

**PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY OFFICE OF ETHICS AND ACCOUNTABILITY  
BOARD OF ETHICS**

Board Meeting Minutes

**March 31, 2017**

*Present:* Covette Rooney, Board Chair (teleconference)  
Curtis Eugene, Board Member (teleconference)  
Sharon Theodore Lewis, Board Member (teleconference)

Robin Barnes-Shell, Esq., Executive Director  
LaShanda Whaley, Legal Counsel (teleconference)  
Chelinda Bullock, Administrative Aide  
Roslyn Walker, Compliance Officer (teleconference)

*Next meeting:* Friday, March 31, 2017 at 5:30 pm  
9201 Basil Court, Suite 155  
Largo, Maryland 20774

**OPEN SESSION**

**I. OPENING OF MEETING**

The Board of Ethics Chair, Covette Rooney, opened the meeting at approximately 5:30 pm and welcomed all in attendance. There was a quorum present with three (3) Board Members. The meeting was held at the Office of Ethics and Accountability (OEA) located at 9201 Basil Court, Suite 155, Largo, Maryland.

**II. Reading of Written Statement for Closing Meeting Under the Open Meeting Act**

At 5:53 pm motion was made by Board Member Sharon Theodore-Lewis and seconded by Board Member Curtis Eugene to close the open portion of the meeting to comply with a specific constitutional, statutory or judicially imposed requirement that prevents public disclosures about a particular proceeding or matter and to consult with legal counsel in accordance with the State Government Article, §10-508(a). The statement was read by the Board Chair Covette Rooney. The motion was approved by a vote of 3-0. The reason for closing the meeting, and the topics discussed with legal counsel involved an advisory opinion request. Those in attendance were as follows:

Covette Rooney, Board Chair (teleconference)  
Curtis Eugene, Board Member (teleconference)

Sharon Theodore Lewis, Board Member (teleconference)  
Robin Barnes-Shell, Esq., Executive Director  
LaShanda Whaley, Legal Counsel (teleconference)  
Chelinda Bullock, Administrative Aide  
Roslyn Walker, Compliance Officer (teleconference)

## **CLOSED SESSION**

### **Formal Advisory Opinion – Case # 17-0135**

The Board discussed draft response for advisory opinion regarding the acceptance of campaign contributions by elected officials. A motion to approve the letter was made by Board Member Curtis Eugene and was seconded by Sharon Theodore Lewis. The Board voted 3-0 to approve the draft letter. A final opinion responding to the request will be sent to the requestor answering in part and referring to the State Board of Elections on the parts that are beyond the scope of the Board.

At 5:50 pm a motion to close the Closed Session was made by Board Member Sharon Theodore Lewis and was seconded by Board Member Curtis Eugene.

## **OPEN SESSION**

### **Financial Disclosure Statement**

The Executive Director informed the Board that they had received an inquiry from the Solid Waste Advisory Commission regarding the required filing of Financial Disclosure Statements for newly appointed members. The Commission had been inactive for years and did not meet until February 2017. The Commission is required to file an annual Financial Disclosure Statements pursuant to Executive Order.

The Executive Director made a motion to the Board to approve the financial disclosure statements filed at the time of each member's application for appointment to serve as a substitute for the 2016 reporting period in lieu of additional filings. The Board voted 3-0 to grant the motion. A letter will be sent to the members of the Solid Waste Advisory Commission advising that they will be required to file a Financial Disclosure Statement with the OEA for CY2017, due no later than April 30, 2018.

At the conclusion of all business, a motion was made by Board Chair Covette Rooney to adjourn the meeting. The motion was 3-0. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:54 pm.