MINUTES OF THE
MACOMB COUNTY ETHICS BOARD

Wednesday, February 21, 2018

A meeting of the Macomb County Ethics Board was held Wednesday, February 21, 2018, at 8:45 a.m., in the Conference Room, on the Second Floor of the Talmer Building, 120 North Main Street, Mount Clemens, Michigan.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Amboyer called the meeting to order at 8:45 a.m.

ROLL CALL

The following Members were present:

   Dr. Donald Amboyer, Dorie Vazquez-Nolan, Paddy Laske, Brian Gabriel and
   Darnell Blackburn

Michelle LaBelle, Macomb County Finance – Risk & Insurance, prepared/reported the Minutes.

MEMBERSHIP APPOINTMENT

Darnell Blackburn was nominated to the Ethics Board by Macomb County Executive Mark Hackel. He was consequently appointed on February 15, 2018, by the Macomb County Board of Commissioners to a term expiring 2/1/23. The Ethics Board welcomed Mr. Darnell Blackburn as a valued member.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION

A motion was made by Dorie Vazquez-Nolan, supported by Paddy Laske, to adopt the Agenda as presented. The Motion Carried.

APPROVE MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 15, 2017

MOTION

A motion was made by Dorie Vazquez-Nolan, supported by Brian Gabriel, to approve the minutes of November 15, 2017. The Motion Carried.
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requested was discussed by Erin Stahl.

CORRESPONDENCE, ADVISORY OPINION, AND COMPLAINT SUBMISSION(S)

Chair Amboyer reviewed several items the Board received such as information regarding new Board Member appointment – Darnell Blackburn, an email requesting Ethics Meeting packets was received from the Board of Commissioners, emails regarding the January 17, 2018 Ethics Board Meeting cancellation; a media request regarding an unpaid fine on an Ethics complaint; complaint correspondence regarding Roseville City Council inquiry which was a not related to the Ethics Board, and probate matter question which also was not related to the Ethics Board.

Documents were assembled for a meeting regarding a lawsuit and submitted to Human Resources Department for transmittal to defense attorney. A meeting was held with Karlyn Semlow, Human Resources, regarding the re-design of ethics online training curriculum. Information was prepared for upcoming meeting with Bob Smith, BOC Chair, regarding suggestions and changes to the Ethics Ordinance. Lastly, a media request regarding Complaint C01-2018 was also received February 20, 2018.

Complaint #C01-2018 was received January 30, 2018, from Complainant Frank Cusumano concerning allegations regarding Respondent Jacqueline Ryan. The Complaint cites Enrolled Ordinance 2016-3 Section 2.1 A, B, C, D, E, F and G. Chair Amboyer reviewed complaint line-by-line with Board Members. An Amendment was submitted on 2/16/18 in addition to the original complaint and was sent to Ms. Ryan prior to the meeting today. The Board reviewed the Amendment line-by-line as well.

MOTION

A motion was made by Paddy Laske, supported by Darnell Blackburn, to send a letter to Respondent that she has a right to respond to the complaint within twenty-one (21) days. The written response, if submitted by Ms. Ryan, and/or any additional information regarding the complaint, will be discussed at the next meeting on March 20, 2018. **The Motion Carried.** Both the Complainant, Frank Cusumano, Jr., and Respondent, Jackie Ryan were in the meeting audience bearing witness to the discussions.

ETHICS ONLINE LEARNING REVISIONS AND DELIVERY

Karlyn Semlow – Human Resources/Labor Relations provided information on the current program Human Resources/Labor Relations uses. It would cost $2,000 to bring training over from Syntrio and changes could not be made. Also, the current program is due to go out for bid this year.
SUGGESTED ORDINANCE REVISIONS

A meeting is scheduled for 2/22/18 with Bob Smith, BOC Chair, to discuss and offer revision suggestions to the Macomb County Board of Commissioners to enhance the Ethics Ordinance.

PENDING MATTERS

Annual Election of Officers

A. Chair

MOTION
A motion was made by Dorie Vazquez-Nolan, supported by Brian Gabriel, to retain Don Amboyer as Chair - One Year Calendar Term. The Motion Carried.

B. Vice - Chair

MOTION
A motion was made by Paddy Laske, supported by Brian Gabriel, to retain Dorie Vazquez-Nolan as Vice-Chair - One Year Calendar Term. The Motion Carried.

C. Secretary

MOTION
A motion was made by Don Amboyer, supported by Dorie Vazquez-Nolan, to retain Brian Gabriel as Secretary - One Year Calendar Term. The Motion Carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

The Board received a laptop from the County. Future Ethics Board Meetings will be held on the third Tuesday of each month.

NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING: MARCH 20, 2017 - 8:45 A.M.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION
A motion was made by Brian Gabriel, supported by Paddy Laske, to adjourn the meeting at 10:03 a.m. The Motion Carried.

Approved:

Donald J. Amboyer, Ph.D., Chairperson

Brian Gabriel, Secretary