

West Virginia Ethics Commission

Meeting Minutes September 5, 2024

The September 5, 2024, meeting of the West Virginia Ethics Commission was called to order in the Commission's office at 210 Brooks Street, Charleston, West Virginia, at 10:00 a.m. by Chairperson Wolfe. Commissioners and the public were invited to attend in person, via video link, and via telephone.

Present

Robert J. Wolfe, Commission chairperson
D. Blake Carter, Jr., Commission member (by telephone)
Joshua Cottle, Commission member (by telephone)
Lynn Davis, Commission member (by telephone)
Karen Disibbio, Commission member (by telephone)
Suzan Singleton, Commission member (virtual)
Terry L. Walker, Commission member (by telephone)
Kimberly B. Weber, Executive Director
Theresa M. Kirk, General Counsel
John N. Ellem, Staff Attorney
M. Ellen Briggs, Executive Assistant

Absent

Robert Harman, Commission member

Call to Order

Mr. Wolfe requested that a roll call be taken. After the roll call was taken, Ms. Weber reported on a proposed agenda change. Item no. 7, Action on Complaints, VCRB 2022-02 Lillie Junkins, Vice Mayor, City of Clarksburg, and VCRB 2022-04 James E. Marino, Mayor, City of Clarksburg, will be considered at the October or November 2024 meeting of the Commission. The full Commission concurred with the change.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Carter made a motion to approve the minutes of the Commission's August 1, 2024, meeting. Ms. Disibbio seconded the motion, and the motion carried as follows, with Mr. Wolfe abstaining from the vote since he was not present at the meeting.

Carter – aye
Cottle – not present
Davis – aye
Disibbio – aye

Singleton – aye
Walker – aye
Wolfe – abstained

Recap of Previous Month

Ms. Weber provided a summary of news and developments relating to the Ethics Commission during the previous month.

Employment Exemption Requests

Ms. Weber asked the Commission to ratify the following temporary employment exemptions that she had granted since the last Commission meeting.

EE 2024-57

Jonathan Stowers, WV TRET IV, Engineering Division, Department of Transportation, Division of Highways

EE 2024-58

Gregory Silvester, Transportation Maintenance Assistant, Department of Transportation, Division of Highways

EE 2024-59

Daniel Hamrick, Highway Engineer Trainee-2, Department of Transportation, Division of Highways

EE 2024-60

Dorman Parker, County Highway Administrator, Department of Transportation, Division of Highways

Mr. Carter moved that Employment Exemptions 2024-57 through 2024-60 be ratified. Ms. Davis seconded the motion, and the motion carried as follows. Mr. Cottle joined the meeting.

Carter – aye
Cottle – aye
Davis – aye
Disibbio – aye
Singleton – aye
Walker – aye
Wolfe – aye

Advisory Opinion 2024-07

Mr. Wolfe called upon Ms. Kirk to present [Advisory Opinion 2024-07](#) to the Commission for consideration. Ms. Kirk presented the proposed Advisory Opinion. Mr. Carter made

a motion that the Advisory Opinion be approved as presented. Ms. Disibbio seconded the motion, and the motion carried as follows:

Carter – aye
Cottle – aye
Davis – aye
Disibbio – aye
Singleton – aye
Walker – aye
Wolfe – aye

Advisory Opinion 2024-08

Mr. Wolfe called upon Ms. Weber to present [Advisory Opinion 2024-08](#) to the Commission for consideration. Ms. Weber presented the proposed Advisory Opinion and answered questions from the Commission. Mr. Carter made a motion that the Advisory Opinion be approved as presented. Ms. Davis seconded the motion, and the motion carried as follows:

Carter – aye
Cottle – aye
Davis – aye
Disibbio – aye
Singleton – aye
Walker – aye
Wolfe – aye

Advisory Opinion 2024-09

Mr. Wolfe called upon Ms. Kirk to present [Advisory Opinion 2024-09](#) to the Commission for consideration. Ms. Kirk presented the proposed Advisory Opinion and discussion ensued. Ms. Singleton made a motion that the Advisory Opinion be approved as presented. Ms. Disibbio seconded the motion, and the motion carried as follows:

Carter – aye
Cottle – aye
Davis – aye
Disibbio – aye
Singleton – aye
Walker – aye
Wolfe – aye

Approve Purchasing Card Monthly Report

The Commission reviewed the purchasing card monthly report for July 2024. Ms. Weber reported that invoices were available for review and recommended that the purchases be approved. A motion was made by Ms. Singleton to approve the report as

Disibbio seconded the motion, and the motion carried as follows. The purchasing card monthly report is attached to these minutes and incorporated herein.

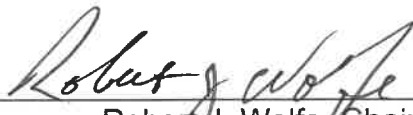
Carter – aye
Cottle – aye
Davis – aye
Disibbio – aye
Singleton – aye
Walker – aye
Wolfe – aye

Adjournment

Before adjournment, Mr. Wolfe asked for a brief report from the Open Governmental Meetings Committee meeting held before the Commission meeting. Ms. Kirk gave a report on [Open Meetings Advisory Opinion 2024-03](#). Subsequently, Ms. Singleton made a motion to adjourn, and Mr. Carter seconded the motion. The motion carried as follows, and the meeting was adjourned.


Carter – aye
Cottle – aye
Davis – aye
Disibbio – aye
Singleton – aye
Walker – aye
Wolfe – aye

The foregoing minutes of the West Virginia Ethics Commission were approved at the Commission's November 7, 2024, meeting.



Robert J. Wolfe, Chairperson
West Virginia Ethics Commission

ATTEST:



M. Ellen Briggs, Executive Assistant
West Virginia Ethics Commission

