

SUFFOLK COUNTY BOARD OF ETHICS
Minutes of Meeting Held on
March 16, 2016
In the Office of the Board of Ethics
Sunrise Business Center, 3500 Sunrise Highway, Room 364
Great River, New York 11739

Meeting: *Board Members present:* Linda Spahr, Richard Halverson, Dennis O’Doherty and Anthony Parlatore. *Staff present:* Samantha Segal, Executive Director and Darlene Kurrass Mohlmann, Board Secretary, taking minutes.

Ascertainment of Quorum: The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Chair, Linda Spahr. A roll call was conducted and a quorum was present.

Adoption of Agenda: A motion was made by Linda Spahr, seconded by Dennis O’Doherty, to adopt the agenda. Upon a vote being taken, motion was approved (4-0-0).

Adoption of Minutes: A motion was made by Richard Halverson, seconded by Dennis O’Doherty to adopt the minutes of the March 2, 2016 meeting. Upon a vote being taken, motion was approved (4-0-0).

Public Session: Linda Spahr opened Public Session. No members of the public were present and no written testimony was submitted. Linda Spahr closed Public Session.

Chair Report: Discussed the County Executive’s nomination to appoint a new member to fill the Board’s current vacancy. Spahr noted that the County Executive’s nominee is a recently retired County employee and expressed concern that there may be a high quantity of recusals from a person directly out of County employment.

Executive Director Report: Samantha Segal, Executive Director, reported and/or discussed the following:

- I.R. 1205-2016, “To appoint member of Suffolk County Board of Ethics (Eric A. Kopp)”
 - As a retired County employee less than two years out of service, if appointed, Mr. Kopp would be under the Board’s statutory jurisdiction for conflict checks of a former County employee including:
 - Financial Disclosure Statement audits; all provisions of Post-Employment Restrictions; as an associated person of a current County employee as defined under the law to include spouses; and Advisory Opinions/Complaints.
- Suffolk County proposed lag payroll has not taken effect.

2015 Annual Report: Board reviewed drafted Annual Report and provided feedback.

Executive Session: At 10:15 a.m. a motion was made by Linda Spahr, seconded by Dennis O’Doherty to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing confidential matters pertaining to one Ethics Violation Complaint, one Board Investigation, two Advisory Opinions, five Notices of Violation, and Counsel updates in accordance with the Suffolk County Administrative Code §A30-8 and the New York State Open Meetings Law. Upon a vote being taken, motion was approved (4-0-0).

During Executive Session

A motion was made:

- To approve standing of Advisory Opinion Request No. AO-2016-8. Approved (4-0-0).
- To open a self-initiated Complaint, No. C-002-2016, in connection with AO-2016-8, and direct staff to review materials and draft a Notice of Reasonable Cause. Approved (4-0-0).

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- To approve Advisory Opinion No. AO-2016-7. Approved (4-0-0).
- To issue Notice of Violation Index No. 137/2015. Approved (4-0-0).
- To issue Notice of Violation Index No. 140/2015. Approved (4-0-0).
- To issue Notice of Violation Index No. 152/2015. Approved (4-0-0).
- To issue Notice of Violation Index No. 250/2015. Approved (4-0-0).
- Not to issue Notice of Violation Index No. 354/2015. Approved (4-0-0).

At 11:10 a.m. a motion was made by Linda Spahr, seconded by Dennis O'Doherty, to close Executive Session. Upon a vote being taken, motion was approved (4-0-0).

New Business: Board noted that on Wednesday, April 6, 2016, and April 20, 2016, there may be some difficulty securing a quorum.

The next meeting of the Board will be held April 6, 2016 at 9:30 a.m.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Dennis O'Doherty, seconded by Anthony Parlatore to adjourn the meeting. Upon a vote being taken, motion was approved (4-0-0) (11:15 a.m.).