

ST. MARY’S COUNTY ETHICS COMMISSION
St. Mary’s County Chesapeake Building
Minutes of November 20, 2023

MEMBERS PRESENT David Willenborg, Chair
 Joseph Russell, Vice Chair
 Larry Crabtree
 Dr. Joseph DeVitis
 Robert McGann (alternate)
 Joe Densford, Counsel for the Ethics Commission
 Diane Gleissner, Recorder
 Buffy Giddens, County Attorney

MEMBERS ABSCENT Kathleen McClernan-Walz

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Willenborg at 6:04 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Crabtree and seconded by Dr. DeVitis to approve the minutes of November 8, 2023 as presented. Vote passed 5 – 0.

OLD BUSINESS

Advisory Opinion 23-002

A motion was made by Mr. Russell and seconded by Mr. Crabtree to approve Advisory Opinion 23-002. Vote passed 5 – 0.

County Attorney’s Office – Changes to the St. Mary’s County Ethics Ordinance

Ms. Giddens attended the meeting to discuss the changes to the St. Mary’s County Ethics Ordinance regarding the filing of Financial Disclosure Statements by candidates running for office. She suggested some amendments to the Ethics Ordinance that would help to ensure that candidates completed their Financial Disclosure Statements.

A motion was made by Dr. DeVitis and seconded by Mr. Russell to make the amendments to the Ordinance as discussed and table the final approval until the January 2, 2024 meeting. Vote passed 5 – 0.

2024 Meeting Dates

A motion was made by Mr. McGann and seconded by Dr. DeVitis to approve the following meeting dates for 2024: January 2, April 1, July 15, and October 21, 2024. Vote passed 5 – 0.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Russell and seconded by Mr. Crabtree to adjourn the meeting. The St. Mary’s County Ethics Commission meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m. Vote passed 5-0.