

**Local Finance Board
Local Government Ethics Law
July 8, 2026
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, William Close, Alan Avery, Idida Rodriguez, and Robert Jackson were present. There is one vacancy. A quorum was present. Also present were Deputy Attorney General Zachary Aboff, and staff members Shannon Hudak, Matthew Marthaler, Gina Picciano, Anna-Marie Chiwanga, Sanjana Inamdar, and Division of Local Government Services interns Eric Viola, Olivia Viola, Grace Bardachino, and Bianka Trezza.

At 9:03 a.m., a motion was made by Mr. Close and second by Mr. Avery to go into executive 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.

Mr. Cooper arrived in executive session at 9:08 a.m.

Mr. Avery recused himself from the discussion of a complaint and exited the meeting at 9:23 a.m. He returned to executive session at 9:28 a.m.

Mr. DiRocco arrived in executive session at 9:28 a.m.

At 9:32 a.m., a motion was made by Mr. DiRocco and second by Ms. Rodriguez to go into open session. A roll call was taken: 7 affirmatives. Motion passed.

Concerning the Matter of B.1. June 10, 2026 Meeting Minutes A motion was made by Mr. Close and second by Mr. Jackson to adopt the minutes as submitted. A roll call was taken: 7 affirmatives. Motion passed.

Concerning the Matter of B.2. A motion was made by Mr. Close and second by Mr. Jackson to issue a Notice of Investigation to one (1) local government officer (LGO) for a possible violation of N.J.S.A. 40A:9-22.6(a)(1). A roll call was taken: 7 affirmatives. Motion passed.

Concerning the Matter of B3. A motion was made by Mr. DiRocco and second by Mr. Cooper to issue a Notice of Determination to two (2) LGOs dismissing the complaint for lack of a reasonable factual basis and for a lack of jurisdiction. A roll call was taken: 7 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 possible violations of N.J.S.A. 40A:9-22.5(a). A roll call was taken: 7 affirmatives. Motion passed.

Concerning the Matter of B.5. A motion was made by Mr. Avery and second by Mr. Cooper to issue a Notice of Determination to one (1) LGO dismissing the complaint for lack of a reasonable factual basis. A roll call was taken: 7 affirmatives. Motion passed.

Concerning the Matter of B.6. A motion was made by Mr. Cooper and second by Ms. Rodriguez to issue a Notice of Determination to one (1) LGO dismissing the complaint for lack of a reasonable factual basis. A roll call was taken: 7 affirmatives. Motion passed.

Concerning the Matter of B.7. A motion was made by Ms. Rodriguez and second by Mr. Jackson to issue a Notice of Violation to one (1) LGO finding a violation of N.J.S.A. 40A:9-22.5(c) and assessing a fine of \$500 for the violation. A roll call was taken: 7 affirmatives. Motion passed.

Concerning the Matter of B.8.A A motion was made by Mr. Close and second by Mr. Cooper to issue a Notice of Violation to one (1) LGO finding violations of N.J.S.A. 40A:9-22.5(d) and assessing a fine of \$250 for each violation for a total fine of \$500. A roll call was taken: 7 affirmatives. Motion passed.

Concerning the Matter of B.8.B 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 a reasonable factual basis. A roll call was taken: 7 affirmatives. Motion passed.

Concerning the Matter of B.9. A motion was made by Mr. Jackson and second by Mr. Close to issue a Notice of Violation to one (1) LGO finding a violation of N.J.S.A. 40A:9-22.5(d) and assessing a fine of \$100 for the violation, and to subsequently waive the payment of the fine. A roll call was taken: 7 affirmatives. Motion passed.

Concerning the Matter of B.10. A motion was made by Mr. Cooper and second by Mr. Avery to transmit a case involving one (1) LGO, C25-017, to the Office of Administrative Law as a contested case. A roll call was taken: 7 affirmatives. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,



Nicholas Bennett
Executive Secretary
Local Finance Board