

DeKalb County Board of Ethics

Location: Conference Room A, Clark Harrison Building
Date of Meeting: 12/16/2013 Time of Meeting: 6:00pm

Minutes

Members Present:

Isaac Blythers, Acting Chair
Susan Neugent
John Ernst
Thelma Grier
Bobbie Sanford
Edwinett Murphy

Observers:

Trumondia Williams, Staff Support, Law Department

Member(s) Absent:

None

I) Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:04pm by Isaac Blythers, Acting Chair.

II) Adoption of the Agenda

The Agenda was reviewed. Isaac Blythers called for a motion to approve the agenda. Bobbie Sanford moved for approval and the motion was seconded by John Ernst. Isaac Blythers called for a vote. All voted and all were in favor to approve adopting the agenda and none opposed.

III) Adoption of Minutes

The Minutes, dated November 18, 2013 were reviewed. Isaac Blythers called for a motion to approve the minutes with corrections. Thelma Grier moved for approval and the motion was seconded by Edwinett Murphy. Isaac Blythers called for a vote. All voted and all were in favor to approve adopting the minutes with corrections.

IV) Advisory Opinion Discussion

The Board discussed the possible conflict of interest that could arise from a candidate interviewed. An advisory opinion was given by the State Bar of Georgia. The Board discussed their opinions related to the possibility of having an Attorney with a possible known conflict of interest. Edwinett Murphy made a motion that having the information from the State Bar before the Board, that there may be a potential conflict with attorney candidate 1. Therefore, the Board should move to candidate 2 as Counsel for the Ethics Board. The motion was seconded by John Ernst. Isaac Blythers called for a vote. A vote was taken, 4 were in favor, 1 opposed and 1 abstained. The motion carries.

John Ernst made a motion to move to candidate 3 if candidate 2 is unavailable for a follow up interview and/or no longer is interested in the position. The motion was seconded by Edwinett Murphy. Isaac Blythers called for a vote. All voted, 4 were in favor and 2 opposed. The motion carries.

The next step is for Staff Support to reach out to candidate 2 to schedule a follow up interview for Monday December 23, 2013 at 6pm.

V) **Update on Ethics Board Training**

Isaac Blythers reached out to Associate Dean Jim Elliott at Emory Law School regarding training for the Ethics Board. Mr. Elliott is interested in helping the Board become fully trained. He will be putting together an outline of topics in which he would like the Board to be trained. The training should take a few hours and will be held at the County's current meeting location.

VI) **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the Acting Chair called for a motion to adjourn. John Ernst moved for approval and it was seconded by Thelma Grier. The Acting Chair called for a vote. All voted and the vote was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 7:26pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Isaac Blythers
Acting Chair

1-2-14
Date