. Dorsey White also reported that the current vendor recently sent the legacy data from the current system, so it is unlikely that the data can be added to employee profiles in the new system. Accordingly, each filer will be starting from a blank disclosure this year.

The Board asked about the retention requirements for annual disclosures. Ms. Dorsey White shared that WSSC Water's Record Retention agreement with the State of Maryland Archives requires that disclosures for active employees be retained for the duration of their employment. Disclosures for former employees can be destroyed one year after separation, if the records are not needed within the year.

### **Ethics-Related Legislation**

Ms. Arnquist provided an update on General Assembly bill PC/MC 104-26 regarding personnel disciplinary actions. The General Counsel's Office, the Intergovernmental Relations Office, and the AFSME Union have agreed to add a

60-day timeline for investigations to the Collective Bargaining Agreement (“CBA”). Ethics investigations are excluded from this deadline. Based on modification to the CBA, lawmakers agreed to remove most of the proposed changes to the personnel provisions of WSSC’s Public Utilities Article. The only modification to the personnel statute will be to allow employees to appeal suspensions to the Office of Administrative Hearings as they can for terminations. Ms. Dorsey White remarked to the Board that Ms. Arnquist was impressive in the public meetings held with the Montgomery County and Prince George’s County delegations. The Board expressed appreciation to Ms. Arnquist for working to ensure that its case resolution process would not be affected by the legislation.

**Closed Session Approval**

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

At 2:01 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 February 11, 2026, Closed Session Minutes; 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)(13) and WSSC Code of Ethics Ch. 1.70.070 to address one Waiver Request; General Provisions Article § 3-305(b)(13) and WSSC Code of Ethics Ch. 1.70.210 to address confidential Preliminary Inquiries; General Provisions Article § 3-305(b)(13) and WSSC Code of Ethics Ch. 1.70.110 to address four Complaints; General Provisions Article § 3-305(b)(1)(ii) to discuss a personnel matter for a specific individual over whom the Board of Ethics has

jurisdiction; and General Provisions Article § 3-305(b)(7) to obtain legal advice regarding Advisory Opinion requests, one Waiver requests, confidential Preliminary Inquiries, and Complaints.

**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; Administrative Assistant Latonya Allen; and Retained Legal Counsel to the Board Elissa Levan (virtual).

**Closed Session**

**Approval of Closed Session Minutes – February 11, 2026**

The Board reviewed the draft Closed Session Minutes from the February 11, 2026, meeting.

On motion of Dr. Hausman and seconded by Mr. Kraft, three members of the Board (Hausman, Kraft, and Pruden) voted to approve the February 11, 2026, Closed Session Minutes as amended.

**Advisory Opinion A-26-01**

Ms. Dorsey White provided an overview of this request.

**Waiver Request W-26-01**

Ms. Dorsey White provided an overview of this request.

On motion of Dr. Hausman and seconded by Mr. Kraft, three members of the Board (Hausman, Kraft, and Pruden) voted to deny the waiver request as moot.

**Preliminary Inquiry PI-2026-03**

Ms. Dorsey White provided an overview of this matter.

Ms. Arnquist left the meeting at 3:36 p.m.

Retained Legal Counsel to the Board Elissa Levan joined the meeting virtually at 3:38 p.m.

**Complaint C-26-02**

Ms. Dorsey White provided an update on this case.

**Complaint C-26-03**

Ms. Dorsey White provided an update on this case.

**Complaint C-26-01**

Ms. Dorsey White provided an update on this case.

**Complaint C-26-04**

Ms. Dorsey White provided an update on this case.

Ms. Levan left the meeting at 4:39 p.m.

**Personnel Matters**

Ms. Dorsey White provided an update on these matters.

**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 4:41 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Angelique Dorsey White, Esq.  
Ethics Officer