

ST. MARY’S COUNTY ETHICS COMMISSION
St. Mary’s County Chesapeake Building
Minutes of January 3, 2023

MEMBERS PRESENT David Willenborg, Chair
 Joseph Russell, Vice Chair (via Zoom)
 Larry Crabtree
 Dr. Joseph DeVitis
 Kathleen McClernan-Walz
 Robert McGann (alternate)
 Joe Densford, Counsel for the Ethics Commission
 Diane Gleissner, Recorder

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Willenborg at 6:00 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting of the St. Mary’s County Ethics Commission is tentatively scheduled for Monday, April 3, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

Welcome of New Member

Mr. Willenborg welcomed Robert McGann, the newly appointed alternate member to the commission.

Elections

Nominations were held for the position of Chair. A motion was made by Mr. Crabtree, seconded by Ms. McClernan-Walz to nominate David Willenborg to serve as Chair. Vote passed 5-0.

Nominations were held for the position of Vice-Chair. A motion was made by Mr. Crabtree, seconded by Mr. Willenborg to nominate Joseph Russell to serve as Vice-Chair. Vote passed 5-0.

OLD BUSINESS

Ethics Complaint 22-01

Mr. Densford, Counsel for the Commission stated that a letter was sent to the Complainant on December 1, 2022 asking for clarification as to the identity of the of the subject of the complaint and requested a response by December 15, 2022. Since there has been no response to date, Mr. Densford, suggested that the complaint be dismissed.

Mr. Crabtree moved, seconded by Dr. DeVitis, that Complaint 22-01 be dismissed based on insufficient evidence. Vote passed 5-0.

Review of the Draft 2022 Annual Report

Ms. McClernan Walz moved, seconded by Dr. DeVitis that the 2022 Ethics Commission Annual Report be approved as written. Vote passed 5-0.

Candidate’s Non-Compliance of a Financial Disclosure Statement

Ms. Gleissner spoke to Wendy Atkins at the Board of Elections who stated that they couldn’t make the January 3, 2023 meeting date, but would be available to come to the April meeting to answer the commission’s questions.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Ms. McClernan-Walz and seconded by Dr. DeVitis to adjourn the meeting. The St. Mary’s County Ethics Commission meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m. Vote passed 5-0.