

ULSTER COUNTY BOARD OF ETHICS

DATE: March 29, 2023

TIME: 5:00 PM

PLACE: Ulster County Human Services Complex
100 Development Court, Building #2, Suite 400
(Veterans Agency Entrance)
Kingston, New York

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Robert Nuzzo, Temporary Chair
Dean McGee
Deborah Schneer
Dylan Gallagher

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS ATTENDING: Judy Riley, Secretary to the Board of Ethics
Richard Williams, Esq, Assistant County Attorney

The Meeting was called to order at 5:15pm.

The Board voted in a temporary Chair for the meeting. Motion was made to wait until the full board was present to appoint a Chair for the year and to appoint Robert Nuzzo as the temporary Chair for the meeting, Dylan Gallagher 1st, Dean McGee 2nd, unanimously approved (Robert Nuzzo abstained).

Deb let the Board know that she had a conversation with the County Executive regarding Taane Pegg and his resume as it related to his possible appointment to the Board of Ethics. She thought the County Executive had a candidate that she was appointing to the Ethics Board that was serving on the Town of Hurley Board which would fulfill the requirement that one of the member must be an employee of a Town, City or Village in Ulster County per the Ethics Law. If so, then the Board can nominate Taane Pegg as their candidate for the Board. Richie asked if the County Executive's nominee is on the Town Board or if he is paid – needs to be an employee. Need to find out.

The Board noted that Board of Ethics member Lara Kasper-Bukareff rendered her resignation to the Chair of the Ulster County Legislature effective March 19, 2023.

The Chair asked if anyone had any revisions to the minutes from the February 23, 2023 meeting. No discussion. Motion to approve the minutes from the February 23, 2023 Board of Ethics Meeting, Dean McGee 1st, Deborah Schmeer 2nd, unanimously approved.

Judy provided an update regarding outstanding 2021 Financial Disclosure Forms – 25 currently outstanding. Regarding Mr. Dunkley's Form – Judy stated that she received his 2021 form but not his 2020 form. The Board suggested that she call Mr. Dunkley to thank him for his 2021 form and request his 2020 form. Robert stated that Evelyn is not at the Jail any longer. Follow up with the Department Heads to make sure they are still employed or active members of the various boards.

5:32pm Motion was made to go into Executive Session to discuss the Ulster County Comptroller's March 14th email request and the Subpoena served upon the Board today requesting copies of several years of Financial Disclosure Forms, Robert Nuzzo 1st, Dylan Gallagher 2nd, unanimously approved.

5:55pm Motion was made to exit Executive Session, Dean McGee 1st, Robert Nuzzo 2nd, unanimously approved.

Motion was made to respond to the Comptroller's March 14, 2023 email request for all Financial Disclosure Forms filed for 2020 and 2021, and the Comptroller's Subpoena served on the Board of Ethics on March 29, 2023 requesting copies of all 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019 Financial Disclosure Forms. The Board directed the County Attorney's office to draft response to include that the Board is willing to provide access to the requested documents so the Comptroller's staff may review the records and produce electronic copies for their files – with several caveats: 1) The return date of April 7th needs to be extended further out because the Board will need to request the documents from archives. 2) the 2021 Financial Disclosure Forms will be provided upon the Board's full review of the forms. 3) the production of any financial disclosure forms are subject to the confidentiality provisions found in Section 7(L) of the Ulster County Ethics Law, Local Law No.

2 of 2022. Therefore, it is the Board's position that the provision of the financial disclosure forms to the Comptroller's Office is for *internal County use only because prior to releasing to the public various information must be redacted pursuant to the Ethics Law*. If the Comptroller is going to release any of the documents, the Comptroller shall notify the Board of Ethics so they can redact the forms appropriately pursuant to the Ulster County Ethics Law. The letter shall be circulated to the Board to review before sending to the Comptroller. Dylan Gallagher 1st, Deborah Schneer 2nd, unanimously approved.

6:00pm Motion was made to adjourn the meeting, Dean McGee 1st, Deborah Schneer, 2nd, unanimously approved.