

# **MINUTES OF THE BALTIMORE COUNTY ETHICS COMMISSION**

## **OPEN MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 3, 2024**

A meeting of the Baltimore County Ethics Commission was called to order at 3:40 p.m. on Tuesday, September 3, 2024. The meeting was held in person in Conference Room 118 of the Historic Courthouse and consisted of both an open session and a closed session. The initial (open) session began at 3:40 p.m. Present were:

Laura Ray, Commissioner  
Sasha Rousseau, Commissioner  
Mandee Heintz, Commissioner

Also present were Tracey Paliath, Executive Director of the Ethics Commission, and James R. Benjamin Jr. County Attorney, counsel for the Commission. Hunter Piel, Commissioner, and Kevin Murphy, Commissioner, were not present for this meeting.

### **Call to Order:**

Executive Director Paliath called the meeting to order.

### **Minutes:**

A motion was made by Commissioner Heintz and seconded by Commissioner Ray to approve the open and closed meeting minutes for the August 6, 2024 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Executive Director's Report**

Director Paliath reported that one financial disclosure filer (on a Board) had not filed his/her financial disclosure for 2023. That filer has a paper copy of the disclosure to fill out and Director Paliath confirmed that the filer received it. Director Paliath reported that the filer stated that he/she had completed the form and mailed it back, but it had not been received. Commissioners Heintz and Ray suggested that Director Paliath send the non-filer another letter in the mail with another copy of the paper form and that the filer be asked to return the form to the staff liaison to the filer's board at the meeting in October. The staff liaison can then assure the completed form is returned to Director Paliath.

Director Paliath reported to the Commissioners that she had discovered several members of boards had never initially filed and that she was making good progress on fixing that, she was down to just 3 people who needed to file and was working with the Boards staff liaison to ensure the filings happened. She also informed the Commissioners that she had presented to the Board of Library Trustees about Ethics and was invited back to speak to supervisory staff.

The Commissioners were further informed that another two meetings needed to be added to the schedule in September and October to meet the 10 meetings per year requirement. The Commissioners decided to add two webex meetings to the calendar – September 17 at 1 pm and October 15 at 1 pm.

**Move into Closed Session:**

A motion was made by Commissioner Heidl to move into closed session as names of complaints and respondents would be mentioned. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ray. The Commissioners were polled and the motion unanimously passed. The Commission went into closed session at 3:50 pm.

**End of Closed Session**

At 4:40 p.m. Commissioner Ray made a motion to go back into open session; it was seconded by Commissioner Heidl and the members were polled. The motion passed unanimously. The Commission went back into open session.

**Move into Open Session**

**Adjournment**

A Motion to Adjourn was made by Commissioner Heidl and seconded by Commissioner Ray at 4:41 p.m. and the meeting was adjourned.

The next regular Ethics Commission Meeting is scheduled for September 17, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. by WebEx.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tracey Paliath, Executive Director