

STATE OF WASHINGTON PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS COMMISSION

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MINUTES

July 12, 2022

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 Chris Casillas, Labor Relations Adjudicator/Mediator Dario de la Rosa, Compliance Officer & Unfair Labor Practice/Representation Administrator Dianne Ramerman, Field Services Manager Emily Whitney, Compliance Officer Vanessa Smith, Confidential Secretary

Also present:

Joan Ahl, Department of Social and Health Services Herb Harris, Washington Federation of State Employees Lisa Hartrich, PERC, Field Services Manager Cecily Hutton, City of Tacoma Margaret Pulse, Department of Social and Health Services Jamie Siegel, PERC, Labor Relations Adjudicator/Mediator Michael Snyder, PERC, Labor Relations Adjudicator/Mediator Connor Trapp, SEIU 1199NW

Minutes of the Previous Meetings

The minutes of the previous meeting held on June 14, 2022, were adopted as presented.

Before moving to the report of the executive director, Chairperson Sayan announced that Commissioner Pedersen has notified the governor he is resigning effective end of July. Chairperson Sayan and Commissioner Busto thanked Commissioner Pedersen for his years of service, hard work, and commitment to collective bargaining. Commissioner Pedersen wished the Commission the best going forward.

Report of the Executive Director

- 1. Mike echoed Commissioner Sayan's and Busto's comments, thanking Commissioner Pedersen for his service and wishing him well.
- 2. The volume of case filings is trending more toward the historical norm. Requests for training are still down; however, the training team continues to expand its reach with the monthly Zoom sessions as part of The Negotiation Project as well as the PERColator Podcast.
- 3. Mike met with the Clientele Consultation Committee last month. They discussed the annual report's findings that there has been no diminution in the efficacy of our services by offering them only virtually. Clientele is not rushing for in-person services and appreciates our measured approach to in-person events.
- 4. July also brings a rush of work dealing with interest arbitration eligible tables. Mediations are starting to be conducted for these groups.
- 5. K-12 cases started to pick up in May. More of the cases involve classified employees rather than certificated employees.
- 6. The ALRA virtual conference is taking place on July 25 and 26, 2022.
- 7. We are making sure staff is taking accrued leave in July and early August, well before the usual K-12 mediation season.

Compliance Docket

Spokane County, Cases 133084-U-20 and 133085-U-20. Compliance Officer Emily Whitney briefly discussed the history of the case, the Examiner's decision, and the parties' compliance actions. Emily recommended that compliance be accepted. The Commission accepted compliance, and the case will be closed.

City of Lakewood, Case 131503-U-19. Compliance Officer Dario de la Rosa provided an overview of the Examiner's decision and order. At the time of this meeting, the parties were in negotiations and mediating with a PERC staff mediator, and they agreed compliance had been tendered. Dario recommended that compliance be accepted. The Commission accepted compliance, and the case will be closed.

Othello School District, Case 133399-U-21. Dario gave a summary of the case and the Examiner's decision. Because the employer had complied with all aspects of the order, Dario recommended that compliance be accepted. The Commission accepted compliance, and the case will be closed.

Court Docket

There were no court appeal updates to report. A list of pending Commission cases that have been appealed to court is available on the agency website.

Discussion Re: Rules Revisions

Mike explained the actions taken with the rules committee after the November 2021, December 2021, and January 2022 Commission meetings. Before the Commission at this meeting were documents showing the changes made after those meetings and that were sent to the Office of the Code Reviser for formatting. Mike went over each post-meeting change, and he and the rules committee answered questions surrounding these versions of the proposals.

We hope to begin the formal rule-making process in the fall. A schedule for public meetings and the draft rules will be posted on the website and shared with the Clientele Consultation Committee.

Adjournment

There being nothing further to come before the Commission, the public meeting was adjourned at 10:53 a.m.

APPROVED this 6th day of September, 2022.

PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS COMMISSION

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MARK R. BUSTO, Commissioner