

**PUTNAM COUNTY BOARD OF ETHICS
OFFICIAL MINUTES**

Meeting of December 1, 2023

Members Present: Paul Eldridge, Barbara Scuccimarra, and John Sweeny

By phone: Rod Cassidy & Joseph DeMarzo

Staff: Angela Aquilato

The meeting began at 9:05 am in the conference room of the County Personnel Department and immediately went into Executive Session.

(Paul recused himself from the room as soon as the members gathered. Rod recused himself from this matter as well. Joe DeMarzo was called on the phone and placed on speaker to weigh in on the Department Head matter. John Sweeny asked Joe if he would allow his proxy since Joe did not have much time to devote to the phone call. John, Barbara, and Joe constituted a quorum which was needed to vote on this matter.)

The members exited Executive Session at 9:10

A vote was taken with Joe's proxy in agreement with Barbara and John.

Paul returned to the room and Rod Cassidy was called and both joined the meeting.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll call was taken by Paul.

Minutes: Review of minutes from October 27, 2023. Minutes accepted by John and seconded by Barbara. All in favor. Minutes adopted as written

At 9:12 am Paul called for executive session to discuss several formal complaints which was seconded by Barbara.

Out of executive session at 9:25.

Old Business:

The Board addressed the department head issue as there was a quorum with Barbara and John, in person, and Joe, by phone. Paul and Rod recused themselves from this matter. A decision was made to have complainant interact with another employee in the department despite this not falling under the purview of the County Ethics Board. This decision will be made in writing to complainant.

The second matter of the Town Councilmember was discussed, and the Board agrees with outside counsel that this matter does not fall within the purview of the County Ethics Board. A final letter will be sent to complainant/counsel.

New Business:

A new matter involving the Town of Patterson Supervisor was reviewed and discussed. A decision was made that this does not fall under the purview of the County Ethics Board. A decision letter will be sent to complainant.

A complaint was brought to the County Ethics Board by a former employee of the Mahopac School District. Discussed and this is not an issue for the County Ethics Board. It is a human resources issues and should be brought before the proper authority. This decision will be shared with complainant by letter.

At 9:40 Barbara called for executive session to review Financial disclosures. Board members reviewed 18 Financial Disclosure forms. 15 accepted and 3 returned for more information.
Out of executive session at 9:55

Next Meeting: February 9, 9:00 in the Personnel Conference Room

At 10:00 am Barbara moved for adjournment, Paul gave the second, and all concurred.

Respectfully Submitted,
Paul Eldridge, Secretary

Officially adopted July 3, 2024