

**FRANKLIN COUNTY
BOARD OF ETHICS
SEPTEMBER 23, 2014
5:00 P.M.**

Present: Diane Toney, Chairman
Debra Grizzle
Jackie Payne

Absent: Mike O'Connell
Sheila Spencer

Media: None

Staff: County Clerk Elaine Evans

Chairperson Diane Toney called the meeting to order and thanked the members for their attendance and willingness to serve on the Ethics Board. Mrs. Toney also welcomed new member Debra Grizzle.

Mrs. Toney reviewed the Ethics Ordinance with both Mrs. Grizzle and Ms. Payne. She said that the chair appointment is by the Judge and is indefinite. Mrs. Toney said that two member positions are appointed by the Republican Party and two member positions are appointed by the Democratic Party. She said that these appointments are staggered so that everyone does not come off of the Ethics Board at the same time.

It was also discussed that the prior decision of the Ethics Board is to have the Chairman pursue the investigative portion of any complaint. The ordinance states that the investigation and the hearing concerning complaints received by the Ethics Board are public. The Ethics Board members plan to recommend to the Board of Commissioners that investigations be considered in a closed session. This recommendation is for the protection of anyone that is alleged to have violated the ethics code but the allegation has not yet been proven.

Mrs. Toney asked for a motion to pass the minutes from the August 2013 annual Ethics Board Meeting. Ms. Payne made the motion to pass the minutes. The minutes from August 2013 were passed by three (3) YES votes to zero (0) NO votes. The YES votes were Mrs. Toney, Ms. Payne and Mrs. Grizzle.

Mrs. Toney stated that this was the first meeting that Mike O'Connell had missed. She also said that he is a faithful member of the Ethics Board and she appreciates his knowledge. Mrs. Toney asked Ms. Payne to check on Sheila Spencer and her interest in this board appointment.

There were no other comments or concerns from the Board members. The next meeting for the Ethics Board will held in 2015 unless a complaint is filed. The meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

Signed on the _____ day of _____, 2015

Diane Toney, Chair

Elaine Evans, County Clerk