Prepared by: Kristin Rodgers – Ethics Administrator Elisa Murphy – Ethics Officer



# DeKalb County Board of Ethics Regular Board Meeting Thursday August 3, 2023 6:00 p.m. Zoom meeting Minutes

# **Board Members Present:**

Rosa Darden Waymon Nadine Ali Scott Mathews Bryan Ramos Robert Dallas George Ference Dr. Tammy Greer

# **Alternate Members Present:**

Bill Clark Cathea Simelton-Treminio

## **Board Staff Present:**

Elisa Murphy, Ethics Officer Kristin Rodgers, Ethics Administrator Hakim Hilliard, General Counsel

## **County Technology Personnel Present:**

John Matelski 2Host

# Attendees (names as designated on Zoom platform)

Tom Woodard Xernia Fortson Guest 1 Maiysha Rashad Sbinney xxx-xxx-4101

# <u>Agenda</u>

## I. Call to Order and Welcome to the Public

Interim Chair Rosa Waymon called the August 3, 2023 Board of Ethics meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

## II. Adoption of Agenda

Board Member Nadine Ali moved to add an announcement from Board Member Bryan Ramos to the agenda, Board Member Scott Matthews seconded the motion. The motion passed by a 6-0 vote. Board Member George Ference was not present.

Board Member Robert Dallas moved to adopt the amended August 3, 2023 Board of Ethics Regular Meeting agenda; Board Member Dr. Tammy Greer seconded the motion. The motion passed by a 6-0 vote. Board Member George Ference was not present.

## III. Resignation of Board Member Bryan Ramos

Board Member Bryan Ramos tendered his resignation to the DeKalb County Board of Ethics, Brookhaven City Council appointed him as Chief Judge of Brookhaven Municipal Court.

Board Member Robert Dallas moved to accept the resignation of Board Member Bryan Ramos; Scott Matthews seconded the motion. The motion passed by a 7-0 vote.

## IV. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of January 19, 2023-

For the purposes of approving the Minutes, the Board moved that the Alternative Board Members Bill Clark and Cathea Simelton-Treminio be elevated to full Board Members only for the purposes of approving and correcting the Minutes.

Interim Chair Rosa Waymon elevated Alternate Board Members Bill Clark and Cathea Simelton-Treminio to full board members for the purpose of approving the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 19, 2023 and the Minutes of the Special Called Meeting of March 13, 2023.

Board Member Scott Matthews made a Motion to approve the Minutes of the Regular Board meeting of January 19, 2023, Board Member Nadine Ali seconded the motion. Board Members Robert Dallas, Dr. Tammy Greer, and George Ference abstained. The motion passed by a 4-0 vote.

## V. Approval and Correction of the Minutes of the Special Called Meeting of March 13, 2023 -For the purposes of approving the Minutes, the Board moved that the Alternative Board Members Bill Clark and Cathea Simelton-Treminio be elevated to full Board Members only for the purposes of approving and correcting the Minutes.

Board Member Bill Clark made a Motion to correct the Minutes of the Special Called meeting of March 13, 2023 to state that 14 cases presented before the Board, 10 cases resolved, and 11 hotline reports resolved, Board Member Cathea Simelton-Treminio seconded the motion. Board Members Robert Dallas, Dr. Tammy Greer, and George Ference abstained. The motion passed by a 4-0 vote.

## VI. Approval of the Minutes of the Special Called Meeting of July 20, 2023

Board Member Scott Matthews move to approve the Minutes of the Special Called meeting of July 20, 2023, Board Member Robert Dallas seconded the motion. The motion passed by a 6-0 vote.

#### VII. Cases (Jurisdictional Issues)

Ethics Officer Elisa Murphy presented the following cases and indicated that each had jurisdictional issues:

A. 2023-2 Deonta David v. Debra DeBerry

Board Member Robert Dallas made a motion to dismiss for lack of jurisdictional, seconded by Board Member George Ference. Alternate Board Member Bill Clark recused himself from the discussion of this matter because it involved his appointer to the Board of Ethics. The motion passed by a 6-0 vote.

B. 2023-3 Marcus Ivey v. Joanna Steiner Helsby

Board Member Scott Matthews made a motion to dismiss this matter because of the lack of jurisdiction, Board Member Robert Dallas seconded the motion. The motion passed by a 6-0 vote.

C. 2023-4 D'Mante Dontrell Anderson v. Maile A. Gershwin

Board Member Robert Dallas move to dismiss this matter because of lack of jurisdiction, Board Member George Ference seconded the motion. The motion passed by a 6-0 vote.

D. 2023-5 Marcus Ivey v. Anne M. Long

Board Member Dr. Tammy Greer moved to dismiss this matter because of lack of jurisdiction, Board Member Nadine Ali seconded the motion. The motion passed by a 6-0 vote.

E. 2023-6 Marcus Ivey v. Asha Jackson

Board Member Robert Dallas moved to dismiss this matter because of lack of jurisdiction, Board Member Motion Robert Dallas seconded the motion. The motion passed by a 6-0 vote.

F. 2023-7 Clementine Broom v. Alberdine Robinson AKA Albertine (Tina) Robinson

Board Member George Ference moved to dismiss this matter because of lack of jurisdiction, Board Member Nadine Ali seconded the motion. The motion passed by a 6-0 vote.

#### VIII. Administrative Items (see Attachments)

- A. Ethics Board Rule Changes
  - 1. Rule 8.3(a) and 8.3(b): Participation by Alternate Board Member (Attachment 1)

Board Member Nadine Ali made a motion to accept the proposed Board Rule Changes of Board Rule 8.3(a) and 8.3(b) regarding participation of Alternate Board Members; Board Member Robert Dallas seconded the motion. The motion passed by a 6-0 vote.

#### 2. Rule 4.7: Response to Allegations and Extension of Time (Attachment 2)

Board Member Robert Dallas made a motion to table Board Rule Change 4.7, no one seconded the motion, and the motion failed.

Board Member Scott Mathews moved to accept the proposed Board Rule Changes of Board Rule 4.7(a) and 4.7(b) as proposed, Board Member Nadine Ali seconded the motion, and Board Member Robert Dallas opposed the motion. The motion passed by a 5-0 vote.

#### 3. Rule 4.9: Reports to the Board

Board Member Robert Dallas moved to accept the proposed additional Board Rule changes to Board Rule 4.9, Board Member Dr. Tammy Greer seconded the motion. The motion passed by a 6-0 vote.

B. Staff Salary

1. Chief Ethics Officer Elisa Murphy

Board Member Nadine Ali made a motion to increase the salary of Chief Ethics Officer Elisa Murphy by twenty percept to be applied retroactively to March 1, 2023 if allowed by law, Board Member George Ference seconded the motion. Board Member Dr. Tammy Greer added a friendly amendment to add Ethics Officer and staff accomplishments to the Minutes. The motion passed by a 6-0 vote.

2. Ethics Administrator Kristin Rodgers

Board Member Scott Mathews made a motion to increase the salary of Ethics Administrator Kristin Rodgers by ten percent, Board Member George Ference seconded the motion. Board Member Dr. Tammy Greer added a friendly amendment to add Ethics Officer and staff accomplishments to the Minutes. The motion passed by a 6-0 vote.

IX. Public Comment

Stephen Binney, a member of the public, made public comments.

X. Board of Ethics Interim Chair Comments

Interim Chair Rosa Waymon made brief comments.

- XI. Announcement of Next Regular Meeting Date of Thursday, September 21, 2023
- XII. Adjournment

Board Member Robert Dallas moved to adjourn the August 3, 2023 Board of Ethics Regular meeting at 7:50 p.m., Board Member Scott Mathews seconded the motion. The motion passed by a 6-0 vote.

Approved:

Dosa askingmon

Chair

10-17-23

Date