ULSTER COUNTY BOARD OF ETHICS

DATE:	October 14, 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 Paul Tully Brigid Walsh (*Left at 7:12pm*) Anne Zahradnik
BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:	Robert Nuzzo John DeGasperis
OTHERS ATTENDING:	Kayleen Scali, Secretary to the Board of Ethics Dan Shortt, Ulster County Attorney's Office

Chair Taane Pegg called the meeting to order at 6:08 PM.

First order of business, we have a new board member to welcome, John DeGasperis. We did not receive notice if he was attending or not. If he does arrive, we welcome him.

Next order of business is review and approval of minutes. Chair Pegg asked if anyone had reviewed the minutes and if they had any revisions to the September 9, 2025 meeting. No discussion. Motion to approve the minutes from the September 9, 2025 Board of Ethics Meeting, Paul Tully 1st, Anne Zahradnik 2nd, unanimously approved.

Old Business:

Next order of business, update on County Attorney Response 2023 Financial Disclosure Forms. Chair Pegg, states that it is his understanding from the County Attorney's office that all of the outstanding forms have been submitted.

New Business:

Next order of business, 2024 Financial Disclosure update. Kayleen Scali provides an update to the board that since the last meeting 13 more forms have been completed and submitted for board review, 67 forms have not yet been sent in and 46 were contacted via email as a reminder. Chair Pegg asks for the Boards thoughts on doing another informal reminder vs. sending a formal letter. The Board thinks it is best to send a formal letter out. Motion to send a formal letter to those who have not completed the 2024 Financial Disclosure forms, Anne Zahradnik 1st, Brigid Walsh 2nd, unanimously approved.

Next order of business, review of complaint C-2025-003.

6:15 pm A motion was made to enter into Executive Session to discuss a complaint, Brigid Walsh 1st, Paul Tully 2nd, unanimously approved.

7:07 pm Motion was made to exit Executive Session, Anne Zahradnik 1st, Stephanie Ellis 2nd, unanimously approved.

Motion was made to respond to the request referring to #C-2025-003. The Board of Ethics will respond as such. The complaint needs to be signed pursuant to Ethics Law and therefore cannot be anonymous. The Board will clarify the scope of the Board of Ethics and ask that the allegations mentioned that are crimes be reported to proper authorities and for the complaint to specifically state which sections of the Ulster County Ethics Law were allegedly violated and include specific facts around allegations. The Board will clarify that the scope of the Ethics Board covers county employees or officers, Stephanie Ellis 1st, Paul Tully 2nd, unanimously approved.

7:12 pm A motion was made to enter into Executive Session to discuss Advisory Opinion #AO-2025-6, 1st Anne Zahradnik, Stephanie Ellis 2nd, unanimously approved.

7:18 pm Motion was made to exit Executive Session, Anne Zahradnik 1st, Stephanie Ellis 2nd, unanimously approved.

Motion was made to respond to the request for an advisory opinion referring to #AO-2025-6. The Board of Ethics will respond that based on the information provided the board does not see a conflict of interest. Stephanie Ellis 1st, Paul Tully 2nd, unanimously approved. All opposed, none. One abstention, Brigid Walsh, motion passed.

7:20 pm A motion was made to enter into Executive Session to discuss Advisory Opinion #AO-2025-7. Stephanie Ellis 1st, Paul Tully 2nd, unanimously approved.

7:25 pm Motion was made to exit Executive Session, Stephanie Ellis 1st, Paul Tully 2nd, unanimously approved.

Stating for the record that Brigid Walsh has recused herself on the decision for AO-2025-7.

Motion was made to respond to the request for an advisory opinion referring to #AO-2025-7 stating that we do not find a conflict of interest but caution the person requesting the Advisory Opinion to recuse themself from any decisions which would constitute a pecuniary conflict of interest, Paul Tully 1st, Stephanie Ellis 2nd, unanimously approved.

7:30 pm Motion to adjourn meeting, Paul Tully 1st, Anne Zahradnik 2nd, unanimously approved.