



STATE OF WASHINGTON

PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS COMMISSION

MICHAEL P. SELLARS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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MINUTES

August 13, 2013

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
Charity Atchison, Appeals Administrator
David I. Gedrose, Compliance Officer

Also present and participating:

Harry Thompson, Puget Sound Metal Trades Council/IBEW
William R. Kenny, Mason County
Scott Nicholson, Washington State Department of Transportation
Susan Moriarty, Washington State Department of Transportation

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held July 9, 2013, were adopted as presented.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

1. Executive Director Mike Sellars welcomed the visitors attending today's meeting. He reported that for the first time since his arrival there was a drop in filings below the five year average. There were 54 cases filed in July and 66 cases closed. Eighteen cases have been filed so far in August. Last year 91 cases were filed in August; however, this year is



the off year for state employee bargaining. The year 2009 would be more representative for filing statistics. A freeze regarding annual leave begins next week for staff mediators because of potential school mediations. He expects at least one or two requests for mediation to be filed that we are aware of.

2. Mike reported that he, Chairperson Sayan, and Field Services Manager Christy Yoshitomi attended this year's Association of Labor Relations Agencies (ALRA) Conference in Washington, DC. PERC has been an active member of ALRA. Mike noted it is clear our role needs to be that of a leader. For state agencies, Washington is one of the largest members. We are apolitical and vibrant.

Chairperson Sayan explained that ALRA is an organization of Canadian and U.S. agencies. This year Mike was asked to be a member of the Executive Board. The Washington PERC will host the 2014 conference in Seattle.

3. Timeliness of issuance of decisions continues to be a high priority. Mike commended Charity Atchison and the Commission for leading the way with the issuance of 37 decisions since January. The focus is on issuing Commission decisions within 360 days of the record being ready for decision and Examiner and Executive Director decisions within 90 days of the record being ready for decision. The goal is 80% of decisions should be issued within that period. The Commission is currently at 82%, the Executive Director is at 80%, and Examiners are at 60%.
4. The Red List (cases ready for decision more than 90 days) and Yellow List (cases ready for decision 45 – 89 days) were reviewed. The Red List contained four cases in which a consolidated decision will be issued today.
5. The management team is working on the strategic plan for the agency, including the Vision, Mission, and Values. Mike said the word "timely" may be added when the Vision, Mission, and Values are finalized in September. The next step will be to set enduring goals and then to work on strategies.
6. The Commission reviewed the list of open cases for the Washington State Ferries. The list describes each case. This list will eventually be available on the agency website. Harry Thompson (PSMTC/IBEW), Susan Moriarty (Labor Relations Manager for Washington State Ferries), and Scott Nicholson (Department of Transportation) were in attendance and introduced themselves to the Commission.

COMPLIANCE DOCKET

Compliance Officer David I. Gedrose reported on the following two cases:

Mason County, Cases 22423-U-09-5722, 22424-U-09-5723, 22425-U-09-5724, 22426-U-09-5725 and 22427-U-09-5726. Mr. Gedrose reported that the overpayment issue has been

resolved. The collective bargaining agreements have been signed, and the parties agree that the cases can be closed. Mr. Gedrose recommended closure. The Commission unanimously accepted compliance. The cases will now be closed. Commissioner Bradburn expressed her sincere gratitude to David Gedrose, Mark Downing, Steve Irvin, and Karyl Elinski for their work with the parties in this matter. Chairperson Sayan and Commissioner McLane also extended their thanks to the staff. Mr. Kenney said he was pleased to attend the meeting. The parties have collective bargaining agreement through 2015. He expressed his appreciation to the Commission and the four staff members mentioned above for a great job. Commissioner Bradburn noted that the Commission appreciates hearing from clientele.

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.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mike announced that Commission Bradburn's term ends next month following a long and storied career with the agency. Research compiled by Robbie Duffield offered the following statistics for Ms. Bradburn. She was involved in 455 cases as a representative, 344 cases as an examiner, and 354 cases as a Commissioner. At least 300 decisions were issued under her signature, and 241 decisions have issued since she joined the Commission in 2004. Mike said she has definitely had an impact on this agency. Mike said, "We thank you and recognize you for your work." Charity Atchison presented Commissioner Bradburn with copies of her notable decisions before the agency, as a staff member, and as a Commissioner. On behalf of Commissioner McLane and herself, Chairperson Sayan thanked Ms. Bradburn for her writing and editing skills involved in Commission decisions. Commissioner McLane added that he learned a lot from her.

Commissioner Bradburn thanked everyone for their kind words and said it seems odd that this day is here. She added she has many good feelings regarding public sector collective bargaining and the opportunities and intellectual challenges. She will miss it all.

Chairperson Sayan noted that a successor has not been named.

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


PAMELA G. BRADBURN, Commissioner


THOMAS W. McLANE, Commissioner

ATTEST:


MICHAEL P. SELLARS
Executive Director