

DeKalb County Board of Ethics

Thursday, April 19, 2018

4:00 p.m.

Central DeKalb Senior Center, Second Floor Meeting Room

1346 McConnell Drive

Decatur, Georgia 30033

Minutes

Members Present:

Robert Tatum

Dan DeWoskin

Brian Deutsch

Patrick Desamours

Edward Queen

Adriana de la Torriente

Board Affiliates Present:

Stacey Kalberman, Ethics Officer

LaTonya Nix Wiley, Deputy Ethics Officer

Gene Chapman, Board Counsel

Suzanne Amato, Administrative Assistant

Attendees:

Stephen Binney

Joe Arrington

Faye Coffield

Paul Jones

Claudette Leak

Tia Mitchell

Ed Williams

Beatrice Williams

Loretta Washington

Shaheem Williams

Terry Phillips

I. **Call to order**

Dan DeWoskin called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m. He welcomed the attendees and introduced Adriana de la Torriente. Ms. de la Torriente is the new member of the Board appointed by the DeKalb Bar Association.

II. **Adoption of Agenda**

The members reviewed the agenda. Edward Queen made a motion to adopt the agenda and Patrick Desamours seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 5-0. Mr. Tatum was absent from the room for the vote.

III. Review and Approve Meeting Minutes from February 15, 2018

The members reviewed the minutes from the meeting held on February 15, 2018. Brian Deutsch made a motion to approve the minutes and Patrick Desamours seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

IV. Unfinished Business

A. Dismissals - Stacey Kalberman reported to the Board on complaints which her office had investigated and recommended that the Board dismiss the matters.

1. Docket No. 2018-3 – complaint of Helen Houston. Stacey Kalberman reported that the Board does not have jurisdiction to consider the complaint because Ms. Houston is not a resident of DeKalb County and the respondent is a guardian ad litem appointed by the Probate Court. Edward Queen made a motion to dismiss the complaint and Dan DeWoskin seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 6-0.

V. New Business

- A. Complaint 2018-2 – Washington v. Thurmond, *et al.* Stacey Kalberman presented the allegations in the complaint to the Board for informational purposes.
- B. Complaint 2018-4 – Taylor v. Adams. Stacey Kalberman presented the allegations in the complaint to the Board for informational purposes.
- C. Complaint 2018-5 – Williams and Coffield v. Members of the Board of Commissioners except Nancy Jester. LaTonya Wiley presented the allegations in the complaint to the Board for informational purposes.
- D. Presentation of final allegations in the Stan Watson matter. Stacey Kalberman presented the procedural background to the complaint. LaTonya Wiley discussed the allegations and discussed the new allegations discovered during the investigation. Dan DeWoskin asked the Ethics Officer to circulate an email to the members to determine the best date and time for the final hearing of the matter.

VI. Administrative

- A. Reminder regarding Supreme Court hearing date for the Sutton matter.
- B. Leadership DeKalb. Stacey Kalberman would like to participate in the upcoming year of Leadership DeKalb and needs the Board's authorization for spending the money for the fees involved. After discussion, Vice-Chair Robert Tatum gave the Board's authorization for expenditure of the funds. Dan DeWoskin recused himself from the discussion.

- C. Public comment. Ed Williams, Stephen Binney, Faye Coffield, Loretta Washington, Beatrice Williams, and Joe Arrington addressed the members of the Board.
- D. Gene Chapman presented the facts and issues of the acting County Attorney's question to Darren Summerville, the Board's litigation counsel, of whether a conflict of interest prevented him from concurrently representing the Board in its action and representing individuals who are suing the County. Mr. Summerville responded to the acting County Attorney and she is satisfied for the time being that Mr. Summerville can continue in both roles.

VII. Adjournment

Robert Tatum made a motion to adjourn and Edward Queen seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 6-0 and the meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Approved:



Chair



Date 5/17/2018