

## Missouri Ethics Commission

Elizabeth L. Ziegler EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**Commission Action: MEC No. 24-0004-I:** John Cook, Board Member, Public Water Supply District 2 of St. Charles County and East Central Missouri Water and Sewer Authority; and Debbie Cook, City of O'Fallon Ward 5 Councilperson

## Date: 04/24/2024

The Missouri Ethics Commission received a complaint on January 24, 2024, against John Cook, Board Member, Public Water Supply District 2 of St. Charles County and East Central Missouri Water and Sewer Authority; and Debbie Cook, City of O'Fallon Ward 5 Councilperson, alleging violations of the conflict of interest laws. Missouri statutes required that an investigation be completed within 90 business days and presented to the Commission for a determination of whether there are reasonable grounds of a violation or whether it should be dismissed. Section 105.957, RSMo.

Missouri statute, Section 105.955.6, RSMo requires at least four commission members are necessary for a quorum, and at least four affirmative votes shall be required for any action or recommendation of the Commission. Commissioners whose terms expired on March 15, 2024, cannot serve on unexpired terms. Because the Commission does not currently have a quorum of four Commissioners to consider the complaint, the Commission could not take into consideration an investigation report.

Because there were not four Commissioners able to consider the investigation within the 90-day timeframe, the Commission could take no action on this complaint.

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