

DeKalb County Board of Ethics

Thursday, June 21, 2018

4:00 p.m.

Central DeKalb Senior Center, Second Floor Meeting Room

1346 McConnell Drive

Decatur, Georgia 30033

Minutes

Members Present:

Robert Tatum

Sheri Lake

Patrick Desamours

Edward Queen

Adriana de la Torriente

Members Absent:

Brian Deutsch

Board Affiliates Present:

LaTonya Nix Wiley, Deputy Ethics Officer

Gene Chapman, Board Counsel

Suzanne Amato, Administrative Assistant

Darren Summerville, Litigation Counsel

Attendees:

Tia Mitchell

Stephen Binney

Dr. Douglas Easley

I. **Call to order**

Robert Tatum called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and welcomed the attendees.

II. **Adoption of Agenda**

The members reviewed the agenda. Patrick Desamours made a motion to adopt the agenda and Edward Queen seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

III. **Review and Approve Meeting Minutes from May 17, 2018**

The members reviewed the minutes from the meeting held on May 17, 2018. Edward Queen made a motion to approve the minutes and Adriana de la Torriente seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 4-0-1. Sheri Lake abstained.

IV. New Business

- A. Rhea Johnson v. Commissioner Jeff Rader (Docket No. 2018-6). LaTonya Wiley stated that Stacey Kalberman could not attend the meeting due to illness. Ms. Kalberman had intended to present the complaint to the Board. Sheri Lake made a motion to table the matter until the next meeting and Patrick Desamours seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

V. Executive Session

Edward Queen made a motion for the Board to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing litigation with the Board's litigation counsel. Patrick Desamours seconded the motion and the motion passed with a vote of 5-0. The public part of the meeting recessed at 4:15 p.m.

Patrick Desamours made a motion for the Board to come out of Executive Session and Sheri Lake seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 5-0 and the public meeting resumed at 4:30 p.m.

Darren Summerville, litigation counsel for the Board, explained the matters being litigated, the current posture of the matters, and the anticipated timeframe for a decision from the Supreme Court of Georgia. Mr. Summerville answered several questions from attendees.

VI. Administrative

- A. Robert Tatum introduced Sheri Lake who is a new Board member appointed by Leadership DeKalb. Mr. Tatum opened the floor for nominations for Chair. Adriana de la Torriente nominated Robert Tatum for Chair and Patrick Desamours seconded the motion. There were no other nominations. Robert Tatum was elected Chair with a vote of 5-0. Mr. Tatum opened the floor for nominations for Vice-Chair. Adriana de la Torriente nominated Edward Queen for Vice-Chair and Sheri Lake seconded the motion. Edward Queen was elected Vice-Chair with a vote of 5-0.
- B. Discussion of Ethics Code § 22A(h)(1)(G). LaTonya Wiley explained that the Ethics Code declares that "all proposed appointments to the Board of Ethics shall be subject to an education and employment background check as well as a criminal history check." Ms. Wiley presented a proposed Resolution which provides for a mechanism to conduct the checks, a vendor, and the funding for the checks. The Board discussed the Resolution. Mr. Queen pointed out that the date needed to be changed. After discussion, Edward Queen made a motion to adopt the Resolution with the change and Adriana de la Torriente seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

After discussion of the need for a Secretary, Edward Queen nominated Sheri Lake to serve as Secretary to the Board and Patrick Desamours seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

After discussion, Adriana de la Torriente made a motion to authorize the Chair to execute the Open Meetings Affidavit and Sheri Lake seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

C. Public comments. Stephen Binney and Dr. Douglas Easley made comments to the Board.

VII. Adjournment

Robert Tatum made a motion to adjourn and Sheri Lake seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 5-0 and the meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Approved:



Chair

8/9/18
Date