

# ULSTER COUNTY BOARD OF ETHICS

DATE: February 11, 2025

TIME: 6:00 PM

PLACE: Ulster County Human Services Complex  
100 Development Court, Building #2, Suite 400  
(Veterans Agency Entrance)  
Kingston, New York

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Taane Pegg, Chair  
Stephanie Ellis  
Robert Nuzzo  
Paul Tully (via phone – non-voting)  
Brigid Walsh  
Anne Zahradnik

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Deborah Schneer

OTHERS ATTENDING: Kayleen Scali, Secretary to the Board of Ethics

Chair Taane Pegg called the meeting to order at 6:04. Due to Paul Tully being out of town and joining the meeting by phone he attended as a non-voting member.

First order of business, review and approval of minutes. Chair Pegg asked if anyone had any revisions to the minutes from the January 14, 2025 meeting. No discussion. Motion to approve the minutes from the January 14, 2025 Board of Ethics Meeting, Anne Zahradnick 1<sup>st</sup>, Brigid Walsh 2<sup>nd</sup>, unanimously approved.

Next order of business, review and approval of the 2024 Annual Report. Board agrees it is thorough and had reviewed after the last board meeting. Motion to approve the 2024 Annual Report, Anne Zahradnick, 1<sup>st</sup>, Robert Nuzzo 2<sup>nd</sup>, unanimously approved.

### **Old Business:**

6:06 pm A motion was made to enter into Executive Session to discuss a Complaint, Robert Nuzzo 1<sup>st</sup>, Stephanie Ellis 2<sup>nd</sup>, unanimously approved.

6:17pm Motion was made to exit Executive Session, Robert Nuzzo 1<sup>st</sup>, Stephanie Ellis 2<sup>nd</sup>, unanimously approved.

Motion was made to respond to the Complainant. The board states that they will respond to the individual inquiring that the Legislator in question did disclose the information on their 2023 Financial Disclosure form.

Update on the 2023 Financial Disclosure Forms- Kayleen followed up with the County Attorney's office regarding the letter the Board sent requesting an opinion on the Board's recourse for individuals who are non-compliant with the Ethics law with regard to filing their Financial Disclosure Forms. She expects the County Attorney's office will provide an update for the next meeting. Motion to table for next meeting, Brigid Walsh 1<sup>st</sup>, Anne Zahradnick 2<sup>nd</sup>, unanimously approved.

Next Order of Business is creation of form on website. Members Stephanie Ellis and Anne Zahradnik are working on drafting and finalizing a form. Members discussed Listing Ethics code violations people could select to better help guide people in the process. Chair Pegg asked that they keep it in committee for now and bring to the next meeting. Motion to table for next meeting, Brigid Walsh 1<sup>st</sup>, Stephanie Ellis 2<sup>nd</sup>, unanimously approved.

### **New Business:**

6:20 pm Motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss review of request for an advisory opinion, Stephanie Eillis 1<sup>st</sup>, Anna Zahradnick 2<sup>nd</sup>, unanimously approved.

6:24 pm Motion was made to exit Executive Session, Brigid Walsh 1<sup>st</sup>, Anne Zahradnick 2<sup>nd</sup>, unanimously approved.

Motion to respond was made to the Advisory Opinion with a response that the Board does not see that there is a conflict of interest and advises to proceed with caution and the Legislator should recuse themselves in the event they are presented to vote on a funding bill that benefits the specified organization or any other activity that could present a conflict of interest, Anne Zahradnik 1<sup>st</sup>, Robert Nuzzo 2<sup>nd</sup>, unanimously approved.

The Board discussed assignments of the two responses. Brigid Walsh agrees to write the first response and Taane Pegg agrees to write the response to the advisory opinion.

6:25 pm Motion to adjourn meeting, Stephanie Ellis 1<sup>st</sup>, Brigid Walsh 2<sup>nd</sup>, unanimously approved.