

MICHIGAN CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING

Saturday, February 29, 2020 ~ 9:30 A.M.
MDCR Detroit Office, Cadillac Place Building
3054 W Grand Blvd, Suite 3-652
Detroit, MI 48202

MINUTES

PRESENT: Commission Chair Stacie Clayton
Commission Vice Chair Laura Reyes Kopack
Commission Secretary Jeff Sakwa
Commissioner Ira Combs, Jr.
Commissioner Zenna Elhasan
Commissioner Regina Gasco-Bentley
Commissioner Denise Grim
Commissioner Portia Roberson

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

The meeting of the Michigan Civil Rights Commission was called to order by Chair Clayton at 9:30 A.M. Roll Call of the Commissioners was taken to determine a quorum. Commissioner Roberson, Commissioner Gasco-Bentley, Commissioner Sakwa, Commissioner Clayton, Commissioner Kopack, Commissioner Combs, Commissioner Grim, Commissioner Elhasan. With 8 of 8 Commissioners present, quorum requirements were met.

APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

MOTION: Move to Approve the Meeting Agenda as submitted.
On Motion duly made (Roberson) and supported (Combs), the Meeting Agenda was Approved. *Motion carried unanimously.*

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no Public Comment.

INTERVIEWS FOR MDCR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

CANDIDATE #1: Shayna Strom

CANDIDATE #2: John Johnson

CANDIDATE #3: Harvey Hollins

CANDIDATE #4: Conrad Mallett

COMMISSION DELIBERATIONS

Following Discussion, the Motion was brought forth:

MOTION: Move to advance Shayna Strom as a final candidate for the position of executive director of the Michigan Department of Civil Rights.

On Motion duly made (Combs) and supported (Sakwa), Ms. Strom advances as a final candidate. *No vote was taken, further discussion was needed.*

MOTION: Move to Withdraw previous Motion.

On Motion duly made (Combs) and supported (Sakwa), the Motion was withdrawn. *Motion carried unanimously.*

MOTION: Move to advance Shayna Strom to be considered as a final candidate for the position of executive director of the Michigan Department of Civil Rights.

There was no Motion made or supported. Ms. Strom does not advance as a final candidate.

MOTION: Move to advance John Johnson to be considered as a final candidate for the position of executive director of the Michigan Department of Civil Rights.

On Motion duly made (Roberson) and supported (Elhasan), Mr. Johnson advances as a final candidate. *By majority vote (5-3), Motion carries.*

Roll Call Vote

Yea: Roberson, Sakwa, Clayton, Kopack, Elhasan

Nay: Gasco-Bentley, Combs, Grim

MOTION: Move to advance Harvey Hollins to be considered as a final candidate for the position of executive director of the Michigan Department of Civil Rights.

On Motion duly made (Grim) and supported (Gasco-Bentley), Mr. Hollins advances as a final candidate. *By majority vote (5-3), Motion carries.*

Roll Call Vote

Yea: Roberson, Gasco-Bentley, Clayton, Combs, Grim

Nay: Sakwa, Kopack, Elhasan

MOTION: Move to advance Conrad Mallett to be considered as a final candidate for the position of executive director of the Michigan Department of Civil Rights.

On Motion duly made (Elhasan) and supported (Sakwa), Mr. Mallett advances as a final candidate. *By majority vote (6-2), Motion carries.*

Roll Call Vote

Yea: Sakwa, Gasco-Bentley, Sakwa, Kopack, Combs, Grim, Elhasan

Nay: Roberson, Clayton

Mallet advances as a final candidate with the highest number of votes; second candidate selected via tie-breaker vote.

TIE-BREAKER VOTE: John Johnson and Harvey Hollins

MOTION: Move to advance John Johnson as a final candidate for the position of executive director of the Michigan Department of Civil Rights.

On Motion duly made (Roberson) and supported (Elhasan), Mr. Johnson advances as the second finalist. *By a vote of 3-5, Motion fails.*

Roll Call Vote

Yea: Roberson, Sakwa, Elhasan

Nay: Gasco-Bentley, Clayton, Kopack, Combs, Grim

Harvey Hollins automatically advances as the second final candidate.

FINAL INTERVIEWS, NEXT SPECIAL MEETING

MOTION: Move to convene a special meeting for final interviews on March 9 or March 11 at 6:00 P.M. in Detroit.

On Motion duly made (Sakwa) and supported (Kopack), the Commission will convene a special meeting for final interviews on March 9th or March 11th at 6:00 P.M. Motion carried unanimously.

MARCH 23, 2020 COMMISSION MEETING

MOTION: Move to set a time of 3:00 P.M. for the March 23rd meeting in Grand Rapids.

On Motion duly made (Roberson) and supported (Elhasan), the March 23, 2020 meeting will convene at 3:00 P.M. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Move to Adjourn.

On Motion duly made (Roberson) supported (Elhasan), the meeting of the Michigan Civil Rights Commission Adjourned at 2:13 P.M. Motion carried unanimously.

The next special meeting of the Michigan Civil Rights Commission is scheduled for March 9th or 11th, 2020; the next regular meeting of the Commission is March 23, 2020.

MINUTES APPROVED AT MARCH 9, 2020 SPECIAL MEETING.

In compliance with the State of Michigan's Open Meetings Act, "the minutes must show the date, time, place, members present, members absent, any decisions made at a meeting open to the public, and the purpose(s) for which a closed session is held; the minutes must also include all roll call votes taken at the meeting." The minutes are limited to these requirements and do not reflect all subject matter that occurred during the Commission meeting. Meetings are audio recorded and kept on file with the MDCR.