

**PUTNAM COUNTY BOARD OF ETHICS
OFFICIAL MINUTES**

Meeting of July 28, 2023

Members Present: Paul Eldridge, Rod Cassidy, Barbara Scuccimarra, Joseph DeMarzo and John Sweeny by phone

Staff: Angela Aquilato

The meeting began at 9:00 am in the conference room of the County Personnel Department.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Newly appointed members introduced. Roll call was taken.

Election of Officers: A motion was made by Joseph DeMarzo and seconded to nominate a slate of officers as follows:

Rod as Chair, Barbara as Vice Chair, Paul as Secretary. All voted in favor.

Minutes: Review of minutes from April 20, 2023. Minutes accepted by Rod and seconded by Paul, the only current members in attendance at April meeting. New members abstained.

Old Business:

- County employee request for opinion on working for the County and serving on a town planning board. Paul to write opinion letter advising the employee to recuse himself on any matters that might potentially conflict with his County position while serving on the town planning board.

New Business:

- Ethics complaint against a Department Head. Agreed to forward to County Law Department for review.
- 3 Advisory opinions requested by County Department Head. John Sweeny recused himself from 2 of the matters due to the fact he is a longtime friend of the subject of two of the requests. Letters to be written by Rod and forwarded in response.
- Complaint from a town councilperson. Further review is required and will continue discussion at next meeting.
- Complaint from a Town Director of Code Enforcement. Matter referred by the Town Supervisor to the County Ethics board pursuant to Ethics Code sec 55.20. Further review is required and will continue discussion at next meeting

Paul & Rod explained the Financial Disclosure process.

At 9:18 am Barbara called for an executive session to review financial disclosures. Rod seconded the motion-all in favor.

Board members reviewed the 88 Financial Disclosure forms. 76 accepted and 12 returned for more information.

Next Meeting: August 25, 2023

At 11:10 am Joe moved for adjournment, Barbara gave the second, and all concurred.

Respectfully Submitted,
Paul Eldridge, Secretary