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

#### **Board Meeting Minutes**

# May 8, 2020

Present:	Cassandra Burckhalter, Board Chair (teleconference) Curtis Eugene, Board Member (teleconference) Covette Rooney, Board Member (teleconference)
	Robin Barnes-Shell, Esq., Executive Director (teleconference)
	Roslyn Walker, Compliance Officer (teleconference)
	Bamidele Alexander, Legal Counsel (teleconference)
	Lamont Judd, Investigator (teleconference)
	Jasmine Carter, Compliance Analyst (teleconference)
	Chelinda Bullock, Administrative Aide (teleconference)
Next meeting:	June 12, 2020 at 5:00 pm
	9201 Basil Court, Suite 155
	Largo, Maryland 20774

#### **OPEN SESSION**

## I. OPENING OF MEETING

The Board Chair, Cassandra Burckhalter, opened the meeting at approximately 1:01 pm and welcomed all in attendance. There was a quorum present with three (3) Board Members. The meeting was held by teleconference.

## **II. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

The three (3) Board of Ethics (Board) Members in attendance on May 8, 2020, approved the Meeting Minutes for March 23, 2020 by a vote of 3-0.

## III. BOARD CHAIR REPORT

None to report.

## **IV. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

The Executive Director informed the Board of OEA's collection efforts for Financial Disclosure Statements (FDS) for calendar year 2019. The deadline has been extended to July 31, 2020 due the pandemic, Covid 19. The Executive Director informed the Board of OEA's bi-annual ethics trainings for 2020. The Ethics Training will be extended to the

end of the year due the pandemic, Covid 19. The Office of Human Resources Management has a new LMS platform for the Ethics Training that will be delayed using due to the pandemic. The system will be used by County employees only, board members will continue to use the eLearning system. In addition, forty-six (46) lobbyists have registered for calendar 2020. All outstanding lobbyists Annual Reports for 2019 were received and processed.

The Board was provided the ethics advice table for February, March, and April, which summarized the informal ethics advice, information requests and legal advice provided by the Office of Ethics and Accountability.

The Board was informed of the new legal counsel for the Office the Ethics and Accountability.

# V. READING OF WRITTEN STATEMENT FOR CLOSING MEETING UNDER THE OPEN MEETING ACT

At 1:16 pm, a motion was made by Board Chair Cassandra Burckhalter 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 disclosure about a particular proceeding or matter and to consult with legal counsel. The statement was read by the Board Chair Cassandra Burckhalter. The motion was approved by a vote of 3-0. The reason for closing the meeting, and the topics discussed with legal counsel involved among other matters, investigations in accordance with the State Government Article, §10-508(a). Those in attendance were as follows:

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

Robin Barnes-Shell, Esq., Executive Director (teleconference) Roslyn Walker, Compliance Officer (teleconference) Bamidele Alexander, Legal Counsel (teleconference) Lamont Judd, Investigator (teleconference) Jasmine Carter, Compliance Analyst (teleconference) Chelinda Bullock, Administrative Aide (teleconference)

## **CLOSED SESSION**

#### Advisory Opinion 20-0152e

The Board approved the waiver request based on the the safeguard outlined by a vote of 3-0.

#### **BOE Resolution**

The Board approved the resolution not to interpret citizens and businesses providing unsolicited support and assistance to the Prince George's County Police Department and Fire Department during this pandemic (COVID-19), as prohibited conduct under the Code of Ethics with a modification by a vote of 3-0.

The Board was provided updates on pending cases.

At the conclusion of all business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved 3-0. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:43pm.