



STATE OF WASHINGTON

PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS COMMISSION

MICHAEL P. SELLARS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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MINUTES

May 12, 2015

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
Joye D. Rolfer, Confidential Secretary
Jessica J. Bradley, Compliance Officer

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held March 10, 2015, were adopted as presented.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

1. Mike reported on case statistics. There were 77 cases opened and 67 cases closed in March and 56 cases opened and 53 closed in April. Case filings were up due to the window period for state contacts during the month of March.
2. The 38th annual northwest chapter LERA conference was well attended in April. It is the largest chapter conference in the country. We were pleased there were over 450 registered, especially with the ABA conference being held the same time in Seattle. Christy Yoshitomi was the agency lead on the LERA planning committee and Lisa Hartrich will now be taking that role with the addition of Dario de la Rosa and Jessica Bradley as new additions to the conference planning committee.
3. The Association of Labor Relations Agencies (ALRA) conference is scheduled for July 18 – 21 in Minneapolis, Minnesota this year. Registration is now open online, and Mike will be participating in 2 workshops on the program. Commissioner Sayan will be attending this year. The ALRA conference for 2016 will be in Halifax, Nova Scotia.
4. Dianne Ramerman has been promoted to Field Service Manager in the Kirkland office. Dianne filled the vacancy left when Christy Yoshitomi accepted a position with the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service. The vacant Field Service Manager position left when Mark Downing retired will not be filled until we receive news on the budget.



5. Mike reported that we are currently recruiting to fill one or more vacant Labor Relations Adjudicator/Mediator positions. He is currently working on revising the hiring and testing for these positions to include a mediation testing component.
6. Diane Thovsen will be retiring at the end of June and we will be filling behind her with a temporary position until we are able to determine what duties the position will have after the implementation of the new case management system.
7. A contract has been signed to implement a new case management system from Vertiba. The system is expected to go live June 26.
8. The website revision is in progress. The new site will allow us to make revisions and update content. It will include a new look and will eventually allow electronic filing.
9. Mike recently presented at the Arbitrator's Day Conference in Portland, the Washington State Council of Firefighters conference in Vancouver, and the Association of Washington Cities, Labor Relations Institute in Yakima. He will be speaking at the University of Washington Law School this week, and also has a presentation on training at the National LERA conference in Pittsburgh at the end of the month.
10. The Teacher Strikes happening in the state are 1 day walk outs directed against the legislature rather than the school districts, so we have no role in the strikes. We are anticipating an active year with school district mediations.
11. Mike reported that Kristi Aravena and Page Garcia recently conducted mediation with the Teacher Assistant's represented by the UAW at the University of Washington and reached an agreement.
12. Charity Atchison will be returning from maternity leave in June and will be attending the Commission meeting on June 9.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Mike updated the commission on legislative bills affecting the agency and collective bargaining.

Mike reported that the bill regarding the transfer of work to the Office of Administrative Hearings died because the Senate did not concur with the House modifications and the House did not concur with the modifications made by the Senate.

COMPLIANCE DOCKET

Compliance Officer Jessica Bradley reviewed the following cases:

Yakima County, Case 23986-U-11-6135. The case was reviewed. The posting and reading requirements are complete. Ms. Bradley recommended closure of the case. The Commission unanimously accepted compliance in this matter, and the case will now be closed.

Port of Anacortes, Case 26287-U-14-6708. The case was reviewed. The posting and reading requirements are complete. Ms. Bradley recommended closure of the case. The Commission unanimously accepted compliance in this matter, and the case will now be closed.

Seattle School District, Case 26385-U-14-6734. The case was reviewed. The posting and reading requirements are complete. Ms. Bradley recommended closure of the case. The Commission unanimously accepted compliance in this matter, and the case will now be closed.

Everett Community College, Case 23327-U-10-5942. The case status was reviewed. The Commission issued a decision March 9, 2015 ordering a compliance hearing. Dianne Ramerman will be conducting the hearing.

COURT DOCKET

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

OTHER BUSINESS

The Commission reviewed applications for the Dispute Resolution Panel from:

1. Richard Ahearn to be included on the Interest Arbitration list in addition to the Grievance list.
2. Mark Downing to be included on both the Grievance and Interest Arbitration lists.

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