

WASHINGTON SUBURBAN SANITARY COMMISSION

BOARD OF ETHICS

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

Tuesday, August 8, 2023
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 1:13 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
Tamika Taylor, Counsel to Office of Inspector General (virtual).

Open Session

Approval of Open Session Minutes – July 12, 2023

The Board reviewed the draft Open Session Minutes from the July 12, 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 July Open Session Minutes.

Matters of Discussion

Ethics Program Monthly Report

Ms. Dorsey White provided an update on the activities in the Ethics Office for July 2023. She reported that she provided ethics training to 21 new employees as part of the onboarding process.

Ms. Dorsey White shared that the Ethics Office provided guidance on 19 matters. The categories that received the most inquiries were Lobbying Activity and Outside Employment/Interests.

Lastly, Ms. Dorsey White stated that she will present an Ethics Spotlight entitled “Fundraising at WSSC Water” at the August 16, 2023, Commission meeting.

Lobbyists Activity Reports

Ms. Dorsey White provided an update on the lobbyist activity for January to June 2023. Lobbyist activity was reported for Apartment and Office Building Association of Metropolitan Washington, Calvin Cafritz Enterprises, and SAC Incorporated Fabrication Piping. Total compensation and expenses for this period are \$26,500. The lobbyist list is posted to the website.

Delinquent Financial Disclosure Filer(s)

Ms. Allen reported that there were four delinquent financial disclosure filers.

Closed Session Approval

At 1:22 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 12, 2023 Closed Session Minutes; General Provisions Article § 3-305(b)(13) and WSSC Code of Ethics Ch. 1.70.110 to address one Complaint; and Section 3-305(b)(7) to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice regarding one Complaint 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; Administrative Assistant Latonya Allen; and Retained Staff Counsel Margaret Ann Nolan.

Closed Session

Approval of Closed Session Minutes – July 12, 2023

The Board reviewed the draft Closed Session Minutes from the July 12, 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 July Closed Session Minutes.

Potential Complaint #8

Ms. Dorsey White provided an overview of this matter.

Legal Investigations

Mr. Beers provided updates on current legal matters.

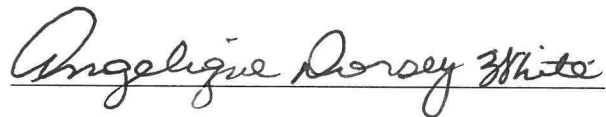
Complaint C-23-01

Retained Staff Counsel Margaret Ann Nolan joined the meeting at 1:46 p.m.

Ms. Dorsey White provided an initial update on this case. Due to being recused from this case, Ms. Dorsey White and Mr. Beers left the meeting at 1:55 p.m.

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 2:18 p.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Angelique Dorsey White". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Angelique Dorsey White, Esq.
Ethics Officer