

**Local Finance Board
Local Government Ethics Law
May 13, 2026
VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Michael Rogers, 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: 7 members were present: Chairperson Rogers, Alan Avery, William Close, Ryan Cooper, Dominick DiRocco, Idida Rodriguez, and Robert Jackson were present. There is one vacancy. A quorum was present. Also present were Deputy Attorney General Erin Gilgen, and staff members Shannon Hudak, Matthew Marthaler, Gina Picciano, Anna-Marie Chiwanga, and Sanjana Inamdar.

At 9:01 a.m., a motion was made by Mr. Cooper and second by Mr. Close to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing complaints, requests for advisory opinions, and to receive related legal advice. A roll call vote was taken: 7 affirmatives. Motion passed.

Advisory Opinions 26-004 and 26-005 were discussed by the Board.

Mr. DiRocco exited executive session at 9:29 a.m.

At 9:36 a.m., a motion was made by Mr. Close and second by Ms. Rodriguez to go into open session. A roll call was taken: 6 affirmatives. Motion passed.

Concerning the Matter of B.1. April 8, 2026 Meeting Minutes A motion was made by Mr. Close and second by Ms. Rodriguez to adopt the minutes as submitted. A roll call was taken: 6 affirmatives, 1 abstain. (Cooper). Motion passed.

Concerning the Matter of B.2. A motion was made by Mr. Avery and second by Mr. Jackson to issue a Notice of Determination to one (1) local government officer (LGO) dismissing the complaint for a lack of a reasonable factual basis. A roll call was taken: 7 affirmatives. Motion passed.

Concerning the Matter of B3. A motion was made by Mr. DiRocco and second by Ms. Rodriguez to issue a Notice of Determination to one (1) LGO dismissing the complaint for a lack of a reasonable factual basis. A roll call was taken: 7 affirmatives. Motion passed

Concerning the Matter of B.4. A motion was made by Mr. Close and second by Mr. Avery to issue a Notice of Investigation to one (1) LGO for possible violations of N.J.S.A. 40A:9-22.5(a), N.J.S.A. 40A:9-22.5(d), and N.J.S.A. 40A:9-22.5(e). A roll call was taken: 7 affirmatives. Motion passed.

Concerning the Matter of B.5. A motion was made by Mr. Close and second by Mr. Cooper to rescind a Notice of Violation and reissue a Notice of Investigation to one (1) LGO for a possible violation of N.J.S.A. 40A:9-22.5(c), N.J.S.A. 40A:9-22.5(f), and N.J.S.A. 40A:9-22.5(g). A roll call was taken: 7 affirmatives. Motion passed.

Concerning the Matter of B.6. A motion was made by Mr. DiRocco and second by Mr. Avery to issue a Notice of Determination to one (1) LGO dismissing the complaint for a lack of a reasonable factual basis. A roll call was taken: 7 affirmatives. Motion passed.

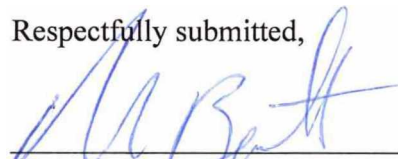
Concerning the Matter of B.7. A motion was made by Ms. Rodriguez and second by Mr. Avery to issue a Notice of Determination to one (1) LGO dismissing the complaint without prejudice for a lack of jurisdiction because the accusation concerned a matter pending in a court of law or an administrative agency of the State. A roll call was taken: 7 affirmatives. Motion passed.

Concerning the Matter of B.8. A motion was made by Mr. Jackson and second by Mr. Avery to issue a Notice of Dismissal to one (1) LGO dismissing the complaint following an investigation. A roll call was taken: 7 affirmatives. Motion passed.

Concerning the Matter of B.9. A motion was made by Mr. Close and second by Mr. Jackson to issue a Notice of Violation to one (1) LGO finding violations of N.J.S.A. 40A:9-22.5(c) and N.J.S.A. 40A:9-22.5(g) and assessing a fine of \$500 for each violation for a total fine of \$1,000. A roll call was taken: 7 affirmatives. Motion passed.

Concerning the Matter of B.10. A motion was made by Mr. DiRocco and second by Mr. Close to issue a Final Agency Decision dismissing an appeal of a decision of a local ethics board and upholding the decision of the local ethics board. A roll call was taken: 7 affirmatives. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,



Nicholas Bennett
Executive Secretary
Local Finance Board