

MICHIGAN CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION
Monday, March 24, 2014 - 1:00 P.M.
Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture and Lifeways
6650 E. Broadway
Mount Pleasant, Michigan 48858

MINUTES

PRESENT: Commission Vice-Chair Rasha Demashkieh
Commission Secretary Jared Rodriguez
Commissioner Agustin Arbulu
Commissioner Linda Gobler
Commissioner Arthur Horwitz
Commissioner Deloris Hunt
Commissioner Linda Lee Tarver
Bradley S. Voss – NEW COMMISSIONER

EXCUSED: Commission Chair Arthur Horwitz

I. CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Demashkieh called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m., and brought welcoming remarks. Former commissioner Mike Zelle introduced newly appointed commissioner, Brad Voss.

II. INDUCTION OF NEW COMMISSIONER, BRADLEY VOSS

Mr. Voss took the Oath of Office and was sworn-in as a Commissioner for the Michigan Civil Rights Commission by Commissioner Demashkieh. Commissioner Voss succeeds Mike Zelle, and his term expires December 31, 2017.

III. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

The Commission approved the consent agenda; Commissioner Demashkieh asked that Director Wesaw provide his report.

Director Wesaw reported on several major activities, including: the success of the All-Agency Meeting, the facilitator Dr. Lee Meadows was exceptional in engaging the staff in productive dialogue towards developing a viable strategic plan for the Department, and the staff was highly engaged in the process; the hearing on the Interpreter Rules Set is scheduled for April 5th at the Michigan School of the Deaf in Flint; the 2015 fiscal year budget process has begun, the expectation is to complete the process by June; met with Brian Breslin from the Governor's Appointments Office regarding filling commission seat vacancies (Hispanic Latino Commission, Asian Pacific Commission, Arab-Chaldean Council), and he indicated that the Arab-Chaldean Council will soon be active.

On Motion duly made (Commissioner Gobler) and supported (Commissioner Rodriguez), the consent agenda was approved. *Motion carried unanimously.*

IV. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES FROM JANUARY 27, 2014

On Motion duly made (Commissioner Gobler) and supported (Commissioner Rodriguez), the meeting minutes from January 27, 2014 were approved. *Motion carried unanimously.*

V. OLD BUSINESS

*Rule 12 Oral Argument: *MDCR, ex rel. Barbara Smith v. CountrySide Townhouses*
Michigan Department of Civil Rights Counsel: David Stringer
Respondent Counsel: Laura Brodeur-McGeorge
Lead Commissioner: Linda Lee Tarver

On Motion duly made (Commissioner Gobler) and supported (Commissioner Arbulu), adoption of the recommended Opinion and Final Order was approved. *Motion carried unanimously.*

**Transcript may be obtained from Hanson-Renaissance Court Reporters of Detroit.*

VI. NEW BUSINESS

GUEST SPEAKER PRESENTATION – Topic: Study of Micro-Aggressions and Other Hostile Encounters Between Tribal Members and non-Natives in Isabella County; by the Isabella County Human Rights Committee

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting of the Michigan Civil Rights Commission adjourned at 3:29 p.m.

Secretary

Director