WASHINGTON STATE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES DECEMBER 16, 2021 AT 8:30AM CONFERENCE CALL

ATTENDANCE

Commissioners: Deborah Cook, Guadalupe Gamboa, James Mohr, and Jeff Sbaih.

Staff: Sharon Ortiz, Executive Director; Cheryl Strobert, Deputy Director; Sharon James, Assistant Attorney General; Kristin Lamson, Assistant Attorney General; Susan DanPullo, Assistant Attorney General; Selene Garcia, Customer Service Specialist 2; and Deborah Gonzales, Commission Clerk.

OPENING AND WELCOME

Chair Cook chaired the meeting and called the meeting to order at 8:30A.M.

MEETING MINUTES

The November 18, 2021 and December 8, 2021 Minutes were reviewed and approved.

Commissioner Sbaih motioned to approve the minutes. Commissioner Gamboa seconded the motion, and the motion was carried.

CASE CLOSURES

No cases were pulled this month.

Commissioner Mohr motioned to approve the cases for closure. Commissioner Sbaih seconded the motion, and the motion was carried.

Executive Director Ortiz requested that the Commissioners vote on approval of a case in which there was a successful conciliation by the Civil Rights Unit of the Attorney General's Office. Chair Cook agreed to the consideration of that case after executive session.

After Executive Session, Deputy Director Strobert presented the details of the case of Jodi Marks-Cook v. Cedars Mobile Manor, HRC Case Number 17HD-0259-20-1. A Reasonable Cause finding was issued by Commission staff. After both parties elected to have the matter heard before an Administrative Law Judge in superior court, the Attorney General's Office successfully conciliated the matter between both parties and a consent decree was entered.

Commissioner Gamboa motioned to approve this additional case for closure. Commissioner Sbaih seconded the motion, and the motion was carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Commission moved into Executive Session to evaluate the qualifications of the applicants for public employment for the Executive Director position pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(g). It was anticipated that they would reconvene from executive session into public session at 2:40PM.

Executive Session began at 8:40AM and ended at 2:40PM.

Upon returning from Executive Session, Chair Cook requested a motion to schedule a Special Meeting on December 21, 2021 at 2:30PM to discuss the qualifications of the candidates for the executive director position in executive session.

Commissioner Sbaih entered a motion to schedule the Special Meeting for December 21, 2021 at 2:30PM. Commission Gamboa seconded the motion, and it was carried.

2022 COMMISSION MEETING SCHEDULE

January 27, 2022 at 9:30AM: Via Conference Call February 24, 2022 at 9:30AM: Via Conference Call March 24, 2022 at 9:30AM: Via Conference Call

ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:50PM.

Respectfully submitted by, Deborah Gonzales