



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

June 13, 2024

The regular meeting of the Public Employment Relations Commission
was called to order at 10:02 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
Joye Rolfer, PERC, Communications Consultant
Jamie Siegel, PERC, Labor Relations Adjudicator/Mediator
Katie Sypher, PERC, Labor Relations Adjudicator/Mediator
Herb Harris, Washington Federation of State Employees

Minutes of the Previous Meetings

The minutes of the previous meeting held on May 14, 2024, were adopted as presented.

Report of the Executive Director

1. Today's case report focused on conflict prevention cases. As seen in the numbers, this case type was most impacted by the pandemic even though we continued to offer those services virtually. We noticed an increase last fall, and the year-end numbers showed we were on par with our high. This year, we were two-thirds to the highest number as of May, and 56 requests have been received as of the date of this meeting. Through our conflict prevention services, we help parties have a better foundation moving forward and give them the tools to work through disputes. We have expanded our offerings in the time that Mike has been at PERC, and we also provide custom training.
2. Our newest legal assistant, Stephanie Ballou, joined us on May 20. Stephanie came to us from the Administrative Office of the Courts, and it is great to have her on board.

3. We have begun interviewing internal candidates for the administrative services manager position and hope to have someone announced by next week.
4. This is the last fiscal month of the first year of the biennial budget. We are under budget for the biennium and the year.
5. We are holding an all-staff meeting this month. Barbara Diamond, an arbitrator from Portland, Oregon, will give a presentation on neurodiversity. This presentation was very well received at the recent LERA conference. Additionally, we will use the opportunity of being together to celebrate the professional staff and hear a refresher on public records.

Court & Commission Docket

Charity provided an update on the cases pending in court. The Commission was recently affirmed in one of the Washington State Language Access Provider cases and a mandate has been filed. The Commission has seven cases on its docket. Lists of pending cases that have been appealed to court or the Commission are available on the agency website.

Discussion Re: Rules Revisions

We are seeking to begin rulemaking to create a compliance rule and to implement SB 6060. Drafts of proposed rules were sent to the Commission before this meeting.

Mike provided some background information as to why a compliance rule is needed and then described the proposed process. A discussion followed.

Next, Mike explained the changes necessitated by the passage of SB 6060. Another discussion followed.

The next steps in the rulemaking and stakeholder input process were discussed. The Commission will be kept apprised of progress along the way.

Adjournment

There being nothing further to come before the Commission, the public meeting was adjourned at 11:12 a.m.

APPROVED at Olympia, Washington, this 13th day of August, 2024.

PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS COMMISSION



MARK S. LYON, Chairperson



MARK R. BUSTO, Commissioner



ELIZABETH FORD, Commissioner