

CECIL COUNTY ETHICS COMMISSION

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Meeting Minutes

February 8, 2016

Present: Bob Boonstoppel, Joe Cline, Mike Dixon, Valerie Falcioni, Nicholas Cusmano

Guest: Donna Nichols

Open Session

Joe Cline called the meeting to order at 4:10 pm. Mike Dixon moved to accept Agenda, Bob Boonstoppel seconded, all approved to adopt Agenda as is.

Valerie made a motion to approve minutes as written, Bob Boonstoppel seconded, and all in favor to approve minutes as written.

Old Business:

Financial Disclosure Statements – will be done in paper form. Goal is to move to electronic form by 2017. Donna will ask Scott Mesneak about cost of implementing software and if it is possible to implement for 2016.

Implementation of Ethics Training – Joe Cline is unable to get in touch with the representative from Cecil College. Ready to begin project to implement ethics training pending Cecil College response. Donna will speak with Scott Mesneak and look into getting in touch with Brandon Boas to start developing Ethics Training Module.

Annual Report – Bob Boonstoppel stated the report has been roughed out. So far there is one case to report and 3 advisories. Missing Nick Cusmano's information; Nick agreed to forward information to Bob. Once the report is complete, all members will review and sign and the report will be submitted to County Executive Tari Moore.

New Business

Review of 2015 Financial Disclosure Forms: Joe Cline will send a calendar invite to Board members to being preparing to review 2015 Financial Disclosure forms.

Direction and Goals for 2016: Joe Cline asked members for any input on specific direction and goals to work towards during 2016. Joe suggested to continue working towards developing and implementing the Ethics Training Module, as well as, continuing to work towards developing and implementing Electronic Disclosure Forms. Valerie discussed bringing the carter change issue up again to protect Ethics Board appointtes. It was suggested that it may be best to wait until the Election settles before trying to change the Charter. Donna agreed to keep Board members up-to-date on proposed Charter Changes.

Budget: Donna informed the Board that FY17 budgets are due to County Executive Tari Moore on April 1, 2016. All FY16 budget funds must be used before June 30, 2016. The Board inquired who would be responsible for paying for outside Counsel when it is necessary. Donna informed the Board, that if a hearing comes up during the fiscal year a budget amendment can be requested.

Motion was made to adjourn at 4:46pm by Mike Dixon, seconded by Bob Boonstoppel and unanimous vote of the members present in accordance with Maryland statutes.

Respectfully Submitted by

Echo Bartsch