



STATE OF IOWA

KIM REYNOLDS, GOVERNOR  
ADAM GREGG, LT. GOVERNOR

KRISTEN STIFFLER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Friday, July 19, 2024, at 1:45 p.m.  
6200 Park Ave.

DIAL - Ledges (20) public  
Des Moines, IA 50321

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82556282365>

### Approved July Meeting Minutes

#### **I. Roll Call Commissioners**

- a. Welcome & Introduction of Commissioner Cheryl Elsloo
- b. Recognition of Agency Leadership

*Meeting called to order @ 1:48 pm. Present: Vice Chair White, DeKock, Kooiker, Elsloo (by zoom). Ordaz was delayed by airport issues and joined by zoom at 3:16 pm. White thanked Mandsager and Kennedy for their service to the commission.*

#### **II. Approval of Minutes from November 2023, January 2024, February 2024, March 2024, April 2024, and April 2024 special meeting**

*Motion by Kooiker to approve the minutes, 2<sup>nd</sup> by DeKock. Includes changing a minor error in the March minutes to note the start time. November minutes not available and continued to the next meeting. Ayes, All.*

#### **III. Acceptance of Agenda**

*Motion by DeKock, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kooiker to approve agenda with Officer Elections moved to end of agenda. Ayes, All.*

#### **IV. Public Comment (oral or written) – pursuant to temporary public decorum rules adopted on May 19, 2023, public comment shall be limited to four minutes**

*No written or oral comments.*

#### **V. Nomination and vote on Commission Officers**

- a. Chair
- b. Vice Chair
- c. Secretary

*Motion by White, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kooiker to continue until August 16. Ayes, All.*

#### **VI. Overview of the powers and duties of the Commission - Presentation by Director Stiffler and AAG Fiala**

*Review of changes in the ICRA since 1965. Most significant change in 2024 other than in 1977. Commission now called Iowa Office of Civil Rights, with 5 commissioners instead of 7, with three main roles: 1) Adopt procedures for operation of commissioners (rulemaking not required), 2) reviewing body for ALJ decisions, 3) make policy recommendations.*

*Discussion of budgeting for operation of commission and strategic plan was discussed. Stiffler supported strategic planning and offered her assistance. White asked about #3, Stiffler said she didn't see an issue with direct communication to policy makers. She said she is a proponent of still having a commission. Stiffler said this is a good opportunity for the commission to quantify and identify goals.*

**VII. Open Meetings - Presentation by AAG Fiala**

*Open Meetings review. New code changes eliminate the reasons on why a commissioner can't attend in person. Requires options for electronic / virtual attendance. There was discussion on the public comment procedure and consensus to discuss review and adoption of the ongoing temporary rules at a future meeting.*

**VIII. Discussion about how Commission will move forward based on new/changed powers and duties of the Commission - Understanding the Commission's Why**

- a. Can schedule future working session for more in depth discussion/planning

*White said understanding focus and structure is important, further discussion on strategic planning and perhaps more frequent meetings to facilitate communication. Discussion on need for outreach.*

**IX. Commissioners' Reports**

- a. Commissioner Don DeKock
- b. Commissioner Cheryl Elsloo
- c. Commissioner Sam Kooiker
- d. Commissioner Marcie Ordaz
- e. Commissioner Holly White

*None except for an introduction from Elsloo.*

**X. Next Meeting**

- a. Discussion of Commissioners of how often to meet and set the next meeting
- b. August 16, 2024 (3<sup>rd</sup> Friday in August)

*Next meeting 8/16 with a pre-meeting strategic planning work session to happen at some point soon.*

**XI. Adjournment**

*Motion by DeKock, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kooiker to Adjourn. Ayes, All. Adjourned at 3:27 pm.*

Signed by:

*Marcelena Ordaz*

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Chairwoman, Marcelena Ordaz

9/18/2024

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Date