



Metropolitan Human Relations Commission

October Commission Meeting
October 2, 2023 | 12:00 PM
Metro Conference Room
2310 Parnell Avenue Fort Wayne, IN 46805

Meeting called by: Statutory Monthly Meeting
Type of meeting: Commission Meeting on the first Monday of each month.
Note taker: Nikki Quintana, Executive Director

Metro Commissioners: Aisha Arrington, Chair; Tabitha Ervin, Vice Chair; Dorian Maples; Lana Keesling; Larry Wardlaw; Dr. David Lombard; and Tony Burrus

Agenda: Call to Order
Roll Call of Commissioners
Reading of Minutes
Office Report
Old Business
New Business
Concerns/Comments from the Public
Adjournment

Call to Order/Roll Call: 12:04 P.M.
Commissioners Present: Arrington (in-person)
Ervin (in-person)
Burrus (in-person)
Wardlaw (in-person)
Lombard (in-person)
Keesling (not present)
Maples (not present)
Other Persons Present: Nikki Quintana, Executive Director
Jenny Gosheff, Staff Attorney
Leslie Hernandez, Administrative Assistant

- September 11th meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

Office Report

EEOC

Employment Case Processing (10/1/22 – 9/30/23)

Intakes (by 9/30/23): 130 (contract number) 109 (current status)

Contract number of case closures by 9/30/23: 230

- 178 No Probable Cause Cases
- 35 Settlements (\$134,174.12)
- 7 Withdrawals
- 3 Lack of Jurisdiction
- 7 Right to Sue or Full Credit Transfer to the EEOC

HUD

Housing Case Processing (7/1/23 - 6/30/24):

3 Cases closed for Contract

- 1 HUD Settlement
- 0 Lack of Jurisdiction/Withdraw/Admin
- 2 No Reasonable Cause
- 0 Withdraw after Resolution
- 0 Reasonable Cause
- 0 Judicial Closures

23 Pending (Open being investigated)

Attended Events/Outreach:

September 7, 2023: Director Quintana attended the Mayor's Commission on Domestic Violence, Rape, and Sexual Harassment monthly meeting.

September 11, 2023: Director Quintana attended the Gateways for Growth Committee meeting.

September 11, 2023: Director Quintana attended the Immigrant Report Card presentation at the downtown Allen County Public Library.

September 13, 2023: Director Quintana attended the Economic Development Summit of Greater Fort Wayne.

September 14 and 26, 2023: Director Quintana attended the City Management Training Program.

September 15, 2023: Director Quintana attended the Welcoming Fort Wayne Awards.

September 19, 2023: Investigators Kinchen and Kelsaw attended the Fair Housing Center of Central Indiana's State of Fair Housing in Indiana virtual training.

September 21, 2023: Director Quintana attended the Latinos Count Event in celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month.

September 27, 2023: Staff Attorney Gosheff and Director Quintana attended the Recent Developments in Employment Law training webinar.

Personnel Issues:

We are still in the interview process for the open investigator position.

Budget/Calendar of Events:

Admin Hernandez reviewed current budget status and went over calendar of events.

Legal Update/Matters:

Mediations: The Commission did not conduct mediations or conciliations.

New Business:

- **City Language Access Plan & Services**

We currently have our own language access plan and use our own phone interpreting service. The City of Fort Wayne has rolled out their new language access plan and services, so we will be using that moving forward. Director Quintana will be in contact with Risk Management to find out more about the cost of this new plan.

- **Legal Services**

Director Quintana requested an approval of \$30,000, from HUD funds, to cover legal fees from ongoing cases in litigation.

Motion to approve: Commissioner Burrus

2nd: Commissioner Ervin

Approved unanimously.

- **2024 Fair Housing Summit**

We are already planning our 2024 Fair Housing Summit with OHNS and we have set the date for Wednesday, April 24, 2024.

- **Current Case Age: 109.14**

Old Business:

Concerns From the Public:

Meeting Adjourned at 12:13 pm