

THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT OFFICE OF ETHICS AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Angela D. Alsobrooks County Executive

Todd M. Turner Executive Director

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

Board Meeting Minutes January 13, 2023

Present: Cassandra Burckhalter, Board Chair (Microsoft Teams)

Charlene Gallion, Board Member (Microsoft Teams)
Melanie Barr-Brooks, Board Member (Microsoft Teams)

Sharon Theodore-Lewis, Board Member (Microsoft Teams) Mickei Milton, Board Member – Arrived at 5:05 (Microsoft

Teams)

Todd M. Turner, Executive Director (Microsoft Teams)
Bamidele Alexander, Legal Counsel (Microsoft Teams)
Roslyn Walker, Compliance Officer (Microsoft Teams)
Chelinda Bullock, Administrative Aide (Microsoft Teams)

Next meeting: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 (Virtual)

9201 Basil Court, Suite 155 Largo, Maryland 20774

OPEN SESSION

I. OPENING OF MEETING

The Board Chair, Cassandra Burckhalter, opened the meeting at approximately 5:01 pm and welcomed all in attendance. There was a quorum present with four (4) Board Members. The meeting was held virtual using Microsoft Teams.

II. GENERAL BUSINESS AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

The four (4) Board of Ethics (Board) Members in attendance virtually approved the agenda, by a vote of 4-0.

The four (4) Board of Ethics (Board) Members in attendance approved the Meeting Minutes for November 4, 2022, with one (1) edit, by a vote of 4-0.

III. BOARD CHAIR REPORT

The Board Chair welcomed the Office of Ethics and Accountability (OEA) new Executive Director, Todd M. Turner. The Board Chair notified the board members the Board of Ethics Meetings will be on the 2nd Wednesday of each month, beginning February 2023; each board member birthday will be recognized going forward; and requested the new board member Milton to provide feedback related to the Board Manual Draft before the next Board Meeting, scheduled in February 2023.

IV. ELECTION OF BOARD CHAIR FOR 2023

By a vote of 5-0, the Board of Ethics members elected Cassandra Burckhalter to be Board Chair for the Board of Ethics for calendar year 2023.

V. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

The Executive Director informed the Board of the following Office of Ethics and Accountability (OEA) compliance activities: to date, there were four (4) Board and Commission Financial Disclosure Statement (FDS) waiver requests; and the updated lobbyists registrations will be posted to OEA's webpage at the end of the month.

The Executive Director informed the Board that the Office of Information and Technology (OIT) is currently in progress with securing an account for the Boards and Commissions members to take Ethics training online.

The Executive Director informed the Board that the OEA is working with the County Administration with outreach education related to social media and Public Service Announcements (PSA).

The Executive Director informed the Board of an update related to the FY2024 Budget process with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

The Executive Director informed the Board that the vacant Investigation II applications were received and being reviewed; and the vacant Compliance Analyst position will be advertised soon on various platforms.

The Executive Director informed the Board that the OEA would like to recognize special occasions related to the board members.

The Executive Director informed the Board that the upcoming County Executive Budget Listening Session on January 26th is available for board members to attend.

The Executive Director informed the Board that the OEA staff will be participating in an upcoming Job Fair on January 31st given by Prince George's County Office of Human Resources Management.

The Board was provided the ethics advice table for November 2022 and December 2022, which summarized the informal ethics advice, information requests and legal advice provided by OEA. The also Board was provided with a case status report and updates on pending cases.

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

At 5:42 pm, a motion was made by Board Chair Burckhalter and seconded by Board Member Barr-Brooks 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 Burckhalter. The motion was approved by a vote of 5-0. This meeting was closed under General Provisions Art. § 3-305(b) for the following reasons: (A) To protect the privacy or reputation of individuals concerning a matter not related to public business; (B) To consult with counsel to obtain legal advice; (C) To conduct or discuss an investigative proceeding on actual or possible criminal conduct. Those in attendance were as follows:

Cassandra Burckhalter, Board Chair (Microsoft Teams)
Charlene Gallion, Board Member (Microsoft Teams)
Melanie Barr-Brooks, Board Member (Microsoft Teams)
Sharon Theodore-Lewis, Board Member (Microsoft Teams)
Mickei Milton, Board Member (Microsoft Teams)

Todd M. Turner, Executive Director (Microsoft Teams)
Bamidele Alexander, Legal Counsel (Microsoft Teams)
Roslyn Walker, Compliance Officer (Microsoft Teams)
Chelinda Bullock, Administrative Aide (Microsoft Teams)

VII. CLOSED SESSION

Investigation 23-0076e

The Board was provided an update with an investigation involving allegations regarding the Use of County Resources of a County employee engaging in unauthorized Secondary Employment in the County. The Board voted 5-0, that there is a reasonable basis to

believe a violation has occurred but in lieu of conducting a hearing, the Board accepts the actions taken by the agency as appropriate to address the violation.

Lobbyist 22-0404

The Board was notified a lobbyist filed all required registrations and paid all fines. A notification was sent to the lobbyist notifying them of compliance.

Financial Disclosures Statements (FDS)

The Board was informed a Public Service Announcement (PSA) will be sent this month to required filers.

Pending Case Update

The Board was informed of two (2) pending cases related to an alleged Misuse of County Resources and Secondary Employment.

New Case Update

The Board was informed of two (2) new cases related to an alleged Conflict of Interest and Post Employment.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

At the conclusion of all business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 5:54pm. The motion was approved 5-0.

The next meeting of the Board will be Wednesday February 8th at 5:00 pm.