

**Local Finance Board  
Local Government Ethics Law  
September 13, 2023  
VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS**

The meeting was called to order at 9:08 a.m. by Jacquelyn A. Suárez, Chairperson. Nicholas Bennett, Executive Secretary, stated that in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, C.10:4-6 et seq., proper notice was given to the Secretary of State, the *Star-Ledger* and the *Times of Trenton*. A roll call was taken: 5 members were present: Chairperson Suárez, Dominick DiRocco, William Close, Alan Avery, and Idida Rodriguez were present. There are three vacancies. A quorum was present. Also present were DAG Craig Keiser and staff members Dana C. Jones, Shannon Hudak, and Eileen Brennen.

At 9:08 a.m., a motion was made by Mr. Close and second by Mr. DiRocco to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing complaints, requests for advisory opinions, and to receive related legal advice. A roll call vote was taken: 5 affirmatives. Motion passed.

At 10:10 a.m., a motion was made by Ms. Rodriguez and second by Mr. Close to go into open session. A roll call was taken: 5 affirmatives. Motion passed.

The Local Finance Board then determined to take a brief recess and reconvened at 10:26 a.m. to consider financing applications.

**August 9, 2023 Meeting Minutes** A motion was made by Mr. DiRocco and second by Mr. Close to approve the minutes. A roll call was taken: 4 affirmatives. Ms. Rodriguez abstained. Motion passed.

**Concerning the matter of III.B.2.** A motion was made by Mr. Avery and second by Ms. Rodriguez to authorize a Notice of Investigation to one (1) LGO for potential violations of N.J.S.A. 40A:9-22.5(c) and N.J.S.A. 40A:9-22.6(a)(5). A roll call was taken: 5 affirmatives. Motion passed.

**Concerning the matter of III.B.3.** A motion was made by Mr. Close and second by Ms. Rodriguez to authorize a Notice of Investigation to one (1) LGO for potential violations of N.J.S.A. 40A:9-22.5(a), N.J.S.A. 40A:9-22.5(c), N.J.S.A. 40A:9-22.5(d), N.J.S.A. 40A:9-22.5(g) and N.J.S.A. 40A:9-22.6(a)(1). A roll call was taken: 5 affirmatives. Motion passed.

**Concerning the matter of III.B.4.** A motion was made by Mr. DiRocco and second by Mr. Avery to waive the fines for failure to file a 2023 FDS by a total of 34 local government officers who either had general excuses or who held multiple positions, and to rescind the violations for a total of 21 local government officers who were deceased or who were found in violation due to clerk error, to acknowledge the payment of the fine by 91 local government officers, and to communicate to the local government entity representative the status of local government officers who did not respond to the Notice of Violation for failure to file the 2023 FDS. A roll call was taken: 5 affirmatives. Motion passed.

**Concerning the matter of III.B.5.** A motion was made by Mr. Close and second by Ms. Rodriguez to transmit the matter to the Office of Administrative Law as a contested case. A roll call was taken: 5 affirmatives. Motion passed.

**Concerning the matter of III.B.6.** A motion was made by Mr. Avery and second by Mr. DiRocco to transmit the matter to the Office of Administrative Law as a contested case. A roll call was taken: 5 affirmatives. Motion passed.

**Concerning the matter of III.B.7.** A motion was made by Mr. Avery and second by Ms. Rodriguez to remand the matter to the local board for application of the appropriate code. A roll call was taken: 5 affirmatives. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "N. Bennett", written over a horizontal line.

Nicholas Bennett  
Executive Secretary  
Local Finance Board