

**Albany County Ethics Commission Meeting Minutes**  
**April 13, 2022 3:00pm**  
**Room 940**  
**Albany County Office Building**  
**112 State Street, Albany, NY 12207**

**Meeting conducted in person and remotely via telephone**

In attendance: Bryan Best, Bernard Malone, Gerard Maney, James Malita, Sia Googas, Jennifer Clement and Patrick Collins (via telephone)

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Maney at 3:08 p.m.

All 4 members present- quorum present

1. Reviewed the meeting minutes from October 13, 2021 the meeting, a motion from Mr. Malone to adopt the minutes without modification was seconded by Mr. Maney, and the meeting minutes were adopted with two abstentions.
2. Welcomed new Ethics Commission members Bryan Best and James Malita
3. Election of a Secretary
  - a. Mr. Malone moved to elect Mr. Malita as secretary, Mr. Best seconded the motion, the vote passed with one abstention.
4. The Commission discussed the list of required filers to the Financial Disclosure forms.
  - a. Human Resources Commissioner Clement presented the list of required filers that are employees of the County of Albany. Ms. Clement explained that this year she removed the title of confidential secretary from the list as this position is a traditional secretarial role and not subject to the Ethics Law. Ms. Clement explained how she added the titles of Website Developer and Chief Information Officer on the list as these titles have a role in how information is presented to the public and thus subject to the Ethics Law. Ms. Clement explained that attorneys must remain on the list as they take an oath of office for their role and have the ability to influence thus fall under the definition of high ranking officials.
    - i. Mr. Malone moved to adopt the list of required filers as presented by Ms. Clement, Mr. Best seconded; the motion was unanimous
  - b. Counsel to the Chair of the County Legislature, Mr. Collins presented the list of required filers for Board members appointed by the County Executive or the County Legislature. Mr. Collins explained the list contains boards comprised of different members, but only the members who are appointed by the County Executive or the County Legislature are considered required filers under the Ethics Law. Mr. Collins

explained that two boards were deleted from the list after the Ethics Commission determined last year they were not subject to the Ethics Law- the Fire Advisory Board and the Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board. Mr. Collins explained that the Redistricting Commission was added to the list since they offer advice to the Albany County Legislature and are considered policy makers under the Ethics Law.

- i. Mr. Malone moved to adopt the list of required filers as presented by Mr. Collins, Mr. Malita seconded; the motion was unanimous
5. The Commission discussed the date to return the Financial Disclosure Forms which is set as May 15th. This year the return date fell on a non-business day. Mr. Malita moved to have the return date to be the next business day, May 16<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Maney seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
6. The Commission discussed the adoption of the Annual Report for 2022.
  - a. Mr. Malone moved to adopt the Annual Report and to submit it to the County Executive and the County Legislature as required under the Ethics Law. Mr. Maney seconded. There were two abstentions.
7. The Commission discussed and accepted Mr. Hyde's resignation from the Commission. Mr. Hyde provided the County Executive his resignation effective on December 31, 2021 as he was appointed to the Albany City Common Council and could no longer could serve on the Ethics Commission.
8. The Commission discussed whether Financial Disclosure forms could be recertified from year to year and tabled the discussion for a future meeting.
9. The Commission discussed its next meeting and a tentative date was set for June 22, 2022 at 3 pm.
10. Motion to adjourn – Mr. Best moved to adjourn, Mr. Malita seconded. The motion was unanimous.

Meeting ends 4:02 pm.