

Budget Conference Room (16th Floor) – Rath Building

Members:

☒ Chris Trapp, Chair
☒ Taunya Abaya, Vice President
☒ Ellen Kennedy, Secretary
☒ Anne Joynt
☒ John Flynn

Staff: ☐ Aaron Rubin, Counsel
☒ Barb Piazza, Chief Ethics Officer

Others Present:

1. Meeting called to order at 8:41 a.m.
2. December Meeting Minutes: Anne moved, Taunya seconded, motion passed
3. Website / Email Updates (Piazza/Chair):
 - a. Updates to website - Minutes, agenda and information regarding which employees are required to file a Financial Disclosure Form
 - b. FOIL Requests - none
 - c. Other communications – Letter sent to Nan Haynes regarding the results of our Town of Amherst investigation which is now closed.
Request for clarification regarding post-employment restrictions from Shelby Sayeta; Barb responded.
Information regarding ethics training was sent to Pat Cummings of the NYS Association of County Governments.
4. Old Business:
 - a. Nothing new regarding submission of financial disclosure forms
 - b. January elections – Anne moved, John seconded, to elect Taunya as Chair. Motion passed unanimously.
John moved, Ellen seconded, to elect Anne as Vice Chair. Motion passed unanimously.
John moved, Taunya seconded, to elect Ellen as Secretary. Motion passed unanimously.
Chris will remain available until there is a replacement.
 - c. Town of Amherst investigation update on Levin – the Board needs to know if he advocated in any way for the transfer of property.
 - d. Erie County Corrections Specialist Advisory Board – waiting for a response from the County Attorney as to whether they are required to file financial disclosure forms..
5. New Business:
 - a. Barb and Taunya will be meeting with James Blackwell to discuss the rotation of term limits for Ethics Board members and to share updates about Board of Ethics.
 - b. Financial Disclosure Form is on the website. The Board will confirm dates for submission at its next meeting.
 - c. 2025 Annual Report will be completed by Chris.

6. Public Comments: None

7. The Board thanked Christ for his many years on the Ethics Board, and especially recognized his years as Chair.

8. Motion to adjourn: Chris moved, Anne seconded. Meeting adjourned at 9:40.

9. Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, February 4, 2026 at 8:40 a.m., 16th floor ECH