

WASHINGTON SUBURBAN SANITARY COMMISSION

BOARD OF ETHICS

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

Wednesday, January 13, 2021  
Laurel, Maryland

The Board of Ethics (“Board”) met via videoconference to conduct an Open Session pursuant to Maryland Code Annotated, General Provisions Article § 3-305(b)(13).

Chair Pruden called the meeting to order at 1:08 p.m. with the following members present:

George Pruden II, Chair  
Steven Hausman, Member  
Jeffrey Hysen, Member  
Chandria Slaughter, Alternate Member.

Also present:

Angelique Dorsey White, Ethics Officer  
Russel Beers, Deputy General Counsel and Counsel to the Board  
Latonya Allen, Administrative Assistant  
Tamika Taylor, Counsel to the Office of Inspector General  
Larry Carr, Office of Inspector General Investigator.

**Open Session**

**Approval of Open Session Minutes – December 9, 2020**

The Board reviewed the draft Open Session Minutes for December 9, 2020. On motion of Dr. Hausman and seconded by Mr. Hysen, three members of the Board (Hausman, Hysen, and Pruden) voted to approve the December Open Session Minutes.

**Matters of Discussion**

**Ethics Program Monthly Report**

Ms. Dorsey White provided an update on the activities in the Ethics Office for December 2020. She provided ethics training to five new employees as part of the onboarding process. The Board asked whether the hiring pace is unusually low for WSSC. Ms. Dorsey White stated that the current number of new employees is typical for December, when most activity is slower than usual.

Finally, Ms. Dorsey White shared that the Ethics Office provided guidance on nine matters, of which the leading categories were Disclosure Statements and Soliciting or Acceptance of Gifts.

**Informational Items**

**Delinquent Financial Disclosure Filer(s)**

Ms. Allen stated that there were no delinquent financial disclosure filers to report.

**Closed Session Approval**

At 1:16 p.m., on motion of Dr. Hausman and seconded by Mr. Hysen, three members of the Board (Hausman, Hysen, and Pruden) voted to conclude the Open Session and conduct a Closed Session pursuant to Maryland Code Annotated, General Provisions Article § 3-305(b)(13) to approve December 9, 2020 Closed Session Minutes; General Provisions Article § 3-305(b)(13) and WSSC Code of Ethics Ch. 1.70.110 to address three Complaints; General Provisions Article § 3-305(b)(13) and WSSC Code of Ethics Ch. 1.70.060(a) to address two Advisory Opinions; and General

Provisions Article § 3-305(b)(7) to obtain legal advice regarding three Complaints, two Advisory Opinions, and Potential Complaints.

**Attendees:** Chair George Pruden; Member Steven Hausman; Member Jeffrey Hysen; and Alternate Member Chandria Slaughter. Staff present: Ethics Officer Angelique Dorsey White; Deputy General Counsel and Counsel to the Board Russel Beers; and Administrative Assistant Latonya Allen.

**Closed Session**

**Approval of Closed Session Minutes – December 9, 2020**

The Board reviewed the draft Closed Session Minutes from the December 9, 2020 meeting.

On motion of Dr. Hausman and seconded by Mr. Hysen, three members of the Board (Hausman, Hysen, and Pruden) voted to approve the December Closed Session Minutes.

**Complaint C-20-04**

Ms. Dorsey provided an update on this complaint.

**Complaint C-20-10**

Ms. Dorsey White provided an update on this complaint.

**Complaint C-21-01**

Ms. Dorsey White provided an overview of this potential complaint.

On motion of Dr. Hausman and seconded by Mr. Hysen, three members of the Board (Hausman, Hysen, and Pruden) determined there was reasonable cause to believe a violation of Code of Ethics Chapter 1.70.200(e) has occurred.

**Advisory Opinion A-20-01**

Ms. Dorsey White provided an update on this Advisory Opinion.

On motion of Dr. Hausman and seconded by Mr. Hysen, three members of the Board (Hausman, Hysen, and Pruden) voted to reconsider and reaffirm its original opinion to this request.

**Advisory Opinion A-20-02**

Ms. Dorsey White provided an update on this Advisory Opinion.

On motion of Mr. Hysen and seconded by Dr. Hausman, three members of the Board (Hysen, Hausman, and Pruden) voted to accept the opinion.

**Potential Complaint #2**

Ms. Dorsey White provided an overview of this potential complaint.

On motion of Dr. Hausman and seconded by Mr. Hysen, three members of the Board (Hausman, Hysen, and Pruden) voted to file a complaint, on its own motion pursuant to Code of Ethics Ch.1.70.080(b), alleging that Code of Ethics Ch. 1.70.290(a) and (b) had been violated. The case number assigned is Complaint C-21-02.

**Adjournment**

On motion of Dr. Hausman and seconded by Mr. Hysen, three members of the Board (Hausman, Hysen, and Pruden) voted to adjourn the meeting at 2:56 p.m.



Angelique Dorsey White, Esq.  
Ethics Officer