

ST. MARY'S COUNTY ETHICS COMMISSION

St. Mary's County Governmental Center

Minutes of 7 July, 2008

MEMBERS PRESENT: George E. Baroniak, Chair

Arthur F. Goeller, Member

Terri L. Holder, Member

Robert W. Denning, Member

Robert E. Elwood, Alternate Member

Sarah L. Cannavo, Executive Secretary

MEMBERS ABSENT: Joseph B. Bush, Vice Chair

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Baroniak at 2:08 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held on 21 July, 2008 in the Commissioner's Conference Room (room 14).

New Member: Mr. Baroniak welcomed Mr. Robert Elwood to the commission. Mr. Elwood has been assigned as an alternate to the commission. Mr. Denning previously filled the alternate position and has now been official assigned as a voting member.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minutes of 16 June, 2008: Mr. Goeller made a motion to accept the minutes as amended. Motion seconded by Mr. Denning and carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Joint Ethics Training Conference: Mr. Baroniak expressed his thanks to all members of the commission for their outstanding efforts during the recent Joint Training Conference. Twenty representatives for neighboring counties (Anne Arundel, Calvert, and Charles) as well as Maryland State representatives were in attendance. Mr. Baroniak stated that he had received very positive feedback from all who attended and was pleased by the interaction between the attendees. The conference was such a success that all members unanimously agreed to hold future meetings twice a year. Anne Arundel County has volunteered to host the next conference tentatively scheduled for November 2008.

NEW BUSINESS:

Complaints / Advisories: Two matters were received for the commission's review: one complaint concerning unlawful firing and one request for an Advisory Opinion concerning solicitation of gifts.

Executive Session: Ms. Holder made a motion to move into Executive Session as provided for in Article 25, Section 4-210(a) (1) Boards and Commissions and the St. Mary's County Ethics Ordinance Rules of Procedure, Section 7. The motion was seconded by Mr. Denning. Motion carried, 5-0.

Executive Session: 2:35 p.m. to 2:45 p.m.

Ms. Holder made a motion to close the Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Denning. Motion carried.

Elections: Mr. Goeller made a motion to postpone the Ethics Commission Elections until 21 July, 2008 due to the absence of Mr. Bush, Vice Chair. The motion was seconded by Mr. Denning and the motion was carried.

FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS:

Reviewed: Two Financial Disclosure Statements were reviewed. Mr. Elwood's FDS was reviewed and approved at the start of the meeting, thus finalizing his appointment to the Ethics Commission.

Delinquent: There are 12 individuals who have failed to file their FDS in accordance with established timelines set forth in the Ethics Ordinance. These individuals have been notified by mail on two separate occasions. A final notice will be sent today.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Ms. Holder to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Denning and motion carried. The St. Mary's County Ethics Commission was adjourned at 3:07 p.m.