

**Local Finance Board
Local Government Ethics Law
February 8, 2023
VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS**

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. by Jacquelyn A. Suárez, Chairperson. Nicholas Bennett, 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: 6 members were present: Chairperson Suárez, Adrian Mapp, Dominic DiRocco, Alan Avery, William Close and Idida Rodriguez were present. There are two vacancies. A quorum was present. Also present were DAG Craig Keiser and staff members Dana C. Jones, Shannon Hudak, and Alyssa Karczewski.

At 9:05 a.m., a motion was made by Mr. Mapp, second by Mr. Close to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing complaints, requests for advisory opinions, and to receive related legal advice. A roll call vote was taken: 6 affirmative. Motion passed.

At 10:39 a.m., a motion was made by Mr. Mapp, second by Ms. Rodriguez to go into open session. A roll call was taken: 6 affirmative. Motion passed.

The Local Finance Board then determined to take a brief recess and reconvened at 10:50 a.m. to consider financing applications and take action on the following Ethics items:

Concerning the matter of III.B.1. A motion was made by Mr. Mapp, second by Mr. Avery rescind the vote taken on item III.B.3 at the January 11, 2023 meeting at which the Board voted to issue a Notice of Dismissal to one local government officer following an investigation, and Notices of Determination to two local government officers where the Board dismissed the claims for a lack of reasonable factual basis. A roll call was taken: 4 affirmative. 1 absent (DiRocco) and 1 abstain (Rodriguez). Motion passed.

January 11, 2023 Meeting Minutes III.B.2. A motion was made by Mr. Avery, second by Mr. Mapp to adopt the minutes with a notation that the vote on January 11, 2023 item III.B.3. was rescinded at the February 8, 2023 meeting. A roll call was taken: 4 affirmative. 1 recuse (DiRocco) and 1 abstain (Rodriguez). Motion passed

Concerning the matter of III.B.3. A motion was made by Mr. Mapp, second by Mr. Avery to issue a Notice of Investigation to one local government officer for alleged violations of N.J.S.A. 40A:9-22.5(c) and N.J.S.A. 40A:9-22.5(d). A roll call was taken: 4 affirmative. 1 absent (DiRocco) and 1 abstain (Rodriguez). Motion passed.

Concerning the matter of III.B.4. A motion was made by Mr. Avery, second by Mr. Mapp to issue a Notice of Dismissal to one local government officer following an investigation, and Notices of Determination to two local government officers where the Board is dismissing the claims for a lack of reasonable factual basis. A roll call was taken: 4 affirmative. 1 absent (DiRocco) and 1 abstain (Rodriguez). Motion passed.

Concerning the matter of III.B.5. A motion was made by Mr. Avery, second by Mr. Mapp to transmit the matter to the Office of Administrative Law as a contested case. A roll call was taken: 4 affirmative. 1 absent (DiRocco) and 1 abstain (Rodriguez). Motion passed.

Concerning the matter of III.B.6. A motion was made by Mr. Mapp, second by Mr. Avery to transmit the matter to the Office of Administrative Law as a contested case. A roll call was taken: 4 affirmative. 1 absent (DiRocco) and 1 abstain (Rodriguez). Motion passed.

Mr. DiRocco returned to the meeting at 11:01 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "N. Bennett", written over a horizontal line.

Nicholas Bennett
Executive Secretary
Local Finance Board

NB/ap