



STATE OF WASHINGTON
PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS COMMISSION

MICHAEL P. SELLARS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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MARINE EMPLOYEES' COMMISSION

Thursday, May 16, 2013 – 10:00 a.m.
Kalakala Conference Room, 5th Floor
Washington State Ferries
2901 3rd Avenue
Seattle, Washington

MINUTES

Members and Staff:

Catherine M. Roth, Chair
John M. Cox, Commissioner
Mark E. Brennan, Commissioner
Michael P. Sellars, Executive Director
Majel C. Boudia, Confidential Secretary

Others:

Harry Thompson, Puget Sound Metal Trades Council
Susan Moriarty, Washington State Department of Transportation
Catherine Seelig, Office of the Attorney General
Scott Nicholson, Washington State Department of Transportation
Jay Ubelhart, Inlandboatmen's Union of the Pacific
George Capacci, Washington State Department of Transportation
Jeff Duncan, Marine Engineers' Beneficial Association

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by Catherine M. Roth, Chair of the Marine Employees' Commission.

Moved, seconded and carried to adopt the agenda distributed at the meeting.

Moved, seconded and carried to approve the minutes of the March 21, 2013 meeting, as distributed.



ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

1. Executive Director Mike Sellars reported that month-to-month case filings continue to yo-yo up and down. There were 99 cases filed in March and 67 filed in April. Filings for May are off to a rousing start and evenly spread by case type. There was one marine case filed in April and four cases were closed.

The PSRA decertification window period was open from March 3rd through April 2nd. Four or five cases will be processed, two were deficient and were dismissed. Eight cases were filed during the PSRA window period.

2. Mike reported that all parties involved in marine cases are busy, although scheduling has been difficult.
3. Mike reviewed the decisions issued recently by the agency. At the last meeting Mike reported that his focus is on timely issuance of decisions and eliminating the Commission backlog. His hope is to have 80% of the agency decisions issued within 90 days following receipt of the transcript and briefs. The Public Employment Relations Commission Commissioners have issued 23 decisions this calendar year, compared to 36 decisions issued during the previous calendar year. Examiners have issued 17 decisions this calendar year, about twice that of the previous year. There are fewer decisions issued by the Executive Director.

4. Outreach:

- LERA Conference: Mike thanked the clientele for attending the conference. The conference is the largest chapter conference in the country. He also thanked the staff for all their work on the conference.
- Washington State Association of Municipal Attorneys: Mike spoke to this group at their Spring Conference on April 25th regarding trends of cases and discussion of mandates.
- Association of Washington Cities Labor Relations Institute: Mike spoke to this group on May 9th about the goals of the agency and moving forward.

5. As the end of the biennium approaches, the budget appears to be solid. There are two vacancies within the agency. Mike filled the IT vacancy from within the agency, and that position's replacement will be hired. Although there is one other vacancy, he will wait until the end of the special session to make that decision.
6. The Olympian reported this morning that a strike is possible at The Evergreen State College. Mike reported he is reaching out to the parties to offer assistance.

7. Legislature:

House Bill 1608: This legislation would continue the Marine Employees' Commission. The bill passed out of the House of Representative, but did not move out of committee in the Senate.

Senate Bill 5935: This legislation involves right to work legislation. It does not impact the public sector.

8. Chairperson Roth asked about the terms of the PERC Commissioners. Mike reported that Commissioner Pamela Bradburn's term ends in September 2013. She will not seek reappointment. Commissioner Tom McLane's term ends in 2014. Chairperson Marilyn Glenn Sayan was reappointed for the term 2011-2016, although she has not been confirmed by the Senate.

STATUS OF CASES

The list of open cases was reviewed with the Commission. Mike reported that five cases were withdrawn, and an arbitration award was issued on May 7th.

COURT DOCKET

There were no cases to report.

OTHER BUSINESS

Due to a conflict, the June 20th meeting was moved to June 27th. The meeting will be held in Seattle. Susan Moriarty offered to reserve the Rainier Room, if it is available.

There being nothing further to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.