CECIL COUNTY ETHICS COMMISSION

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Meeting Minutes

March 17, 2014

Present: Bob Boonstoppel, Mike Dixon, Valerie Falcioni, Bruce Hemphill

Absent: Joe Cline

Open Session

Old Business:

Bob Boonstoppel made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 10, 2014 (open session) Mike Dixon seconded and they were unanimously approved.

Bruce reviewed the agenda, and Mike Dixon motioned for approval, Bob Boonstoppel seconded, all were in favor.

Revisions to County Code – At this time the Committee agreed to have no formal position on this matter. Bob Boonstoppell will follow the progress of the County's current Legislation.

Implementation of Ethics Training Module –

- a.) Mike Dixon reported on the progress of the mandatory training module for all Cecil County Employees. Currently 171 of 355 have completed module.
- b.) Mike Dixon presented an outline of phase II that will be reviewed by the Board and Donna Nichols. Board will discuss at the next meeting.

2012 Ethics Disclosure Filings & 2013 Activity Report – Bruce Hemphill presented the final report for the 2012 non-compliant board and commission members and attorneys, along with the activity report to be submitted to County Executive, upon Donna Nichols approval. Mike Dixon made a motion to approve the report, Valerie Falcioni seconded, all were in favor.

Public Comment Rules in Ethics Commission Meeting - Mike Dixon presented a draft of what the board members would like to see on the Ethics webpage. Bob

Boonstoppell made a motion to approve the draft with revisions, Valerie Falcioni seconded, all were in favor.

Expense Account Filing – All expense reports have been submitted and only one is still pending reimbursement.

MACO Conference – Electronic Ethics Disclosure System Review - Joe Cline has requested to present his finding at the next meeting.

Draft Legislation – Valerie Falcioni reported on the Public Council Hearing she relative to Ethics legislation changes. It is suggested that the legislation be approved on a State level first before a change is recommended at the County Level. The ethics code can be modified; however, it cannot make changes to the charter at this time. The board agreed to table this discussion until next meeting.

Lobbyist Registration Project – Bob and Valerie will discuss re-starting project at next meeting.

New Business:

2013 Financial Disclosure Board & Commission Cover Letter – Bob Boonstoppel made a motion to approve the cover letter with discussed revisions, Valerie Falcioni seconded, all were in favor.

Election Board – Discussion on how to track candidates that are running for County Council. Discussion tabled until next meeting.

Motion was made to adjourn to closed session to discuss open complaints. The meeting was closed by a formal motion (Valerie Falcioni), seconded (Bob Boonstoppell) and unanimous vote of the members present in accordance with Maryland statutes.