



STATE OF IOWA

KIM REYNOLDS, GOVERNOR
ADAM GREGG, LT. GOVERNOR

KRISTEN STIFFLER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Friday, April 5, 2024, at 2:00 p.m.
6200 Park Ave.
Room 126
Des Moines, IA 50321

Approved Meeting Minutes

I. Roll Call

Meeting called to order by Chair Ordaz at 2:04 pm. Commissioner De Kock appeared in person, Commissioners Mandsager, Ordaz, White and Kooiker appeared via Zoom. Absent: Kennedy.

II. Recognition of Staff, Public, and Press

Staff: Kristen Stiffler, Kaitlin Smith; Katie Fiala, Fred Sinkevich, via zoom

Public: Ralph Rosenberg, Betty Andrews, David Walker

Media: None

III. Agenda Approval

Commissioner Mandsager asked to add public comment, Commissioner Kooiker second. Mandsager and Kooiker in favor. White, Ordaz and DeKock opposed.

Commissioner White motioned for approval of agenda as written, Commissioner Kooiker Seconded, Mandsager opposed. All others in favor.

IV. Standing Business

1. ICRC Lobbying

- a. Vote on Commissioner Lobbyist. White suggested appointment of DeKock to assist with the declaration. DeKock said he would accept that appointment. Mandsager noted there was a reporting requirement as well. Motion by Mandsager to designate DeKock as lobbyist opposing SF2385. 2nd by Kooiker. White suggested making DeKock the lobbyist. White offered amendment to remove the limitation to SF2385 and apply to all legislation. Kooiker seconded. Ayes: All. Opposed: None.

2. Bill SF2385 Kooiker asked Betty Andrews from NAACP for brief synopsis of the letter submitted to legislature yesterday. Andrews deferred to David Walker. Walker said the bill would take all of the commissioners' powers and give them to the Executive Director. He noted the bill's language had not been brought to the commissioners or affected parties prior to inclusion in the bill. Mandsager asked Lovell of NAACP for brief history of the commission. Lovell said it dated to 1884, and was unanimous and left to the County Attorneys in 99 counties to enforce as a criminal law. For the next 80 years, he noted the act was ineffective due to the standard of proof beyond a reasonable doubt and a unanimous jury decision. The Katz case in the late 1940s was upheld by the Iowa Supreme Court, and it was a criminal case. The 1964 Civil Right act showed Civil rather than Criminal law was a more effective tool. Iowa soon utilized that standard of preponderance of the evidence, similar to the EEOC. He said the federal commission did find issues with the administrative closure process, but that doesn't warrant ending the Iowa Civil Rights Act as noted.

3. Discussion on the bill relating to gender identity. At the February meeting, Mandsager made a motion to file a lobbyist declaration against HF2082, Don seconded the motion. Kooiker offered a substitute motion to continue the conversation to the next meeting and request for additional data around the

impact to the cases at ICRC and any implications to federal contracts. Holly White seconded the motion. Vote: Yes, White, Ordaz, DeKock, Kooiker No: Mandsager and Kennedy. Stiffler had provided the Fiscal Note/report and that was sent to Commissioners before the meeting. No action taken.

VI. Adjournment Kooiker moved to Adjourn, seconded by DeKock. 2:51 pm

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Marcelena Ordaz
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7/31/2024