MINUTES OF THE
MACOMB COUNTY ETHICS BOARD

Annual Meeting
Wednesday, October 21, 2015

A meeting of the Macomb County Ethics Board was held Wednesday, October 21, 2015, at 8:45 a.m., in the Conference Room, on the 2nd Floor of the Talmer Building - Mount Clemens, Michigan.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Amboyer called the meeting to order at 8:46 a.m.

ROLL CALL

The following Members were present:

Dr. Donald J. Amboyer, Paddy Laske, Tim Wiley, James McGrail and Dorie Vazquez-Nolan

Guests:
Eric Herppich, Macomb County - Human Resource/Labor Relations - Director
Brian Jacks, Macomb County - Human Resource/Labor Relations

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

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION
A motion was made by James McGrail, supported by Tim Wiley, to adopt the Agenda, as presented. The Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 16, 2015 MEETING MINUTES

MOTION
A motion was made by James McGrail, supported by Tim Wiley to approve the Minutes of September 16, 2015. The Motion Carried.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None
CORRESPONDENCE

The Ethics Board received a Complaint on October 2, 2015. Secondly, an e-mail from Eric Herppich and Brian Jacks was received.

ETHICS ONLINE TRAINING UPDATE (ERIC HERPPICH, BRIAN JACKS)

Chair Amboyer provided a update on the training certificate. Syntrio is unable to put a border on the Certificate of Achievement due new software platforms.

Human Resources/Labor Relations has done an excellent job implementing training to employees. To date, 74 people have completed the training and 32 evaluations have been completed with overall positive results.

Macomb County owns the online training now being implemented by Human Resources/Labor Relations. Tim Wiley stated the Ethics Board was responsible for developing the training and the Office of the Executive is in charge of implementing training.

Eric Herppich will follow-up with Department Heads for completion of training and will soon rollout training to an additional three or four more departments. He will also submit target dates for completion, by Department to the Ethics Board.

Eric Herppich expressed concern over Human Resources/Labor Relations neutrality with the Ethics Board and does not want to be viewed as a Division of the Ethics Board, emphasizing the need to remain neutral.

SYNTRIO ANNUAL HOSTING SERVICE INVOICE

The Syntrio Invoice and budget was discussed. The invoice will be paid out of the Ethics Budget this year. It was recommended that the Syntrio licensing fees be paid out of the County's IT Budget commencing Fiscal Year 2017.

MOTION

A motion was made by James McGrail, supported by Tim Wiley to pay the Syntrio Invoice.  The Motion Carried

EDUCATIONAL POSTER AND BROCHURE UPDATE

Jim McGrail provided a brochure update and a new sample. The Board discussed changes to the content, adding a scanner barcode and a Logo update. Jim McGrail will give the Planning Department the recommended changes.
NOMINATION & ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON, VICE CHAIRPERSON AND SECRETARY

MOTION
A motion was made by Tim Wiley, supported by Jim McGrail to maintain the same positions for next year commencing November 1, 2015, and ending October 31, 2016. The Motion Carried

OTHER BUSINESS
None

TABLETOP EXERCISE
The Board tabled the exercise until next month’s meeting.

NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING: November 18, 2015 - 8:45 A.M.

CASE REVIEW
A new complaint was submitted electronically to the Board - Complaint # CO1-2015. Chair Amboyer discussed the Rules of Procedure. Jim McGrail advised the Board that he did work with the individual complaint respondent on issues related to the Great Lakes Water Authority. The complaint has nothing to do with that work and he feels it does not affect his ability to be objective and unbiased regarding the complaint as he described full disclosure. It was a non-personal, professional work situation.

Chair Amboyer suggested that the Rules of Procedure be closely followed with this complaint as has been the case with others. Next step following this Board Review is to notify the Respondent of the complaint and other steps in accordance with the Rules of Procedure. Jim McGrail suggested that a closed session meeting can be requested by the Respondent, as stated in the Rules of Procedure Section 2.2, and should be included in the letter to the Public Servant.

Tim Wiley requested to dismiss the request due to jurisdiction. He also requested a notation be included in the letter to the Respondent that the complaint is not being dismissed at this time nor has an investigation begun at this time.

Tim Wiley would like to seek an opinion from Corporation Counsel regarding confidentiality. Chair Amboyer suggested to invite Corporation Counsel to the next meeting.

The subcommittee for Complaint #C01-2015 will consist of Tim Wiley and James McGrail.
ADJOURNMENT

MOTION
A motion was made by Paddy Laske, supported by Dorie Vazquez-Nolan, to adjourn the meeting at 10:26 a.m. The Motion Carried.

Approved:

Donald J. Amboyer, Ph.D., Chair

James McGrail, Secretary