



MINUTES

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR THE LOUISIANA COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION MEETING

Date: Thurs., June 27, 2024

Time: 10:00 A.M.

Facilitator: Tamara Jacobson, Chairwoman

Commissioners in Attendance

Present

- ✓ Commissioner Julia Méndez Achée
- ✓ Commissioner Roxanna Foret
- ✓ Commissioner Terry Jackson
- ✓ Commissioner Louis Garrett
- ✓ Commissioner Tamara Jacobson
- ✓ Commissioner Rikki David
- ✓ Commissioner Angela Faulk
- ✓ Commissioner Alison Bordelon

Absent

- ✚ Commissioner Courtney Hunt

Staff in Attendance

- ✓ Exec. Dir. Dr. Leah Raby
- ✓ Christa Davis
- ✓ LeTricia L. Burns
- ✓ Sierra Charles (Student Volunteer / SU Law Student)

➤ *Call to Order*

A commission meeting of the Louisiana Commission on Human Rights was held on Thurs., June 27, 2024, in person, in the Louisiana Workforce Commission - 1st floor conference room. The meeting was called to order at 10:10 a.m. by Chairwoman Tamara Jacobson.

Dr. Raby reminded all that the reason we actually have the meetings physically in person is because of the state's open meeting laws. Because of the pandemic certain restrictions required virtual operation; however, hybrid is allowed but due to the current open meetings laws physical presence is still required.

It was determined that a quorum had been established.

Chairwoman Tamara Jacobson made note that she would have to depart the meeting to attend court; she then requested roll call and roll call was conducted by LeTricia Burns

Chairwoman Tamara Jacobson requested a motion for the acceptance of the minutes of the April 23, 2024 meeting. Motion made by Commissioner Julia Méndez Achée and seconded by Commissioner Roxana Foret. The motion carried.

➤ *Exec. Dir. Leah Raby - Executive Director's report*

- Dr. Raby reiterated, the reason why we do still have the in person meetings is because of the open meetings law, and we have to post the notice at the building that we are meeting and if we did use Zoom, we would have to make the Zoom meeting open; but we did find in the previous administration, when you open the Zoom to everyone's access, you get people from all over the country, and it's not the most favorable thing; you subject yourselves to hackers, and so forth in that regard.
- Since we last met, we attended and participated in the Microsoft 365 end user training.
- The Commissioners were provided access to the new LCHR website for perusal and critique; all recommendations were welcomed and will be shared with the developers.
- The Louisiana Commission on Human Rights and the EEOC have worked on taping a PSA that the governor's office has produced.. Marvis Hicks and I taped it at the Governor's Mansion and we should have it for review at the next meeting.
- Congratulations were extended to Johnny Ross, law clerk. He graduated from Southern University Law Center; and will be transition from law clerk for EOS specialist.
- We currently have two law clerks interning. One student is Amaiya Ewell, and she's volunteering. And we have Sierra Charles who is in the room. She's volunteering with us as well, so we hope to get her acclimated with the commission and then training. And hopefully, she'll take Johnny's spot if she likes being with us.

- Tavion Fairley is with us this summer working through the Big Buddy program.
- We participated with the Cedric Richmond Scholarship Committee Review; approximately 500 young men across the state of Louisiana applied for this scholarship, and we extended it to them through the Governor's office.
- Dr. Raby presented at the “The Mondays with Marvis and Marina on Monday, April 29th” - with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Houston and New Orleans offices - the topic was understanding the Equal Pay Act; over 1200 persons registered to attend this event. However, EEOC only opened it for the first 500.
- The IAOHRA Conference will be held in St. Louis, Missouri in August. It's their 75th anniversary and Ms. Burns and I will be attending.
- Dr. Raby will be the keynote speaker at the EEOC's Excel Conference in August, being held in New Orleans.
- We have met our contact goal with the EEOC for case investigation and requested an upward modification from 73 to 83. One case was rejected, and we are awaiting an explanation. While we met our investigative goal, for the first time we had to request a downward modification in intake from 10-3.

(SHARED THE SAMPLE WEBSITE WITH THE COMMISSIONERS)

Executive Director's report concluded

Commissioner / Chair Tamara Jacobson made a motion to accept the Executive Director's report. Commissioner Rikki David seconded. The motion carried.

➤ ***Unfinished Business***

None

➤ ***New Business***

None

Commissioner Achee proposed the next meeting date on or about Sept. 16, 2024, at 11 a.m. or best consensus – location TBT.

Commissioner Achee requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion made by Commissioner Faulk and seconded by Commissioner Rikki David.

➤ Meeting Adjourned - 10:55 a.m.

Minutes submitted by LeTricia L. Burns