

**Local Finance Board  
Local Government Ethics Law  
March 12, 2025  
VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS**

The meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m. by Michael Rogers, 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: 5 members were present: Chairperson Rogers, Dominick DiRocco, Alan Avery, Idida Rodriguez, and William Close were present. There are two vacancies. A quorum was present. Also present were Deputy Attorney General Craig Keiser, and staff members Shannon Hudak, Matthew Marthaler, Cherie Saranin, Anna-Marie Chiwanga, and Gina Picciano.

At 9:02 a.m., a motion was made by Ms. Rodriguez and second by Mr. DiRocco 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: 5 affirmatives. Motion passed.

Robert Jackson joined the meeting at 9:05 a.m. in closed session.

Advisory Opinion AO25-003 was discussed in closed session.

Mr. DiRocco recused himself from discussion of an item and exited the meeting. He returned at 9:42 a.m.

At 9:44 a.m., a motion was made by Mr. Close and second by Mr. Avery to go into open session. A roll call was taken: 6 affirmatives. Motion passed.

**Concerning the matter of B.1. February 12, 2025, Meeting Minutes** A motion was made by Ms. Rodriguez and second by Mr. Jackson to approve the minutes. A roll call was taken: 5 affirmatives. Motion passed.

**Concerning the Matter of B.2.** A motion was made by Mr. Jackson and second by Ms. Rodriguez to issue a Notice of Determination to one (1) Local Government Officer (LGO) dismissing the complaint for a lack of a reasonable factual basis. A roll call was taken: 5 affirmatives. Motion passed.

Mr. Close re-joined open session at 10:31 a.m.

**Concerning the Matter of B.3.** A motion was made by Mr. Jackson and second by Mr. Close to issue a Notice of Investigation to one (1) LGO for a possible violation of N.J.S.A. 40A:9-22.5(d). A roll call was taken: 6 affirmatives. Motion passed.

**Concerning the Matter of B.4.** A motion was made by Mr. Avery and second by Ms. Rodriguez to issue a Notice of Determination to one (1) LGO dismissing the complaint for a lack of a reasonable factual basis. A roll call was taken: 6 affirmatives. Motion passed.

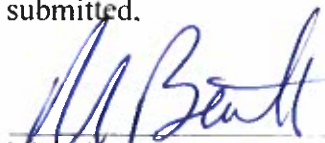
**Concerning the Matter of B.5.(A) through (G)).** A motion was made by Ms. Rodriguez and second by Mr. Avery to issue a Notice of Dismissal to seven (7) LGOs dismissing the complaint following an investigation. A roll call was taken: 4 affirmatives and 2 negatives (Close and Jackson) on (A) and (B), 6 affirmatives and 0 negatives on (C) through (G). Motion passed.

**Concerning the Matter of B.5. (H).** A motion was made by Ms. Rodriguez and second by Mr. Avery to issue a Notice of Determination to one (1) LGO dismissing the complaint for a lack of a reasonable factual basis. A roll call was taken: 6 affirmatives. Motion passed.

**Concerning the Matter of B.6.** A motion was made by Mr. Jackson and second by Mr. Close to issue a Notice of Violation to one (1) LGO for two (2) violations of N.J.S.A. 40A:9-22.5(c), one (1) violation of N.J.S.A. 40A:9-22.5(d), and one (1) violation of N.J.S.A. 40A:9-22.5(g), and to assess a fine of \$100 per violation, for a total fine amount of \$400. A roll call was taken: 5 affirmatives and 1 abstain (Avery). Motion passed.

**Concerning the Matter of B.7.** A motion was made by Mr. Avery and second by Mr. Close to issue a Notice of Determination to one (1) LGO dismissing the complaint for lack of jurisdiction, to issue a Notice of Violation to one (1) LGO for two (2) violations of N.J.S.A. 40A:9-22.5(d) and one violation of N.J.S.A. 40A:9-22.5(e), to assess a fine of \$200 per violation for a total fine amount of \$600, and to issue a Notice of Dismissal to one (1) LGO following an investigation. A roll call was taken: 6 affirmatives. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted.

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

Nicholas Bennett  
Executive Secretary  
Local Finance Board