



STATE OF WASHINGTON
PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS COMMISSION

MICHAEL P. SELLARS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

112 Henry Street NE, Suite 300 • Post Office Box 40919 • Olympia, Washington 98504-0919
(360) 570-7300 • Fax: (360) 570-7334 • E-mail filings: filing@perc.wa.gov • Website: www.perc.wa.gov

MINUTES

April 9, 2024

The regular meeting of the Public Employment Relations Commission
was called to order at 10:00 a.m.

Via Zoom &
PERC Conference Room
112 Henry Street NE, Suite 300
Olympia, Washington 98506

Those present and participating:
Mark S. Lyon, Chairperson
Mark R. Busto, Commissioner
Elizabeth Ford, Commissioner
Mike Sellars, Executive Director
Charity Atchison, Appeals Administrator
Vanessa Smith, Confidential Secretary

Also present:

Dario de la Rosa, PERC, Unfair Labor Practice/Representation Administrator
Lisa Hartrich, PERC, Field Services Manager
Jamie Siegel, PERC, Labor Relations Adjudicator/Mediator
Page Todd, PERC, Labor Relations Adjudicator/Mediator

Commissioners Busto and Ford welcomed newly appointed Commissioner Mark Lyon.

Minutes of the Previous Meetings

The minutes of the previous meeting held on March 19, 2024, were adopted as presented.

Report of the Executive Director

1. On behalf of staff, Mike welcomed Commissioner Lyon.
2. The pace of filings continued to be high through the end of March, and the volume of cases is outpacing the first-quarter volumes of previous years. The number of unfair labor practice complaints is generally the same, while the number of contract mediation requests is rebounding from last year's low. Representation, unit clarification, and conflict prevention work continues to be high. The percentage of unfair labor practice complaints filed by self-represented individuals dropped in 2023, but so far in 2024 that number stands at 53%. We are working on resources for self-represented litigants.

3. PERC and the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service (FMCS) put on the LERA conference in Tacoma last month. It was a successful conference with over 400 attendees, and the feedback has been very positive. Mike thanked Lisa Hartrich, Dario de la Rosa, Matt Greer, Joye Rolfer, Vanessa Smith, Lynn Eccles, Robbie Duffield, and Terri Iverson for all their work in planning and supporting the conference. Mike also expressed thanks to the staff who made presentations or moderated and to the FMCS. The National Labor Relations Board is no longer involved in the LERA planning committee, but the Alaska Labor Relations Agency has joined PERC and the FMCS as a conference sponsor.

Court Docket

Charity provided an update on the three cases currently pending in court. Lists of pending cases that have been appealed to court or the Commission are available on the agency website.

Consideration of Dispute Resolution Panel Application

The Commission reviewed and unanimously accepted the application of Heidi Parker for membership on the Dispute Resolution Panel. Arbitrator Parker will be referred for grievance arbitration cases.

Adjournment

There being nothing further to come before the Commission, the public meeting was adjourned at 10:36 a.m.

APPROVED at Olympia, Washington, this 14th day of May, 2024.

PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS COMMISSION



MARK S. LYON, Chairperson



MARK R. BUSTO, Commissioner



ELIZABETH FORD, Commissioner