

PENNSYLVANIA HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
MINUTES OF PUBLIC COMMISSION MEETING
January 24, 2022

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the meeting convened virtually at 2:03 PM, on Monday, January 24, 2022.

ATTENDANCE:

Commissioners:

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

Staff:

Chad Dion Lassiter, Executive Director
Samuel Rivera, Chief Counsel
Lisa Knight, Commission Counsel
Carl Summerson, Hearing Examiner
Guerline Laurore, Esq., Director of Policy & Intergovernmental Affairs
Adrian Garcia, Director of Fair Housing and Commercial Property
Kurt Jung, Director of Enforcement
Laura Argenbright, Director of Communications
Lyle Wood, Pittsburgh Regional Office Director
Heather Roth, Harrisburg Regional Office Director
Robert Lindsey, Philadelphia Regional Office Director
Debbie Walters, Administrative Officer
Anja Mijocevic, 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 was noted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION:

Commissioner Yiengst made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Patel to approve the minutes of the December Public Meeting. With all in favor, motion carried.

ADJUDICATION

Case #	Case Name
201701329	1. Robles vs Masso Security, LLC d/b/a Masso Detective Agency
201802002	2. Davis vs. Boost Mobile

Hearing Examiner Summerson presented to the commissioner the above cases. Each commissioner voting signified by their vote that they have reviewed the record in these matters to determine whether the recommended findings are supported by substantial evidence. Furthermore, because it is for the commission, as the adjudicative body to determine whether the respondent has engaged in or is engaging in an unlawful discriminatory practice as defined by the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act, any findings, conclusions, and order approved today are so approved only after the commission itself has determined that the evidence upon which it is based has been resolved correctly; and that any credibility determinations have been decided correctly.

MOTION 1:

Commissioner Jones made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Sorathia to approve the Recommendation to find for charging party. With all in favor, motion carried.

MOTION 2:

Commissioner Yiengst made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Jones to approve the Recommendation to find for charging party. With all in favor, motion carried.

POPOSED MEETING SCHEDULE 2022**MOTION:**

Commissioner Hardiman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Patel to approve the proposed schedule of Commission meetings for 2022. With all in favor, motion carried.

COOPER V. PHRC

Chief Counsel Rivera indicated a vote of the commission would be necessary on PHRC's decision on the request to enter into a settlement in the Cooper v. PHRC case. Chairman Bolstein asked for a roll call vote of the commissioners to not enter into a settlement in the Cooper v. PHRC case. Commissioners Bolstein, Patel, Hardiman, Jones, and Sorathia voted to not enter into Settlement. Commissioners Agrawal and Shanker were absent.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Executive Director Lassiter had the Commissioners and senior staff introduce themselves for the guest in attendance, Marc Unger of the York City Human Relations Commission.

MANAGEMENT REPORTS

Executive Director Lassiter asked the directors to provide a brief update on their division's current activities. Executive Director Lassiter also extended an invitation to partner with the York Commission and offered PHRC as a training resource if needed.

Mr. Unger thanked the staff for their updates and noted he will reach out to the York Advisory Council.

Commissioner Yiengst inquired if there was a Memorandum of Understanding between the York Commission and PHRC.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Bolstein took nominations for the role of Vice Chair. Commissioner Yiengst accepted nomination for the position of Vice Chair. With no other nominations, Commissioner Yiengst was confirmed as the Vice Chair for 2022.

Chairman Bolstein took nominations for the role of Secretary. Commissioner Patel accepted nomination for the position of Secretary. With no other nominations, Commissioner Patel was confirmed as the Secretary for 2022.


NEXT SESSION

The next Public Session will be held virtually for commissioners and staff, Monday, February 28, 2022, at 2:00 PM.

ADJOURNMENT**MOTION:**

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

Respectfully submitted,



M. Joel Bolstein
Chairman



Mayur Patel
Secretary

o/b/o Mayur Patel