

WASHINGTON STATE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

**COMMISSION MEETING
SEPTEMBER 25, 2014, @ 9:30AM
711 S. CAPITOL WAY, SUITE 402
OLYMPIA, WA 98504**

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

Commissioners: Steve Hunt, Chair; Clarence Henderson, Commissioner; Charlene Strong, Commissioner; Shawn Murinko, Commissioner; Lenore Three Stars, Commissioner.

Staff: Sharon Ortiz, Executive Director; Cheryl Strobert, Asst. Director; Stacia Hollar, AAG; Isaac Williamson, AAG; Laura Skinner, Commission Clerk.

OPENING AND WELCOME

Chair Hunt called the meeting to order at 9:36AM.

MINUTES

Commissioner Murinko made motion to adopt August 28, 2014 meeting minutes; Commissioner Strong seconds; motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Nicholas Flynn, Complainant, spoke regarding his case and the disputes he has with the finding; Commissioner's agreed to pull case for further review.

CASE CLOSURES

Commissioner Three Stars had questions regarding a few cases; Commissioner's and Director Ortiz went over the questions and cases.

Commissioner Henderson and Commissioner Murinko abstain from Block v. WA Bar Association; Commissioner Murinko abstains from Stamper v. WA ST DOT.

Chair Hunt abstains from Kim v. Holland America.

Commissioner Strong made motion to approve Block v. WA Bar Association; Commissioner Three Stars seconds; motion carried.

Commissioner Henderson made motion to approve Kim v. Holland American; Commissioner Strong seconds; motion carried.

Commissioner Three Stars made motion to approve Stamper v. WA ST DOT; Commissioner Henderson seconds; motion carried.

Commissioner Strong made motion to approve remaining cases; Commissioner Henderson seconds; motion carried.

ED REPORT

Director Ortiz informed the Commissioners of the upward modification received from the EEOC, 215 additional cases and applied for a grant from EEOC to translate our employment brochure into 9 languages; discussed 2 RC cases; HUD review completed, passed all areas; attended several meetings and in the process of organizing meetings with interested stakeholders regarding the pursuit of the service animal legislation; discussed the ongoing budget issues and outreach that was conducted.

COMMISSIONER REPORTING

Commissioner Henderson stated he has talked to schools regarding the youth presentation; mentioned being approached to take part in the juvenile disparities.

Commissioner Strong stated she has 2 schools on board for the youth presentation program; attended IAORHA; attended the civil rights event at the capitol; mentioned the International Human Rights Commissioner, in process of starting a Seattle chapter.

Commissioner Murinko stated he will be speaking this weekend for Disability Rights Washington on September 27, 2014; will be speaking at WA ST DOH on October 9, 2014.

Commissioner Murinko made the announcement to Commissioner's and staff he is resigning, October 23, 2014 will be his last meeting.

BREAK AT 10:38AM
RESUME MEETING AT 10:55AM

AAG Update

AAG Hollar discussed text messages on personal cell phones, subject to disclosure; okay clear out transitory messages; will find out how to retain messages on your cell phone.

TRAVEL PROCEDURES

Director Ortiz went over travel procedures; need all receipts for hotel stays.

Commissioner Hunt informed Commissioners he will not be in attendance at the October 23, 2014 meeting, on vacation.

Commissioner Three Stars stated she will be in Chicago on October 23, 2014; will try and phone in for meeting.

Commissioner Strong asked if we could change the start time of Commission meetings to 10am when they are in person; Commissioner Clerk will make change with Code Reviser's office.

Director Ortiz asked the Commissioners to advocate for the service animal legislation, meet with the legislatures.

COMMISSION MEETING PLANNING FOR 2015

Commissioner's and Director Ortiz discussed dates and locations for the following for 2015:

Jan 22, 2015 Tacoma, Commissioner Henderson to secure location.
Feb 26, 2015 Olympia
Mar 26, 2015 SOCR, Clerk to secure location.
Apr 23, 2015 Olympia
May 28, 2015 Olympia
Jun 25, 2015 Olympia
Jul 23, 2015 Olympia
Aug 27, 2015 Conference call
Sep 24, 2015 Olympia
Oct 22, 2015 Olympia
Nov 19, 2015 Conference call
Dec 17, 2015 Conference call

RETURN TO PUBLIC COMMENT

Nicholas Flynn spoke again asking the Commissioner's to review his case and the investigation.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Commission will move into Executive Session:

Pursuant to RCW 42.30.110 (g) and (i), the Commission shall move into closed session for the purpose of reviewing performance of an employee and discussing litigation with legal counsel and reconvene on the record at approximately within 30 minutes.

Began at 11:25AM

Resumed on record at 11:42AM

ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:44AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Skinner
Commission Clerk