

MONTGOMERY COUNTY ETHICS COMMISSION

Public Meeting, January 10, 2023

Conducted via Zoom call

Minutes

IN ATTENDANCE:

Commissioners:

Bruce Romer, Chair

Jennifer Collins, Vice-Chair

Susan Beard

Rahul Goel

Mary Ann Keeffe

Staff Members: Robert W. Cobb, Chief Counsel

Erin Chu, Program Manager

The public portion of the meeting was recorded, and the recording can be found on the Commission's website.

Item 1. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by the Chair.

Item 2. The Commission approved the minutes from the December 13, 2023, after directing revisions.

Item 3. Ethics Education: Mr. Cobb indicated that there were no new developments in ethics education; he reported on a number of training sessions delivered since the December meeting, including hybrid online/in-person training of the County Council and staff, new employee training (pursuant to the new system), mandatory training of financial disclosure filers, and in person training FRS recruits.

Item 4. Financial Disclosure and Lobbying: Mr. Cobb described the launch of the annual financial disclosure reporting season and the launch of the lobbying reporting season.

Item 5. New Business: The Commissioners discussed whether there should be minutes of the closed session. Mr. Cobb was tasked with conducting research as to the requirements of the Maryland Public Meeting Act and Public Information Act regarding taking minutes of a closed session and the handling of those minutes.

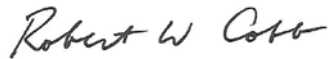
Item 6. Pursuant to GP Art. 3-305, at 7:25 p.m. the Commission voted unanimously to close the meeting to the public to discuss legal advice and confidential matters.

- a. The Commission decided to issue a waiver.
- b. The Commission approved a consent agreement.
- c. The Commission approved the outside employment requests as presented, with one request being denied.

The meeting reopened at 8:19.

Item 8. The meeting adjourned at 8:19.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert W. Cobb".

Robert W. Cobb

Chief Counsel