

**PENNSYLVANIA HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF COMMISSION MEETING  
OF AUGUST 22, 2016**

The meeting convened at 1:00 PM, Monday, August 22, 2016 at 333 Market Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

**ATTENDANCE:**

Commissioners present:

Joel Bolstein, Interim Chair  
Dr. Raquel O. Yiengst, Vice Chairperson  
Dr. Radheshyam Agrawal (phone)  
George Dawson (phone)  
Michael Hardiman  
Gerald S. Robinson

Commissioners Absent:

Kathleen Dormer-Carusone  
Hon. Terence Farrell

Staff present:

JoAnn Edwards, Executive Director  
Tammy McElfresh, Special Assistant to the Executive Director  
Kathy Morrison, Chief Counsel  
Geoffrey Biringer, Director of Education and Community Services  
John Clark, Director of Enforcement  
Diana Medley, Acting Philadelphia Regional Office Director  
Heather Roth, Harrisburg Regional Office Director  
Carl Summerson, Hearing Examiner (via phone for a portion of the meeting)  
Christine Reese, Press Secretary  
Debbie Walters, Administrative Officer  
Lyle Wood, Acting Pittsburgh Regional Office Director

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Bolstein called the meeting to order 1:20 PM. He further announced that the meeting had been advertised and was open to the public, in accordance with the provisions of the Sunshine Act. He stated that prior to the meeting, in keeping with the confidentiality requirements of the Sunshine Act; there had been a closed session to discuss compliance matters.

Chairman Bolstein announced the meeting was being recorded.

Attendance was taken and the presence of a quorum was noted.

**INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**

Chairman Bolstein noted there were no guests in attendance.

**APPROVAL OF COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

Minutes of the Public Commission held on August 22, 2016 were presented for approval.

**MOTION:**

Commissioner Yiengst made a Motion, seconded by Commissioner Robinson to approve the minutes with one noted change. With all in favor, motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF COMPLIANCE MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING**

Minutes of the August 5, 2016 meeting were presented for approval.

**MOTION:**

Commissioner Hardiman made a Motion, seconded by Commissioner Dawson to approve the minutes. With all in favor, motion carried.

**CHIEF COUNSEL'S LITIGATION STATUS REPORT**

Chief Counsel Morrison provided a review of her status report and a copy is attached for review. Ms. Morrison also provided in her report an outline of work done by the legal staff and trainings they have conducted.

Chief Counsel Morrison noted the Commission has agreed to a draft stipulation without hearing regarding the Reading School District. The case is on hold until October 5, 2016.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT****Report on Mediation**

An overview was provided of the report contained within the commission packets as it contains new metrics on the Mediation Program.

**Communications Report**

Press Secretary Christina Reese provided highlights of her report. Of specific interest, Ms. Reese discussed the translate button on the commission website, approval of commission support of SB 1307 and SB 1306.

**Report on the Budget**

Executive Director Edwards provided an update on the current budget as well as staffing.

**Report on EEOC and HUD Contracts**

The performance of each office toward meeting its MTD goal for the EEOC contract is as follows:

**Pittsburgh** - 22 cases submitted for a target of 25 = 88% toward satisfying goal  
**Harrisburg** - 37 cases submitted for a target of 33 = 112% toward satisfying goal  
**Philadelphia** - 22 cases submitted for a target of 29 = 75% toward satisfying goal

Year to date, Pittsburgh has submitted 210, Harrisburg 544 and Philadelphia 261 cases for credit. 171 cases or 15% remain to reach the goal of 1,186. The monthly and year-to-date reports are attached.

**NEXT SESSION**

The September Commission meeting will be held Monday, September 26, 2016, at 1:00 PM in Harrisburg, PA.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

Chairman Bolstein asked the commissioners if they have any issues or topics they would like to delve into. Specifically, what issues are of personal concerns in their respective area?

**GUEST COMMENTS**

No guests in attendance

**ADJOURNMENT**

This meeting was electronically recorded. The file will become part of the permanent record.

Commissioner Yiengst made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Agrawal to adjourn. With all in favor, Chairman Dawson adjourned the Public Session.

Respectfully submitted,

S\Joel Bolstein

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Joel Bolstein  
Interim Chairman

S\Radheshyam Agrawal

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Dr. Radheshyam Agrawal  
Commissioner