



Metropolitan Human Relations Commission

February Commission Meeting
February 3, 2025 | 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:

Tabitha Ervin, Chair; Aisha Arrington, Vice Chair; Lana Keesling; Larry Wardlaw; Tony Burrus; and John P. Gardner

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:

12:02 P.M.

Commissioners Present:

Ervin (in-person)
Arrington (in-person)
Wardlaw (in-person)
Burrus (in-person)
Keesling (not present)
John P. Gardner (virtual)

Other Persons Present:

Nikki Quintana, Executive Director
Lakisha Woods, Staff Attorney
Leslie Hernandez, Administrative Assistant

- January 6th meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

Office Report

EEOC

Employment Case Processing (10/1/24 – 9/30/25)

Intakes (by 9/30/25): 120 (contract number) 41 (current status)

Contract number of case closures by 9/30/25: 250

- 60 No Probable Cause Cases
- 8 Settlements (\$27,700)
- 1 Withdrawals
- 2 Lack of Jurisdiction
- 2 Right to Sue or Full Credit Transfer to the EEOC

HUD

Housing Case Processing (7/1/24 - 6/30/25):

31 Cases closed for Contract

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

31 Pending (Open being investigated)

Attended Events/Outreach:

January 2, 2025: Director Quintana attended the Mayor's Commission on Domestic Violence, Rape, and Sexual Harassment monthly meeting.

January 15, 2025: Senior Investigator Sorg and Director Quintana attended the Region V All FHAP (Fair Housing Assistance Program) Meeting.

January 15, 2025: Investigator Guayamo attended the Fair Housing Center of Central Indiana's Housing Disability webinar.

January 16, 2025: Senior Investigator Sorg conducted fair housing training per agreement.

January 20, 2025: Director Quintana attended the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Unity Day Celebration.

January 21-24, 2025: Investigator Kemp attended the National Fair Housing Training Academy: Basics of Fair Housing virtual training.

January 22, 2025: Investigator Kelsaw and Senior Investigators Eanes and Sorg attended the Fair Housing Center of Central Indiana's Hot Topics webinar.

January 23, 2025: Investigator Guayamo, Staff Attorney Woods, Director Quintana and Commissioner Gardner attended the Indiana Tech University Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Celebration Breakfast.

January 29, 2025: Director Quintana attended the Greater Fort Wayne Women's Network monthly meeting.

January 29, 2025: Staff Attorney Woods attended the Fair Housing Center of Central Indiana's Housing Impacts webinar.

January 29, 2025: Investigator Kemp attended the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's Writing Analysis virtual training.

Personnel Issues:

We are in final rounds of interviews and hope to make two job offers in the coming weeks. The Communications and Outreach Intern, Ehlay Htoo, started last week and will be working through April 2025. Intern Htoo introduced herself to the Commission.

Budget/Calendar of Events:

Admin Hernandez reviewed the current budget and calendar of events.

Legal Update/Matters:

Mediations: There was one mediation conducted in the month of January and that mediation failed.

New Business:

- **2025 Media Plan**

Director Quintana reviewed the 2025 Media Plan with the Commission. She requested approval to spend \$21,150 on the media plan, with \$18,150 being charged from HUD funds and \$3,000 being charged from EEOC funds.

Motion to approve: Commissioner Burus

2nd: Commission Vice Chair Arrington

Approved.

Commissioners requested a list of stations where our ads will be playing.

- **Vehicle Fees**

The Metro car was turned in on January 6th. Director Quintana followed up on garage fees being paid for that car and she found out that those fees are paid in arrears, and we will still be charged until the end of the year.

- **Fair Housing Summit – April 23rd**

Director Quintana reminded Commissioners of the 2025 Fair Housing Summit and requested they let her know if they plan on attending so she can register them.

Current Case Age: 172.86

Old Business:

Concerns From the Public:

Meeting Adjourned at 12:26 p.m.