



STATE OF WASHINGTON
PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS COMMISSION

MICHAEL P. SELLARS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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MINUTES

July 14, 2020

The regular meeting of the Public Employment Relations Commission was held
at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom

Those present and participating:
Marilyn Glenn Sayan, Chairperson
Mark R. Busto, Commissioner
Kenneth J. Pedersen, Commissioner
Mike Sellars, Executive Director
Charity Atchison, Appeals Administrator
Dario de la Rosa, Compliance Officer
Emily Whitney, Compliance Officer
Vanessa Smith, Confidential Secretary

Also present:
Peggy Pulse, Department of Social and Health Services

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held on June 9, 2020, were adopted as presented.

Report of the Executive Director

1. There was an uptick in case filings in June. The increase was evenly spread across all case types, but filings are still down overall.
2. PERC staff will continue to work remotely until further notice. There will be no in-person events unless approved by Mike. The first virtual hearing was held in June. Trainings, hearings, and mediations can all be done virtually.
3. Washington State is now estimating a \$9 billion shortfall over the next three years. Furloughs were imposed for state agencies that report directly to the Governor's office, and other agencies were encouraged to implement furloughs. Because we currently have a very healthy variance, PERC did not impose them, but several staff are taking voluntary furloughs through the SharedWork Program.
4. Mediations for state groups with interest arbitration rights are anticipated to begin this month.

5. Mike met with the Clientele Consultation Committee in June. The meeting focused on rule changes as well as how virtual work is going. Two committee members are very busy bargaining on behalf of K-12 parties. About one-third to one-half of contracts will expire this year. It is uncertain whether we will see a traditional teacher mediation season this year.
6. The Governor's office froze the July 1 scheduled pay increases for exempt staff that make over \$55,000 per year. This freeze would have affected only a few PERC staff members. However, those staff members make less than the Labor Relations Adjudicators/Mediators who will get the pay increases, so Mike ensured the affected staff will also get them. Mike is not taking his scheduled pay increase.
7. The Clientele Consultation Committee has until July 15 to provide rule change comments.

Compliance Docket

Snohomish County, Case 130652-U-18. After giving a brief overview of the decision and noting that the parties did not object, Compliance Officer Dario de la Rosa recommended that compliance be accepted in this case. The Commission accepted compliance, and the case will be closed.

Pierce County, Case 130869-U-18. Compliance Officer Emily Whitney provided a summary of the decision as well as the parties' compliance actions and recommended that compliance be accepted. The Commission accepted compliance, and the case will be closed.

Court Docket

Charity Atchison reviewed the pending court cases and provided updated information where available. Pending Commission cases that have been appealed to court are available on the agency website.

Adjournment

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

Marilyn Glenn Sayan, Mark Busto, Kenneth Pedersen, Mike Sellars, and Charity Atchison went into Executive Session for deliberation on cases pending before the Commission.

APPROVED this 11th day of August, 2020.

PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS COMMISSION



MARILYN GLENN SAYAN, Chairperson



MARK R. BUSTO, Commissioner



KENNETH J. PEDERSEN, Commissioner