

**PUTNAM COUNTY BOARD OF ETHICS
OFFICIAL MINUTES**

Meeting of December 7, 2018

Members Present: Bob Bickford, Rod Cassidy, Paul Eldridge, Greg Amato, Kathleen Delamere
Staff: Jan Miller

The meeting began at 9:18 am in the conference room of the County Personnel Department. Roll call was taken. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Minutes:

The Board reviewed the minutes of the September 21, 2018 meeting and accepted them.

Old Business:

- Chairman Bickford reiterated that he plans to retire at the end of this term. The Board urged him to continue until a new appointment is confirmed.

New Business:

- The Board members had been asked to come to this meeting with potential names for Submission to the County Executive for nomination to the Board. Two names were discussed; Jane Geoghean and Chris Feehan. Members of the Board will speak to each of these persons to seek their interest and, if so, to receive their resumes.
- Election of Board leadership for 2019 will be postponed until there is a full complement of members.
- Chairman Bickford presented two requests for an advisory opinion from the Board. One request was a verbal one voiced to the Chairman, so the Board asked Chairman Bickford and Paul Eldridge to speak with the requester regarding the negative optics of the situation they described. Subsequently, the requester decided to not pursue their inquiry any further.

The second inquiry involved whether there is a conflict of interest in hiring a person for a regulatory position of enforcement when that person has a relative working in a regulated industry overseen by this regulator. The Board concluded that, given there are other personnel who could oversee the relative's job performance, the regulator could and should recuse themselves from that specific enforcement. Assignment of formulating a written response to this inquiry was assigned to Rod Cassidy to prepare.

The Board moved to executive session at 9:40 am to review the 13 Financial Disclosure forms awaiting acceptance. Nine forms were accepted and 4 were returned for correction.

Next Meeting: January 25, 2019 at 9:15 am.

At 10:030 am Bob Bickford moved for adjournment, Rod Cassidy gave the second, and all concurred.

Respectfully Submitted,
Paul Eldridge, Secretary