

**MINUTES OF THE
MACOMB COUNTY ETHICS BOARD
Tuesday, June 20, 2023**

A meeting of the Macomb County Ethics Board was held Tuesday, June 20, 2023, at 8:30 a.m., in the Talmer Building, 2nd Floor Conference Room, 120 North Main Street, Mount Clemens, Michigan.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Amboyer called the meeting to order at 8:38 a.m.

ROLL CALL

The following Members were present:

Dr. Donald Amboyer, Ms. Dorie Vazquez-Nolan, Ms. Anne Rescoe, Ms. Betty Youngblood,
Ms. Bobbie Remias

The following Members were excused:

None

The following individuals were also in attendance:

Valerie Schave, Macomb County Finance, Recording Secretary
Karlyn Semlow, Human Resources & Labor Relations (HRLR), Director
John Schapka, Corporation Counsel

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Chair Amboyer requested to add one more item to the agenda under New Business. This is a request for reimbursement of some supplies (printer ink, paper, etc.) that he purchased on his own for use by the Ethics Board. He has a receipt to submit for reimbursement of these expenses.

MOTION

*A motion was made by Ms. Rescoe, supported by Ms. Remias to adopt the Agenda as revised. **The motion carried.***

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (five minutes per speaker on agenda topics only)

None

APPROVE MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 21, 2023

MOTION

*A motion was made by Ms. Vazquez-Nolan, supported by Ms. Rescoe to approve the minutes of March 21, 2023 as presented. **The motion carried.***

OLD BUSINESS

A. 2022 Ethics Board Annual Report Submission

Chair Amboyer advised that the Annual Report for 2022 was submitted and he appeared before the Board of Commissioners at their meeting on May 4, 2023. There were no questions from the Commissioners.

B. Board of Ethics for the City of Detroit Sponsored Conference 2023

Chair Amboyer was unable to attend this conference, by Ms. Vazquez-Nolan attended. She gave a brief synopsis of the meeting attendees and the content. Ms. Vazquez-Nolan will provide a more thorough report at the Board's next meeting.

C. Other

None

NEW BUSINESS

A. Nepotism Review Request

Chair Amboyer indicated that a Nepotism Review Request had been received by Human Resources. It concerned two employees in the Facilities & Operations Department and it was determined by HRLR that there was no conflict.

B. Advisory Opinion Request

Chair Amboyer stated that an Advisory Opinion Request had been received related to a situation that did not involve a County employee. The individual was referred to the State of Michigan if they wished to pursue their inquiry further.

C. Ethics Complaint Summary Disposition Review

a. CO 01-2023

Chair Amboyer discussed the Summary Disposition he prepared for this complaint. He noted that no evidence had been received to support the allegations made by the Complainant.

MOTION

*A motion was made by Ms. Remias, supported by Ms. Vazquez-Nolan to concur with the Summary Disposition of Complaint 01-2023 as presented by Chair Amboyer. **The motion carried.***

b. CO 02-2023

Chair Amboyer discussed the Summary Disposition he prepared for this complaint. He noted that the alleged complaint does not violate the County's Ethics Ordinance.

MOTION

*A motion was made by Ms. Rescoe, supported by Ms. Vazquez-Nolan to concur with the Summary Disposition of Complaint 02-2023 as presented by Chair Amboyer. **The motion carried.***

c. CO 03-2023

Chair Amboyer discussed the Summary Disposition he prepared for this complaint. He noted that the alleged complaint does not violate the Ethics Ordinance.

MOTION

*A motion was made by Ms. Remias, supported by Ms. Vazquez-Nolan to concur with the Summary Disposition of Complaint 03-2023 as presented by Chair Amboyer. **The motion carried.***

D. Review website, brochure, online training

Chair Amboyer mentioned the brochure that had been prepared some time ago with the help of the County's Planning Department. He would like to explore the possibility of updating this with current Board member information and any other changes that seem reasonable.

Chair Amboyer also noted that there is some information in the County Directory that also needs to be updated. He believes this is handled by the Board of Commissioners Office. He also discussed some information that needs to be corrected in the budget narrative for next year and that there may also need to be some updates to the Board's letterhead and envelopes.

Ms. Rescoe volunteered to help coordinate updates to the brochure and possibly arrange for a new group photo to be taken. Ms. Schave will reach out to Planning and find out if a staff member is available to assist with the updates the Board would like to make to the brochure. She will also look into the other items that Chair Amboyer mentioned needing updates.

Ms. Semlow advised that the online training is still available for employees. She will speak with the training coordinator in HRLR and find out if this is required annually or if a different frequency is set for this as refresher training. She will also investigate setting up the two new Board members with access to the online training.

E. Ethics Board Member Vacancy

Chair Amboyer noted that the Board now has no vacancies and all member seats have been filled.

F. Other

Chair Amboyer provided a receipt for some supplies he purchased for use on Board business and requested reimbursement.

MOTION

*A motion was made by Ms. Vazquez-Nolan, supported by Ms. Rescoe to approve reimbursement to Chair Amboyer for the supplies he purchased. **The motion carried.***

Chair Amboyer also advised that former Ethics Board member Darnell Blackburn recently lost one of his adult sons. He expressed his sadness and stated that the thoughts of the Ethics Board members are with Mr. Blackburn and his family at this difficult time.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (five minutes per speaker on any ethics related topic only)

None

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION

A motion was made by Ms. Remias, supported by Ms. Youngblood to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 a.m. **The motion carried.**

NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING: TUESDAY, JULY 18, 2023 - 8:30 A.M.

Approved:

Dorie Vazquez-Nolan
Dorie Vazquez-Nolan, Interim Chairperson

Anne Rescoe
Anne Rescoe, Secretary