

Local Finance Board
Local Government Ethics Law
September 10, 2025
VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 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 Robert Jackson were present. There are two vacancies. A quorum was present. Also present were Deputy Attorney General Zachary Aboff, and staff members Shannon Hudak, Cherie Saranin, Anna-Marie Chiwanga, and Gina Picciano.

At 9:00 a.m., a motion was made by Mr. Jackson and second by Ms. Rodriguez 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.

At 9:09 a.m., Mr. Close joined the meeting in closed session.

At 9:27 a.m., a motion was made by Mr. DiRocco and second by Mr. Avery to go into open session. A roll call was taken: 5 affirmatives. Motion passed.

Concerning the matter of B.1. August 13, 2025, Meeting Minutes A motion was made by Mr. Jackson and second by Ms. Rodriguez to adopt the minutes as submitted. A roll call was taken: 6 affirmatives. Motion passed.

Concerning the Matter of B.2. A motion was made by Ms. Rodriguez and second by Mr. Avery to issue a Notice of Determination to one (1) Local Government Officers (LGOs) 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.3. A motion was made by Mr. Close and second by Mr. DiRocco to issue a Notice of Investigation to one (1) LGO for a possible violation of N.J.S.A. 40A:9-22.5(d) and N.J.S.A. 40A:9-22.5(e). A roll call was taken: 6 affirmatives. Motion passed.

Concerning the Matter of B.4. 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(c). A roll call was taken: 6 affirmatives. Motion passed.

Concerning the Matter of B.5. A motion was made by Mr. DiRocco 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 and lack of jurisdiction. A roll call was taken: 6 affirmatives. Motion passed.

Concerning the Matter of B.6. This item was deferred.

Concerning the Matter of B.7. A motion was made by Mr. Jackson and second by Mr. Close to issue a Notice of Violation to one (1) LGO for one (1) violation of N.J.S.A. 40A:9-22.5(a), one (1) violation of N.J.S.A. 40A:9-22.5(c), three (3) violations of N.J.S.A. 40A:9-22.5(d), and to assess a fine of \$500 per violation for a total fine of \$2,500. The claim regarding N.J.S.A. 40A:9-22.6 was dismissed following an investigation. A roll call was taken: 6 affirmatives. Motion passed.

Concerning the Matter of B.8. A motion was made by Ms. Rodriguez and second by Mr. Avery to rescind the Notices of Violation sent to two (2) LGOs due to roster errors, to waive the fine for one (1) LGO who timely filed in at least one jurisdiction, and to waive the fine for eight (8) LGOs who have since filed and requested the LFB reconsider the violation. A roll call was taken: 6 affirmatives. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,



Nicholas Bennett
Executive Secretary
Local Finance Board