

## DeKalb County Board of Ethics

Location: Conference Room A, Clark Harrison Building

Date of Meeting: 3/7/2014 Time of Meeting: 1:00pm

### Minutes

#### Members Present:

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

#### Observers:

Gene Chapman, Counsel for the Board of Ethics  
April Hunt, AJC  
Rhea Johnson, Citizen  
James Elliot, Emory University  
Joe Arrington, Citizen  
Barbara Sanders, County Clerk  
Natasha Kennedy, Senior Deputy County Clerk

#### Member(s) Absent:

None

#### **I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 1:10pm by Isaac Blythers, Acting Chair.

#### **II. Welcome and Introductions**

#### **III. Adoption of the Agenda**

The Agenda was reviewed. Isaac Blythers entertained a motion to approve the agenda. 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 agenda.

#### **IV. Adoption of Minutes**

The Minutes, dated February 5, 2014, were reviewed and members noted items that needed revision or correction. Isaac Blythers entertained a motion to approve the minutes with corrections. Susan Neugent moved for approval and the motion was seconded by Bobbie Sanford. Isaac Blythers called for a vote. All voted and all were in favor to approve adopting the minutes with corrections.

V. **Ethics Board Training**

James Elliot from Emory University presented an introduction to the topics for the training session. He asked Gene Chapman to review the proposed amendments to the rules of procedure. The Board also discussed making amendments to the form used for submitting a complaint or requesting an advisory opinion. The Board concluded that it wants to use separate forms for submitting a complaint and requesting an advisory opinion. The discussion regarding the amendments to the rules and the form utilized most of the time the Board had allotted for Mr. Elliott's training, so the Board asked Mr. Elliott to return at the next meeting to make his full presentation.

VI. **Voted to End Suspended Status**

Isaac Blythers entertained a motion to end the Board's suspended status and resume active status. Susan Neugent made the motion and Thelma Grier seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

VII. **Approved Amendments to the Board of Ethics' Rules and Forms**

Isaac Blythers entertained a motion to make amendments to the form used for submitting a complaint or request for an advisory opinion. Clara DeLay moved that the Board use two separate forms to distinguish the form for submitting a complaint and the form for requesting an advisory opinion. John Ernst seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Isaac Blythers entertained a motion to make amendments to the Board's Rules of Procedure. John Ernst moved for the Board to approve the proposed amendments to the Rules consistent with the Board's oral discussion. Bobbie Sanford seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

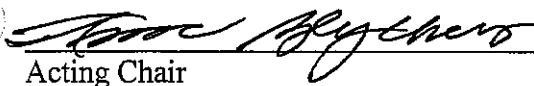
The Board collaborated on dates that would work for meeting again for Mr. Elliott's training. Alternative dates that were agreed upon were Friday, March 14 and Friday, March 28. The Board discussed these alternative dates after Susan Neugent and Bobbie Sanford had to leave the meeting, so Isaac Blythers stated that he would contact them and determine if either had a conflict with one of the proposed dates.


The Board also collaborated on possible dates for its first quarter meeting. The Board selected alternative dates on March 27 or March 31. The Board then determined that it would schedule its remaining quarterly meetings at 6:30pm on May 8, August 14, and November 13.

VIII. **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the Acting Chair entertained the motion to adjourn. John Ernst moved for adjournment and Clara DeLay seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote of the five members present. The meeting was adjourned at 4:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Acting Chair

  
Date