

**PENNSYLVANIA HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF PUBLIC COMMISSION MEETING  
JULY 27, 2020**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the meeting convened virtually at 3:00 PM, on Monday, July 27, 2020.

**ATTENDANCE:**

Commissioners:

Joel Bolstein, Chair  
Dr. Raquel O. Yiengst, Vice Chair  
Mayur Patel, Secretary  
Rad Agrawal  
George Dawson  
Michael Hardiman  
Curtis Jones  
Adrian Shanker  
Aleena Sorathia

Staff:

Chad Dion Lassiter, Executive Director  
Leslie Marant, Chief Counsel  
Jinada Rochelle, Director of Enforcement  
Carl Summerson, Hearing Examiner  
Guerline L. Laurore, Esq., Director of Policy and Intergovernmental Affairs  
Lyle Wood, Pittsburgh Regional Office Director  
Heather Roth, Harrisburg Regional Office Director  
Diana Medley, Philadelphia Regional Office Director  
Debbie Walters, Administrative Officer  
Anja Velemir, Special Assistant to Executive Director

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Bolstein called the meeting to order. The meeting had been advertised and was open to the public, in accordance with the provisions of the Sunshine Act. Prior to the meeting, in keeping with the confidentiality requirements of the Sunshine Act; there had been a closed session to discuss compliance matters.

Attendance was taken and a quorum noted.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION:**

Commissioner Yiengst made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dawson to approve the minutes of the June Public Meeting. With all in favor except for Commissioner Shanker who abstained from the vote, as he was not in attendance at the June meeting and the motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Commissioner Jones expressed his disturbance in a post by NAACP president that he found to be antisemitic. Commissioner Jones noted his response was as a Councilman for the City of Philadelphia. Chairman Bolstein and Executive Director Lassiter added that they have also been monitoring the issue and reached out to provide an opportunity for dialogue on why those images are hurtful and thanked Commissioner Jones for responding.

Commissioner Shanker commented that almost every day, Secretary of Health Rachel Levine is confronted with transphobia and this makes him feel less safe and it is important that PHRC respond and address these types of attacks.

Chairman Bolstein asked that when something is seen, an email should be sent to the executive director and the regional director.

**ADJUDICATION:**

None

**NEXT SESSION**

The next Commission Meeting is scheduled to be held Monday, August 24, 2020.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:**


Commissioner Yiengst made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Agrawal to adjourn. With all in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



---

Joel Bolstein  
Interim Chairman



o/b/o Mayur Patel

---

Mayur Patel  
Secretary