

DRAFT MINUTES
BOARD OF ETHICS PUBLIC MEETING

February 2, 2026

1:00 P.M.

In-Person at the Dutchess County Department of Law

Present:

Peter M. Forman, Chair

Paul Piastro

Rex Bridges, *absent*

David Lemon

Christian R. Cullen, Counsel

Rachel Whispell, Confidential Secretary

Item 1. Meeting Opened

The meeting was called to order by Chair Peter Forman at 1:03 p.m. A quorum was present.

Item 2. Approve and adopt prior meeting minutes

Paul Piastro moved to accept the meeting minutes of June 5, 2025, seconded by Peter Forman. David Lemon abstained, two yes.

Dave Lemon moved to accept the meeting minutes of November 7, 2025, seconded by Peter Forman. Paul Piastro abstained, two yes.

Item 3. Review any complaints or inquiries for Ethics Board Opinion

Members discussed an anonymous complaint received on January 9, 2026 from “Concerned Payer” conveying an ethical question concerning a newly elected member of the Legislature.

Item 4. Move to Closed Session

Paul Piastro moved to commence a closed session, seconded by David Lemon. The motion carried unanimously.

Closed Session Held and Members Returned to Public Meeting

Item 5. Initial Determination

Members have calendared a new meeting date on March 25, 2026 at 1:00 p.m. Paul Piastro moved to invite the accused to respond to the complaint in person at the next meeting, or in writing, seconded by David Lemon. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 5. Adjournment

Paul Piastro moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by David Lemon. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting concluded at 1:29 p.m.