

DeKalb County Board of Ethics

Thursday, September 22, 2016

3:00 p.m.

Trustee Room, Turner Lynch Campus Center

Oglethorpe University

4484 Peachtree Road NE

Atlanta, GA 30319

Minutes

Members Present:

Lawrence Schall

Robert Tatum

Dan DeWoskin

Shermanetta Carter

Scott Bonder

Brian Deutsch

Members Absent:

Greg Russell

Board Affiliates Present:

Stacey Kalberman, Ethics Officer

Gene Chapman, Board Counsel

Attendees:

Mark Niese

Stephen Binney

Dr. C. Thrasher

Robert Lane

Maria Bazille

Viola Davis

Terry Phillips

Shaheen Williams

I. Call to order

Lawrence Schall called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

II. Welcome

Lawrence Schall welcomed attendees.

III. Adoption of the Agenda

The members reviewed the agenda. Scott Bonder made a motion to adopt the agenda as amended and Shermanetta Carter seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with a vote of 6-0.

IV. Review and Approve Meeting Minutes from August 25, 2016

The members reviewed the minutes from the meeting held on August 25, 2016. Scott Bonder made a motion to approve the minutes and Robert Tatum seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with a vote of 6-0.

V. Unfinished Business

A. Reports

1, 2, 3, 5, 8. The status of the matters which are tabled have not changed.

6. Complaint against Vaughn Irons. Ms. Kalberman anticipates placing a probable cause hearing on the agenda for the meeting on November 22.

7. Complaint against Stan Watson. Ms. Kalberman reported that she has amended the complaint against Stan Watson and given him proper notice. Ms. Kalberman anticipates that she will place a probable cause hearing on the agenda for the next meeting.

VI. New Business

1. Proposed advisory opinion regarding use of County resources and political campaigns. Ms. Kalberman presented a draft opinion. She asked attorney Robert Lane from the State Ethics Commission to present his comments to the Board. After Mr. Lane made his remarks, the Board directed Ms. Kalberman revise the draft to alleviate the jurisdictional concerns Mr. Lane raised.

2. Review existing advisory opinions. Ms. Kalberman reviewed opinions 2, 7, and 9 and pointed to potential problems which exist when the opinions are read in light of the new Code of Ethics as well as flaws rationale in the opinions. After discussion, the Board directed Ms. Kalberman to place a notice to each opinion on the website to show that the law has changed, the current Board will apply the current law to similar conduct, and individuals should not rely on the conclusion in the advisory opinion.

Scott Bonder had to leave the meeting at 3:55 p.m.

VII. Administrative

1. Conflict of interest form. Ms. Kalberman distributed an updated form for county officials, employees, and appointees to use to disclose a conflict of interest or a potential conflict of interest. Dan DeWoskin made a motion to adopt the updated form and Robert Tatum seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

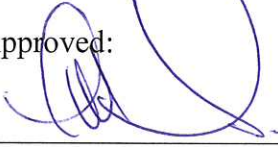
2. Budget update. Ms. Kalberman reported on the proposed budget for 2017. Robert Tatum made a motion to approve the proposed budget for submission and Dan DeWoskin seconded the motion. The motion passed with a voted of 5-0.

3. Public comment. Viola Davis and Stephen Binney made comments to the Board.


VIII. Adjournment

Robert Tatum made a motion to adjourn and Brian Deutsch seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 5-0 and the meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Approved:



Chair



Date