



STATE OF WASHINGTON
PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS COMMISSION

MICHAEL P. SELLARS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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MINUTES

April 15, 2014

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
Thomas W. McLane, Commissioner
Mark E. Brennan, Commissioner
Michael P. Sellars, Executive Director
Majel C. Boudia, Confidential Secretary
Charity Atchison, Appeals Administrator

Also present and participating:

Jason Holland, Washington Public Employees Association

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held March 11, 2014, were adopted as presented.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

1. Mike reported that this was the first Commission meeting in the expanded Olympia conference room. The increase in size will be helpful for large mediation sessions and staff meetings. There is also a smaller conference room within the PERC office. Negotiations have resulted in the United States Department of Agriculture taking over the second floor conference room.
2. The 37th Annual Labor and Employment Relations Association Conference was held on April 3 and 4, 2014. There were over 500 registrants. The evaluations and comments are still being reviewed. Mike thanked Lisa Hartrich and Christy Yoshitomi, for their participation and work on the conference standing committee. The Commission also extended their thanks to Lisa and Christy, as well as Robbie Duffield and Joy Rolfer for

their assistance with the technical aspects of the conference. Mike noted that the conference is a big undertaking.

3. Mike reviewed recent case filings. February filings were down, while March filings were about average for the agency. There were 54 cases filed in March. Two cases opened involving the Washington State Ferries. There were 64 cases closed during the month. Filings during the first two weeks of April have picked up. Fewer cases are going to hearing.
4. Mike reported that issuance of decisions seems to be down during the first quarter of 2014. Most of the decisions issued have been in the unit clarification field with interesting issues. There are two cases on the Yellow List (cases ready for decision 45 – 89 days) and no cases on the Red List (cases ready for decision more than 90 days).
5. This is a state employee bargaining year. Bargaining should begin soon. Washington State Ferries units have selected their arbitrators for interest arbitration by now, if an arbitrator is needed, although mediation is not mandatory. Interest arbitration for Corrections (jailers) was modeled after state troopers and homecare workers
6. Mike reported the agency is currently hiring to fill the Labor Relations Adjudicator/Mediator (LRAM) position previously held by Robin Romeo. Testing is taking place now. Interviews will be held by April 28.
7. Mike informed the Commission that the agency strategic plan has been finalized and the management team will review it at their meeting tomorrow. The plan looks at best practices for the agency. A Client Consultation Committee may be formed to provide feedback. Electronic or telephonic elections also may be considered in the future.
8. The agency budget will allow more staff LRAMs to attend the Association of Labor Relations Agencies (ALRA) conference in Seattle in June 2014.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

There was nothing new to report following the end of the session.

COMPLIANCE DOCKET

There were no cases to report at this meeting.

COURT DOCKET

Appeals Administrator Charity Atchison reviewed the pending court cases and offered updated information where available. The monthly Court Docket is available on the agency website.

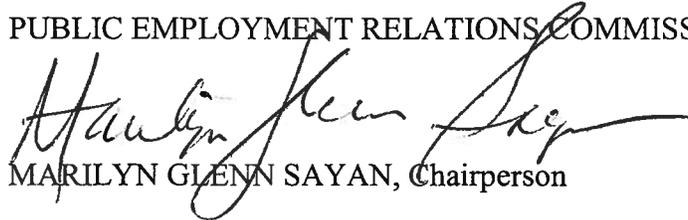
ADJOURNMENT

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 cases before the Commission.

PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS COMMISSION


MARILYN GLENN SAYAN, Chairperson


THOMAS W. McLANE, Commissioner


MARK E. BRENNAN, Commissioner

ATTEST:


MICHAEL P. SELLARS
Executive Director