

**PUTNAM COUNTY BOARD OF ETHICS
OFFICIAL MINUTES**

Meeting of February 28, 2020

Members Present: Paul Eldridge, Kathleen Delamere, Rod Cassidy and Jane Geoghean
Staff: Jan Miller

The meeting began at 9:25 am in the conference room of the County Personnel Department. Roll call was taken. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Minutes: There were no minutes to review as the Board had been without a quorum since May, 2019.

Election of Officers:

- A motion was made by Paul Eldridge, and seconded by Kathleen Delamere, to nominate Rod Cassidy for Chairman. There was unanimous approval and Rod accepted the position.
- A motion was made by Jane Geoghean, and seconded by Paul Eldridge, to nominate Kathleen Delamere as Vice Chair. Kathleen accepted the position.

Old Business:

- The Board recognized the confirmation of Jane Geoghean's membership to the Board of Ethics and welcomed her participation. Her term extends to December 31, 2021.
- Chairman Rod reviewed two Resolutions passed in 2019 (#154 and #192) which added to the Code of Ethics to define "Confidential Material" and "Records" and provides exceptions for County employee whistleblowers. Sections of the Code affected include 55-2, 55-4 (G) and the addition of a subsection of 55-3(J).

New Business:

- The Board acknowledged re-appointment of Paul Eldridge to another three (3) year term as a member, and he accepted reassignment as Secretary to the Board.
- The Board further acknowledged the resignations of Greg Amato and Bob Bickford, and directed the Chair to send letters of appreciation for their time and service on the Board. Paul was asked to reach out to Bob Bickford regarding his availability for a social meeting.
- Since the Board needs a fifth member, the resume of Jackie Boissonnault was considered and approved to be put forth to County Executive Odell for appointment.

At 9:45 am the Chairman called for executive session. The Board reviewed an inquiry from a County employee who was being considered for membership on the Board of Directors of Putnam Hospital and whether the Ethics Board saw any potential conflict of interest. Although the Ethics Board members did not see a conflict it was decided to refer the issue to the Law Department. On a separate matter the members discussed a letter from a County resident seeking the Board's review and consideration of an ethics violation by members of a village board. Because the complainant is not an employee or officer of that village, the County Board of Ethics has no jurisdiction over ruling on the complaint circumstances. The Chair will respond to the complainant with this decision.

They reviewed the 104 Financial Disclosure forms awaiting acceptance. Fifty-four forms were accepted and 50 were returned for correction.

Next Meeting: April 24, 2020 at 9:15 am.

At 10:25 am Rod Cassidy moved for adjournment, Paul gave the second, and all concurred.

Respectfully Submitted,
Paul Eldridge, Secretary