

**WASHINGTON STATE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
JULY 29, 2021 AT 9:30AM
CONFERENCE CALL**

ATTENDANCE

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

Staff: Sharon Ortiz, Executive Director; Cheryl Strobert, Deputy Director; Sharon James, Assistant Attorney General; and Selene Garcia, Customer Service Specialist 2.

OPENING AND WELCOME

Chair Cook chaired the meeting and called the meeting to order at 9:33A.M.

MEETING MINUTES

The June 24, 2021 Minutes were reviewed and approved.

Commissioner Mohr motioned to approve the Minutes. Commissioner Gamboa seconded the motion.

CASE CLOSURES

The following case was pulled prior to the meeting:

Hussein Shirwa_ v Seattle Desert Coach

The following case was corrected prior to the meeting:

Swanson v. Fort Vancouver

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

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORTING

Executive Director Ortiz stated that the Commission is conducting rulemaking so that it can charge for the public under RCW 42.56. Ms. Ortiz and Ms. Strobert attended the public hearing which was conducted on July 22, 2021.

Director Ortiz briefly discussed the anti-immigrant incidents that have been occurring in the city of Burien after the city elected a Latino Mayor.

She has also been working with Northwest Fair Housing Alliance (NWFHA) in Spokane and The Fair Housing Senator of Western Washington (FHCW) with the partnership grant with a goal towards developing public service announcements directed to the immigrant community.

The agency is on its way to meeting the EEOC contracts and doesn't believe we are getting an upward modification. Cheryl and the housing investigative team have done an excellent job. The agency now have 4.5 investigators in HUD. The agency is recruiting investigators for the Yakima and Olympia office.

Director Ortiz has officially put in her retirement request and will also be working alongside Chair Cook to begin the recruitment process for the new executive director.

Bill Tomayo is retiring from the EEOC and has done great work helping agricultural workers within the state of Washington and throughout the country.

COMMISSIONER REPORTING

Commissioner Gamboa discussed the recent hate crimes in the city of Burien surrounding Latino and minority candidates in the upcoming elections. Until recently there has not been a Latino in the city council. He proposed that the Commissioners look at this matter to the extent possible.

Commissioner Gamboa suggested a letter of appreciation be sent to Bill Tomayo from the agency for his dedication and hard work during his career with the EEOC.

Commissioner Mohr helped the Spokane County Human Rights Task Force with a \$7,000 grant to support the Hate Report project.

2021 COMMISSION MEETING SCHEDULE

August 26, 2021:	Via Conference Call
September 23, 2021:	Via Conference Call
October 28, 2021:	Via Conference Call
November 2021:	TBD
December 2021:	TBD

ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:17A.M.

Respectfully submitted by,
Selene Garcia