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PENNSYLVANIA HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

M I N U T E S

TIME: 4:00 P.M.

Monthly Meeting

Held

VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

March 24, 2025

Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission
March 24, 2025

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COMMISSIONERS:

- Joel Bolstein, Esquire, Chair
- Dr. Raquel O. Yiengst, Vice Chair
- Mayur Patel, Esquire, Secretary
- Dr. Rad Agrawal
- Michael Hardiman, Esquire
- Curtis Jones
- Aleena Sorathia, Esquire

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Chad Dion Lassiter, MSW

CHIEF COUNSEL

Sandra Crawford, Esquire

STAFF PRESENT:

- Amanda Brothman, Director of Communications
- Alana Burman, Director of Policy, Intergovernmental Affairs and Mediation
- Desiree Chang, Director of Education
- Caroline Eister, Director of Fair Housing and Commercial Property
- Adrian Garcia, Director of Enforcement & Compliance
- Darlene Martin, Esquire, Hearing Examiner
- Sheryl Meck, Director, Civil Rights & Outreach Division
- La Dawn Robinson, Regional Office Director, Pittsburgh
- Heather Roth, Regional Office Director, Harrisburg
- Tamara Shehadeh-Cope, Esquire, Hearing Examiner
- Debbie Walters, Administrative Officer

ALSO PRESENT:

Anthony Sturgis

1 ***

2 Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission

3 March 24, 2025

4 ***

5 MEETING CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING STATEMENT

6 The time is now 4:00 p.m.

7 [Joel Bolstein, Chairperson of the Pennsylvania Human
8 Relations Commission, welcomed everybody to the
9 public meeting of the Pennsylvania Human Relations
10 Commission.

11 Pursuant to Section 711 (a) of the Sunshine Act,
12 65 P.S. § 711(a), this Commission meeting may be
13 recorded by attendees. Voluntary participation in
14 the meeting constituted consent to be recorded.

15 The meeting was advertised in accordance with the
16 provisions of the Sunshine Act. Prior to the meeting
17 and in keeping with the confidentiality requirements
18 of the Sunshine Act, an Executive Session and a
19 Compliance Session were held to conduct business,
20 including compliance matters, management updates, and
21 adjudicative case deliberations.

22 After concluding with the business portion of the
23 meeting, guests will be invited to introduce
24 themselves and their organizations. Guests will have
25 an opportunity to briefly address the Commission.

1 The Commission welcomed comments about equal
2 opportunity and Civil Rights issues or problems of
3 discrimination. Any statements expressed during the
4 public session by members of the public represent the
5 opinions and beliefs of the speaker and not the
6 opinions and beliefs of the Commission.

7 The Commission cannot hear specifics of open
8 investigations or cases it may have to rule on in the
9 future.

10 Joel Bolstein, Esquire, Chair, convened the
11 monthly meeting of the Pennsylvania Human Relations
12 Commission. The presence of a quorum was noted.]

13 ***

14 ADOPTION OF AGENDA

15 CHAIR BOLSTEIN:

16 The first item on the agenda is to adopt
17 the agenda. Is there a motion?

18 COMMISSIONER HARDIMAN:

19 So moved.

20 CHAIR BOLSTEIN:

21 I will second it. Is there any
22 discussion? All those in favor of
23 adopting the agenda, please say aye.

24 [The motion passed unanimously.]

25 ***

1 [Commissioner Agrawal informed Commission members
2 that the audio is difficult to understand.]

3 ***

4 APPROVAL OF PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES - None

5 ***

6 ADJUDICATIONS- RECOMMENDATIONS AND PROPOSED FINAL
7 ORDERS - None

8 ***

9 CONCILIATION AGREEMENTS/CONSENT ORDERS - None

10 ***

11 REQUESTS FOR PRELIMINARY HEARINGS

12 CHAIR BOLSTEIN:

13 Items 3 through 10 on the agenda are
14 Requests for Preliminary Hearings. I'm
15 calling for a motion.

16 COMMISSIONER HARDIMAN:

17 I move that we deny the recommendations
18 with respect to the Requests for
19 Preliminary Hearings.

20 CHAIR BOLSTEIN:

21 Is there a second?

22 COMMISSIONER AGRAWAL:

23 I will second.

24 CHAIR BOLSTEIN:

25 Any discussion on any of the items 3

1 through 10. Okay, not hearing any.

2 All those in favor of the motion,
3 please say aye. Any opposed?

4 [The motion passed unanimously.]

5 ***

6 MOTIONS AND OTHER ACTIONS - None

7 ***

8 APPROVED FOR PUBLIC HEARING DOCKET - None

9 ***

10 PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATIVE UPDATE - None

11 ***

12 MANAGEMENT REPORTS - None

13 ***

14 OLD BUSINESS - None

15 ***

16 NEW BUSINESS - None

17 ***

18 PUBLIC COMMENT

19 [Anthony Sturgis presented to the Board to hear his
20 matter concerning a preliminary hearing.

21 Ms. Walters informed Mr. Sturgis that there was a
22 motion to deny the requests for preliminary hearings
23 that passed with all Commissioners in favor. She
24 told Mr. Sturgis that he would receive a letter in
25 the mail from the Enforcement Office.]

1 ***
2 [Chair Bolstein thanked everybody for attending
3 today's meeting.]

4 ***
5 ADJOURNMENT

6 CHAIR BOLSTEIN:

7 I will entertain a motion to adjourn.

8 COMMISSIONER AGRAWAL:

9 So moved.

10 CHAIR BOLSTEIN:

11 I'll second it. All in favor? We're
12 adjourned.

13 ***
14 [The meeting adjourned at 4:06 p.m.]

15 ***
16 [The next meeting is scheduled for April 28, 2025.]

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CERTIFICATE


I hereby certify that the foregoing summary minutes of the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission, was reduced to writing by me or under my supervision, and that the minutes accurately summarize the substance of the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission meeting.



Emma Edwards,
Court Reporter
Sargent's Court Reporting
Service, Inc.



M. Joel Bolstein, Chairman

 o/b/o Commissioner Mayur Patel

Mayur Patel, Secretary