

# CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF ETHICS

Fourth Quarter, 2019, Meeting Minutes

**Date:** October 22, 2019

**Meeting Location:** Cherokee County Business Center at The Bluffs

**Board Members:**

Stephen Divine, Member	Present	Larry Mrozinski, Member	Present
Phil Dodge, Vice-Chair	Present	Gaylen Roberts, Chair	Present
Natalie Green, Member	Present	Pat Wilder, Member	Absent
Gil Howard, Member	Present		

**Others Present:**

Phillip Beggs, CCBoE Attorney of Record

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- **Chair Roberts called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.**
  - **Approval of Minutes from July 25, 2019**  
Member Howard made a motion to accept the minutes as they stood, seconded by Member Mrozinski. Motion passed unanimously.
  - **Public Hearing of Ethics Complaints**  
Chair Roberts opened the floor for public hearing/discussion. No issues were brought forward, and no one present had been made aware of any ethics complaints.
  - **Discussion Items**  
Chair Roberts led a training discussion of whether and under what conditions the Board could instigate its own investigation into unethical behavior. A second topic addressed whether the Board had responsibilities to investigate former political officials who were no longer in office. A third topic discussed the Georgia statute on whistleblowers and whether the Board had a responsibility to protect their identity. The Board agreed that all three situations that were discussed would be dealt with on a case-by-case basis with qualified legal advice and guidance.
  - **New Business**  
Chair Roberts led a discussion on State guidelines on maintaining written records. The Cherokee County administration intends to follow the guidelines to destroy written records more than five years old. The Board expressed a desire to maintain all digital records currently on the Board's website for historical purposes.

Chair Roberts opened the floor for nominations for the election of officers of the Board for 2020. Member Gil Howard nominated Gaylen Roberts to continue as Chair. There were no further nominations and Vice-Chair Dodge called for a vote. Chair Roberts was re-elected by acclamation. Chair Roberts then nominated Phillip Dodge as Vice Chair and he was re-elected by acclamation.

- **Next Meeting:**  
The 1st Quarterly Meeting of 2020 will be held on Thursday, January 23, at 6:00 p.m. at the Cherokee County Business Center at The Bluffs.

Meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.