



METROPOLITAN HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

October 4, 2021

4:30 PM

METRO CONFERENCE ROOM

2310 PARNELL AVENUE

FORT WAYNE, IN 46805

Teleconference: 260-427-8590 PIN: 568383

Meeting called by:

STATUTORY MONTHLY MEETING

Type of meeting:

FIRST MONDAY OF EACH MONTH

Note taker:

Abigail Reyes, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT IV

**Metro
Commissioners:**

Lana Keesling, Chair; Aisha Arrington, Vice Chair; Dorian Maples; Larry Wardlaw; Tabitha Ervin; 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 and Roll Call at 4:37 p.m.

Commissioners Arrington, Wardlaw, Ervin, and Burrus present.

**Other Persons
Present:**

Nikki Quintana, Executive Director

Jenny Gosheff, Staff Attorney

Abigail Reyes, Administrative Assistant IV

- September 13th meeting minutes were adjusted and approved.

OFFICE REPORT

EEOC

EMPLOYMENT CASE PROCESSING (10/1/20 – 9/30/21)

- **Intakes (by 9/30/21): 110 (contract number) 76 (current status)**
- **Contract number of case closures by 9/30/21: 275**
 - o 238 No Probable Cause Cases
 - o 30 Settlements (143,033.00)
 - o 8 Withdrawals
 - o 5 Lack of Jurisdiction
 - o 2 Right to Sue or Full Credit Transfer to the EEOC

HUD

HOUSING CASE PROCESSING (7/1/21 - 6/30/22):

7 Cases closed for contract

- o 1 HUD Settlement
- o 0 Lack of Jurisdiction/withdraw/admin
- o No reasonable cause
- o 0 With draw after Resolution
- o 1 Reasonable cause

18 Pending (Open being investigated)

ATTENDED EVENTS/OUTREACH:

September 2, 2021: Director Quintana attended the Mayor's Commission on Domestic Violence, Rape, and Sexual Harassment meeting.

September 9, 2021: Director Quintana attended the Diversity Awards meeting.

September 9, 2021: Staff Attorney Gosheff attended the EEOC FEPA Roadshow systems training.

September 9, 2021: Senior Investigator Sorg and Staff Attorney Gosheff conducted fair housing training per a settlement agreement.

September 11, 2021: Senior Investigators Sorg and Woods and Investigator Nancarrow worked an information booth at the Welcome Week Fair at the Jackson Lehman YMCA.

September 15, 2021: Senior Investigator Sorg conducted fair housing training for Upstar Realtors Association.

September 15, 2021: Director Quintana attended the YMCA Ethnic Bridge Building event during Welcoming Week.

September 16, 2021: Director Quintana conducted metro process training in partnership with the YMCA Cultural Awareness training during Welcoming Week.

September 17, 2021: Investigators Nancarrow and Kelsaw attended the End the Violence Resources Forum at the downtown Allen County Public Library. Director Quintana presented at the Forum.

September 20, 2021: Senior Investigator Woods attended the Allen County Work to Include meeting.

September 24, 2021: Director Quintana sat on a diversity panel for NADOHE at Indiana Tech.

September 2021: Throughout the month of September the staff attended virtual United Front trainings

PERSONNEL ISSUES:

We have completed the interview process for the Investigator and Admin III positions. The new

employees will be starting late October.

BUDGET/CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Admin Reyes will take questions and comments.

LEGAL UPDATE/MATTERS:

Mediations: The Commission had one conciliation. The conciliation was successful.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Fair Housing Event**
Registration is now open. We have 127 individuals signed up to attend. Our goal is for 100 individuals to appear.
- **EEOC Outreach Grant**
This was the first year where they make available an additional \$4,000.00 to the different FEPA agencies. In less than a week, they asked us to come up with a plan of how we were to spend it and with who we would partner up with. We did submit a plan and got it approved. We did receive the \$4000.00. We worked with Todd and Liechty Media LLC. We are using the grant for our audio and digital outreach which went live today.
- **October Outreach-**
National Disability Employment Awareness Month - We are supporting Work to Include. Every month we do meet with Work to Include to talk about different events we are having and learn about what they are doing here in the community. In October, they have a press release and different ads going out. Director Nikki Quintana asks to approve of sponsoring Work to Include, which include PSA's in specific areas, our logos on all the boards and any information they have going out. Like last year, we would like to continue to support that initiative with \$1,000.00 this year. Commissioner Arrington moved to support it. Commissioner Ervin second it. The Commission approved this sponsorship.
National Domestic Violence Awareness Month- We are supporting the Silent Witness Display. There are displays of silhouettes of women and children with different facts about domestic violence around the City. We are supporting by having the displays in our entrance way.
Current Case Age: 157.32
- **New Proposal of Time**
Commissioner Arrington asks the Commission about changing the time for the meetings to earlier in the day. Commissioner Ervin is in agreement to changing the time. Commissioner Wardlaw suggests making a poll for everyone. Commissioner Arrington will bring this up again in the following meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

- None

CONCERNS FROM THE PUBLIC:

MEETING ADJOURNED at 4:57 pm