

**Local Finance Board
Local Government Ethics Law
April 14, 2021
VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS**

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 am by Jacquelyn A. Suarez, Chairperson. Patricia Parkin McNamara, Executive Secretary stated that in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, C.10:4-6 et seq., proper notice was given to the Secretary of State, the *Star-Ledger* and the *Times of Trenton*. A roll call was taken: 8 members were present: Chairperson Suárez, Alan Avery, Francis Blee, William Close, Dominick DiRocco, Ted Light, Adrian Mapp, and Idida Rodriguez were present. A quorum was present. Also present were Craig Keiser, Deputy Attorney General and staff members: Nick Bennett, Dana C. Jones, and Margaret Roberts, as well as members of the public.

Concerning the matter of III.A.1. Deferred until next meeting.

Concerning the matter of III.A.2. A motion was made by Mr. Avery and second by Mr. Blee to move the adoption of the March 10, 2021, minutes.

Concerning the matter of III.A.3. A motion was made by Mr. DiRocco and second by Mr. Light to dismiss the complaint as having no reasonable factual basis. A roll call was taken: 8 affirmative. Motion passed.

Concerning the matter of III.A.4. A motion was made by Mr. Avery and second by Ms. Rodriguez to dismiss the complaint as having no reasonable factual basis. A roll call was taken: 8 affirmative. Motion passed.

Concerning the matter of III.A.5. A motion was made by Mr. Avery and second by Mr. Close to issue a Notice of Violation, assess a fine in the amount of \$100 and to waive the fine. A roll call was taken: 8 affirmative. Motion passed.

Concerning the matter of III.A.6. The accused local government officer made a brief statement to the Board. A motion was made by Mr. Avery and second by Ms. Rodriguez to issue a Notice of Violation and assess a fine in the amount of \$100. A roll call was taken: 6 affirmative, 2 recused (Blee, Close). Motion passed.

Concerning the matter of III.A.7. A motion was made by Mr. Blee and second by Mr. Light to issue a Notice of Violation and assess a fine in the amount of \$200. A roll call was taken: 8 affirmative. Motion passed.

At 9:20 am, a motion was made by Mr. Avery and second by Mr. Mapp to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing complaints and to receive related legal advice. A roll call vote was taken. 8 affirmative. Motion passed.

At 10:20 am, a motion was made by Mr. Avery and second by Mr. Blee to go back into open session. A roll call was taken: 8 affirmative. Motion passed.

Concerning the matter of III.A.8. A motion was made by Mr. Blee and second by Mr. Avery to remand the matter to the Office of Administrative Law for additional fact finding as to the intent of the accused in creating, posting and distributing the video using public funds in support of the referendum question. A roll call was taken: 6 affirmative, 2 no (Mapp, DiRocco). Motion passed.

At 10:27 am, a motion was made by Mr. Close and second by Mr. Blee to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing complaints and to receive related legal advice. A roll call vote was taken. 8 affirmative. Motion passed

At 11:40 am, a motion was made by Mr. Avery, second by Mr. Mapp to go into open session. A roll call was taken: 8 affirmative. Motion passed.

Concerning the matter of the 2021 Financial Disclosure Statement filing enforcement deadline, upon return to public session, a motion was made by Mr. Avery and second by Mr. Close to extend the enforcement of the Financial Disclosure Statement filing deadline to June 30, 2021, from the statutory annual filing deadline of April 30. A roll call was taken; 8 affirmative. Motion passed.

The Local Finance Board then determined to take a brief recess and reconvened to consider applications.

Respectfully submitted,



Patricia Parkin McNamara
Executive Secretary
Local Finance Board

PPM