



SAP 9/27/22

**Approved Minutes – Meeting of the Iowa Civil Rights Commission,
August 19, 2022**

- I. Roll Call –
Meeting called to order at 3:00 p.m. Commissioners present in person: Sam Kooiker, Patricia Lipski, Dennis Mandsager, Holly White and Marcelena Ordaz.
- II. Recognition of Staff, Public, and Press –
Staff: Director Stan Thompson, Katie Fiala, Charles Hill, Kaitlin Smith, Shaya Kellogg, Andrea Hoyt, Megil Patterson Colton Schnepf, Frederick Sinkevich and Joe Austen.
- III. Approval of Minutes –
Minutes from the meeting on July 15, 2022, were presented. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Commissioner Lipski, seconded by Commissioner Mandsager. Approved by voice vote. Motion carried.

New Business

- IV. Public Comment – None.
- V. Elect Vice-Chair. Commissioner Kooiker nominated Commissioner Lipski to serve as Vice-Chair. Second by Commissioner Mandsager. Approved by voice vote.

Standing Business

- VI. a. Staff Updates. Director Thompson introduces four new hires in attendance. Update on seven interviews amongst current staff for three Attorney 1 positions and eight advance appointment rates for current staff were submitted to DAS. 37 applicants for open clerk specialist position. Will advertise for CRS opening as well. Mediation program moving along with Mat Gore as lead mediator and September 7 session with volunteers to update on ICRC mediations.
- b. On finances, task force on communications to improve website security and appearance. Grants obtained to cover entire Webpsec cost to perform such upgrades. Planning for FY24 budget has begun.
- c. Filings and closure update. DOM website reports 990 employment closures this year and average time to close went down to 147 days. Local Commission Cooperative Agreements being received and currently same number as last year and added Davenport.

d. Received draft U.S. Commission on Civil Rights report from Iowa Advisory Committee.

- VII. Litigation Update –Katie Fiala provided a case law update, discussing three cases in litigation and has a new housing file.
- VIII. Closed Session pursuant to Iowa Code Section 21.5(1)(c). Motion made by Commissioner Lipski to move into closed session pursuant to code to extent necessary to discuss strategy with counsel on matters presently in litigation or where litigation is imminent or disclosure would likely prejudice or disadvantage the position of a governmental body in any way. Second by Commissioner Mandsager.

Roll call vote taken to go into closed session: Commissioner Kooiker-aye
Commissioner Lipski-aye, Commissioner Mandsager Aye, Commissioner Ordaz-aye
and Commissioner White-aye.

Commission went into closed session at 3:27 p.m.

At 3:47 p.m. motion made by Commissioner Lipski for Commission to come out of closed session and into open session pursuant to Iowa Code 21.5. Second by Commissioner Mandsager. All Commissioner voted aye.

- IX. Commissioner Reports.
 - a. Commissioner Kooiker –No report.
 - b. Commissioner Lipski – Attend statewide summit on mental illness and the court system. Thanks to Sierra Walker for last month’s presentation.
 - c. Commissioner Mandsager – Nothing to report.
 - d. Commissioner Ordaz –Addressed topic at last meeting and apology to Commissioner White for not getting back to a question she posed.
 - e. Commissioner White -Indicated apology wasn’t necessary but appreciated.
- X. Next Meeting(s) 9/23/22 @ 1:00 pm.
- XI. Meeting adjourned by Commissioner Ordaz at 3:52 pm.