Local Finance Board
Local Government Ethics Law
November 10, 2021
VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

The meeting was called to order at 9:03 am by Jacquelyn A. Suárez, Chairperson. Nicholas Bennett, Executive Secretary, stated that in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, C.10:4-6 et seq., proper notice was given to the Secretary of State, the Star-Ledger and the Times of Trenton. A roll call was taken: 6 members were present; Chairperson Suárez, Francis Blee, William Close, Dominick DiRocco, Adrian Mapp, and Idida Rodriguez were present. Alan Avery and Ted Light were absent. A quorum was present. Also present were Craig Keiser, Deputy Attorney General and staff members Dana C. Jones and Margaret Roberts, as well as members of the public. Ted Light arrived at 9:10 am.

October 20, 2021 Meeting Minutes III.A.1. This matter was held for consideration at next month’s meeting.

Concerning the matter of III.A.2. A motion was made by Mr. Blee, second by Ms. Rodriguez to authorize an investigation of one local government officer. A roll call was taken: 6 affirmative. Motion passed. Mr. DiRocco abstained. The matter was then held for further discussion during closed session.

Concerning the matter of III.A.3. A motion was made by Ms. Rodriguez, second by Mr. Blee to dismiss the complaint for lack of a reasonable factual basis. A roll call was taken: 6 affirmative. Motion passed.

Concerning the matter of III.A.4. A motion was made by Mr. Blee, second by Ms. Rodriguez to dismiss the complaint for lack of a reasonable factual basis. A roll call was taken: 6 affirmative. Motion passed.

Concerning the matter of III.A.5. A motion was made by Ms. Rodríguez, second by Mr. Blee to authorize the investigation of two local government officers. A roll call was taken: 6 affirmative. Motion passed.

Concerning the matter of III.A.6. The matter was held for discussion during closed session.

Concerning the matter of III.A.7. A motion was made by Mr. Mapp, second by Mr. Close to issue a Notice of Violation to one local government officer for multiple violation of N.J.S.A. 40A:9-22.5 (d) and impose a total fine of $2,300. A roll call was taken: 7 affirmative. Motion passed.

Concerning the matter of III.A.8. The matter was held for discussion during closed session.
At 9:17 am, a motion was made by Mr. Close and second by Ms. Rodriguez to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing complaints and to receive related legal advice. A roll call vote was taken: 7 affirmative. Motion passed.

At 10:58 am, a motion was made by Mr. DiRocco and second by Mr. Close to go back into open session. A roll call was taken: 7 affirmative. Motion passed.

Concerning the matter of III.A.2. Following discussion during closed session, it was determined to strike the first vote and reconsider this matter. A motion to authorize the investigation of one local government officer was made by Mr. Blee, second by Ms. Rodriguez. A roll call was taken: 5 affirmative. Mr. DiRocco abstained and Mr. Mapp recused. Motion passed.

Concerning the matter of III.A.6. A motion was made by Mr. Mapp, second by Mr. Close to authorize an investigation of one local government officer. A roll call was taken: 7 affirmative. Motion passed.

Concerning the matter of III.A.8. A motion was made by Ms. Rodriguez, second by Mr. Light to dismiss the complaint. A roll call was taken: 6 affirmative. Mr. Close abstained. Motion passed.

The Local Finance Board then determined to take a brief recess and reconvene to consider applications.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

Nicholas Bennett
Executive Secretary
Local Finance Board

NB: mr