

Frederick County Ethics Commission
Minutes for the Public Meeting of Monday, August 16, 2004

Present: Ronald W. Peppe, Chairman
 Phillip P. Killam, Commission Member
 Andrew T. Jones, Alternate Commission Member
 Linda B. Thall, Assistant County Attorney

Absent: G. Anthony Crook, Commission Member

The Frederick County Ethics Commission met at 7:00 p.m. on August 16, 2004, at the Office of the County Attorney on the 3rd floor of Winchester Hall, 12 East Church Street, Frederick, Maryland 21701.

Unfinished Business

Approval of the minutes – The Commission considered the minutes from its August 9, 2004, meeting. Mr. Jones suggested adding under the topic “consideration of unsigned complaints” a description of the Commission’s current policy. Mr. Jones also suggested adding to the minutes the time that the Commission first ended the public meeting portion of its August 9 meeting, the time that it resumed its public meeting, and the time that the meeting was adjourned.

MOTION: Mr. Jones moved to approve the minutes as amended. Mr. Killam seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Board of County Commissioners’ legislative package – The letter to the Board of County Commissioners, which had been requested at the Commission’s August 9, 2004, meeting, was circulated to the Commission members. Mr. Peppe then signed the letter.

New Business

Review of financial disclosure statements – Mr. Peppe informed the audience on how the review process works. If the Commission has questions about the financial disclosure statements, the Commission has the option of questioning those who completed the statements about the information they provided. To provide guidance, the Commission may also send copies of past advisory opinions to persons who submitted financial disclosure statements. The Commission then answered questions from those in attendance at the meeting.

Mr. Jones questioned whether the Commission should, at some future date, look into recommending that the list of persons who are required to file financial disclosure statements be amended. Mr. Killam suggested contacting others for input before deciding whether to pursue this matter.

The Commission then reviewed the financial disclosure forms and discussed areas where the members had questions. The Assistant County Attorney was directed to contact certain employees to obtain additional information to clarify information provided on their disclosure forms.

The Ethics Commission adjourned its public meeting at 9:40 p.m. The Commission then met to perform executive functions.

The Commission reopened the public meeting at 11:23 p.m. The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 p.m.

/s/
Linda B. Thall, Assistant County Attorney