

MICHIGAN CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING

Monday, July 29, 2019 - 5:00 P.M.

MDCR Detroit Office

3054 West Grand Boulevard, Suite 3-600

Detroit, MI 48202

MINUTES

PRESENT: Commission Chair Alma Wheeler Smith
Commission Vice Chair Stacie Clayton
Commission Secretary Laura Reyes Kopack
Commissioner Regina Gasco-Bentley (VIA PHONE)
Commissioner Ira Combs, Jr.
Commissioner Rasha Demashkieh
Commissioner Denise Grim
Commissioner Jeffrey Sakwa

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

The meeting was Called to Order at 5:03 P.M. by Chair Alma Wheeler Smith. Roll call of the Commissioners was taken to determine a quorum. Commission Chair Smith, Commissioner Clayton, Commissioner Kopack, Commissioner Gasco-Bentley (VIA PHONE), Commissioner Combs, Commissioner Demashkieh, Commissioner Grim, Commissioner Sakwa. With seven of eight commissioners present, quorum requirements were met; voting rights are waived for commissioners meeting via telecommunication, but they can participate in discussions.

Chair Smith indicated that this special meeting was called for the purpose of considering a personnel matter.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no Public Comment.

REQUEST FOR CLOSED SESSION

Director Arbulu requested that his statement be made in Closed Session, in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, Section 8a. **MOTION: Move to Closed Session. On Motion duly made (Commissioner Combs) and supported (Commissioner Kopack), the Request for Closed Session was Approved. Closed Session will be attended by the Commission, the Commission attorneys, Director Agustin Arbulu and his attorney.**

ROLL CALL VOTE FOR CLOSED SESSION

Commissioner Clayton – Y
Commissioner Combs – Y
Commissioner Demashkieh – Y
Commissioner Grim – Y
Commissioner Kopack – Y
Commissioner Sakwa – Y
Commissioner Chair Smith – Y

Motion carried unanimously.

Closed Session attendees exited the meeting room for Closed Session at 5:09 P.M.

Closed Session attendees returned to the meeting room for Open Session at 7:36 P.M.

MOTION: To resume Open Session. On Motion duly made (Commissioner Kopack) and supported (Commisisoner Combs), the commission resumed Open Session. Motion carried unanimously.

Chair Smith:

"The commission met in closed session. All eight commissioners were in the discussion for the closed session, also joined by two attorneys: assistant attorney general Ron Robinson, Jean Marie Miller who is an employment specialist, and Dan Levy who is the law and policy director for the department. The commission, following deliberation in closed session, we have determined that while the conduct of which the director was accused did not violate the law, his behavior fell short of the conduct the commission expects of its director. The commission has determined that a formal reprimand will be placed in the director's file, and that he shall submit to a training and mentorship program to be approved by the Chair and completed before the end of the year. During that training period, the director shall not conduct internal or external training sessions for other public or private entities. I would entertain a Motion to that affect."

MOTION: Move that a formal reprimand be placed in the director's file, and that he shall submit to a training and mentorship program to be approved by the Chair and completed before the end of the year. During that training period, the director shall not conduct internal or external training sessions for other public or private entities. On Motion duly made (Commissioner Combs) and supported (Commissioner Kopack), the action of the commission was approved.

ROLL CALL VOTE FOR ACTION OF THE COMMISSION

**Commissioner Clayton – Y
Commissioner Combs – Y
Commissioner Demashkieh – Y
Commissioner Grim – Y
Commissioner Kopack – Y
Commissioner Sakwa – Y
Commissioner Chair Smith – Y**

Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

The special meeting adjourned at 7:40 P.M.

Minutes Approved as submitted at the August 27, 2019 Commission Meeting.