

ULSTER COUNTY BOARD OF ETHICS

DATE: August 22, 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
Deborah Schneer
Dylan Gallagher
Anne Zahradnik

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 5:04pm by Robert Nuzzo, Acting Chair.

Introductions were made to the new Board Member, Anne Zahradnik. Anne introduced herself to the Board.

The Chair asked if anyone had any revisions to the minutes from the May 18, 2023 meeting. No discussion. Motion to approve the minutes from the May 18, 2023 Board of Ethics Meeting, Bob Nuzzo 1st, Dylan Gallagher 2nd, unanimously approved.

Old Business:

Judy gave an update regarding 2021 Financial Disclosure Forms. All of the forms have been accounted for as some of the outstanding forms were for people who are no longer with employed by the County or Board. There are 8 forms that need to be amended and Judy will continue to follow up. Motion was made that once the amended forms are received, the 2021 Financial Disclosure Forms can be archived. Robert Nuzzo 1st, Deborah Schmeer 2nd, unanimously approved.

New Business:

The Board discussed a Request for Advisory Opinion. Motion was made that based on the letter dated July 21, 2023, and the lack of specific information provided, the Board is unable to make a determination regarding a possible conflict of interest. If they would like the Board to review the request further, it is necessary that they be provided information as to the roles and responsibilities of the two (2) individuals in order to render a decision. Robert Nuzzo 1st, Deborah Schmeer 2nd, unanimously approved.

5:27pm The Board entered into Executive Session to reviewed and discuss the Comptroller's Request for Advisory Opinion to publicize all Financial Disclosure Forms collected. Robert Nuzzo 1st, Anne Zahradnik 2nd, unanimously approved.

6:15pm Motion was made to exit Executive Session, Dylan Gallagher 1st, Deborah Schmeer 2nd, unanimously approved.

After discussion in Executive Session, Motion was made to have a letter drafted in response to the Comptroller after having privileged communication with Counsel; the draft letter will be circulated for Board approval. Robert Nuzzo 1st, Deborah Schmeer 2nd, unanimously approved.

The Board discussed seats still available on the Board of Ethics – 3 openings still. Robert agreed to reach out to the County Executive and the Chair of the Legislature.

6:20pm Motion was made to adjourn the meeting, Dylan Gallagher 1st, Deb Schmeer 2nd, unanimously approved.