



STATE OF WASHINGTON

PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS COMMISSION

MICHAEL P. SELLARS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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MINUTES

August 14, 2012

The regular meeting of the Public Employment Relations Commission was held at 10:00 a.m., in the Public Employment Relations Commission Conference Room, 112 Henry Street NE, Suite 300, Olympia, Washington. Those present and participating:

Marilyn Glenn Sayan, Chairperson
Pamela G. Bradburn, Commissioner
Thomas W. McLane, Commissioner
Michael P. Sellars, Executive Director
Majel C. Boudia, Confidential Secretary
Dianne Ramerman, Appeals Administrator

Also present and participating.

Herb Harris, Washington Federation of State Employees

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held July 10, 2012, were adopted as presented.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

1. Executive Director Mike Sellars reviewed the monthly statistics for July: 69 cases were filed. This is below the five year average, but is still a considerable number of cases. Commissioner Bradburn commented that she was glad the case filing types were broad.

It is interest arbitration season for state employees, and a number of contract mediations have also been requested. Interest arbitration for marine employees is new to the agency this year. The parties pre-select an arbitrator and set dates months prior to negotiations. The process is different than the other statutes covered by agency jurisdiction because the parties can waive mediation.

Forty cases were closed during the month of July.

2. Recruitment
Mike reported that three new LRAMs have been hired:



- Dianne Ramerman, who is currently filling the Appeals Administrator position while Charity Atchison is on maternity leave, will transition into a Labor Relations Adjudicator/Mediator position when Charity returns in October.
- Matt Greer will begin on September 10. He comes to us from the Wisconsin Public Employment Relations Commission.
- Page Garcia will begin on September 5. She is currently a staff representative for the Washington Public Employees Association.

Mike is excited to have them all as staff and is glad Dianne has returned to the agency. Two of the hires fill vacancies left by Kenneth Latsch and Katrina Boedecker, and the other fills Joel Greene's position when he was promoted to Field Services Manager.

3. Chairperson Marilyn Glenn Sayan and Executive Director Mike Sellars recently attended the Association of Labor Relations Agencies Conference held in Montreal, Canada. Mike reported that it was a good opportunity to network with other labor relations agencies.
4. Outreach
 - Mike recently met with Rick Hall, the new director of the Office of Financial Management's Labor Relations Division. They had a lengthy conversation about bargaining.
 - Mike will meet with Washington State Council of County and City Employees leadership on Thursday, August 16, 2012. He will meet with Chris Dugovich and Pat Thompson at their office in Everett.
 - Mike has been trying to reach Jim Fotter at the Washington Education Association to discuss teacher mediations. The one district that was being watched has reached agreement on their contract.
5. Steve Irvin and Jessica Bradley have spent much of their time lately mediating with several different employers and unions in Yakima.
6. Mike reported that expectations for the Personnel Development Plan (PDP) are being done. He will finish this month.
7. One arbitration case this month requested a panel of staff arbitrators.
8. Mike extended kudos to Lisa Hartrich for issuing her interest arbitration award one day before the mandatory date. The case involved ferry staffing levels at the Department of Transportation Ferries Division where the parties agreed to arbitration with an expedited transcript, but needed a decision by August 8th.
9. The Red List (cases ready for decision more than 90 days) is longer than Mike wants, but one case will issue today, one is being worked on, and one involved a nine-day hearing. There were four cases on the Yellow List (cases ready for decision 45 to 89 days).
10. Dispute Resolution Panel

The Commission reviewed and unanimously approved the application of Kenneth Pedersen to the Dispute Resolution Panel.

COMPLIANCE DOCKET

There were no cases to report on the Compliance Docket.

COURT DOCKET

Appeals Administrator Dianne Ramerman reviewed the pending cases for the Commission.

Mason County, Cases 22424-U-09-5723, 22425-U-09-5724, 22426-U-09-5725, and 22427-U-09-5726. There are two separate appeals/causes in Thurston County Superior Court involving these cases. We have received a copy of the proposed orders affirming the Commission in these cases.

State – Language Access Providers, Case 23334-E-10-3570, is a new appeal filed in King County Superior Court. Trial is scheduled for February 25, 2013.

ADJOURNMENT

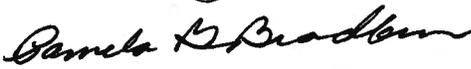
There being nothing further to come before the Commission, the public meeting was adjourned.

COMMISSION DOCKET

Following adjournment, the Commission went into Executive Session to deliberate pending decisions on appeal.

PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS COMMISSION


MARILYN GLENN SAYAN, Chairperson


PAMELA G. BRADBURN, Commissioner


THOMAS W. McLANE, Commissioner

ATTEST:


MICHAEL P. SELLARS
Executive Director