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IOWA CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION

STATE OF IOWA

KIM REYNOLDS, GOVERNOR
ADAM GREGG, LT. GOVERNOR

KRISTEN STIFFLER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Friday, October 18, 2024 1:15p.m.
Ledges Conference Room
6200 Park Ave., Des Moines, IA 50321

Approved Minutes

I. Roll Call Commissioners (Chair Ordaz, Vice Chair White, Secretary Kooiker, DeKock, Elsloo)

a. Recognition of Agency Leadership *Ordaz called to order at 1:16 pm. All commissioners present plus Katie Fiala – Asst AG, Kristin Johnson and Kaitlin Smith from staff.*

II. Approval of Minutes from September 20 and October 4. *Motion by DeKock, 2nd by Elsloo to accept, including the October 4 corrections noted by Secretary Kooiker. Motion Carried unanimously.*

III. Acceptance of Agenda *Motion to approve the agenda with moving the Strategic Planning to be next in the agenda. Motion by White, 2nd by Elsloo. Motion Carried unanimously.*

IV. Public Comment (oral or written) – pursuant to public decorum rules adopted on August 16, 2024, public comment shall be limited to four minutes. *No comments and no members of the public present.*

Note: White participate in item VI and then dropped off the Zoom call for another obligation. She rejoined by Commissioner reports.

V. AG Update *Katie Fiala, sexual harassment / civil rights case to Iowa Court of Appeals, and a few other cases pending trial. Her reading of the code (SF 2385 – p82-100 of the bill) is the Commissioners may look at files that are closed. The information in those files would stay confidential. SF2268 changed the animal assistance form.*

VI. Strategic Planning. (from August 16, September 20 and October 4 Planning Session)

a. Discuss budget appropriation for Commission for FY25-26
b. Continued discussion on mission and goals. *White noted she has confirmed other agencies, commissions have concern as well regarding the prior legislation. She is also planning to meet with a legislator soon. DeKock also spoke with a legislator. White provided a draft mission statement for consideration: The Iowa Civil Rights Commission is dedicated to upholding justice and fairness by thoroughly reviewing appeals related to civil rights violations. We strive to ensure that every case is evaluated with integrity, transparency, and respect for all individuals involved. Our mission is to foster an equitable society by promoting accountability and providing a platform for marginalized voices.*

VII. Requirements for Commissioners' annual report and reporting of appeals.
Kooiker asked about the report timeframe, and Smith said she would find out. By consensus this will be on the next agenda.

VIII. Commissioners' Reports

a. Commissioner Don DeKock – Lobbyist *Lobbyist training in November and December, he will be participating in one of the two. He will also be making contact with legislators in the near future.*
b. Commissioner Cheryl Elsloo *Nothing to report.*
c. Commissioner Sam Kooiker – Secretary *Nothing to report.*
d. Commissioner Marcie Ordaz – Chair *Nothing to report.*
e. Commissioner Holly White – Vice Chair *Nothing to report.*

IX. Next Meeting

a. November 15, 2024. *Consensus that November 15 at 1:15 pm. works. Consensus was to have a brief work session on Wednesday, November 6 at 8 am.*

X. Adjournment *Motion by Elsloo and 2nd by White to adjourn.* *Motion Carried unanimously. Adjourned at 1:59 pm.*

Any person needing special assistance or with accessibility needs should contact the Iowa Office of Civil Rights at 515-281-4121 or icrc@iowa.gov.

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Attending the Iowa Civil Rights Commission virtually – please see the below information

The ICRC continues to provide additional options for those wishing to attend virtually. The ICRC meeting will be set up as a Zoom Webinar and will be recorded. This recording will be available on the ICRC YouTube page.

Virtual Public Comment

Signed by:
Sam Kooiker
EE16368C52F94A2...
9/12/2025

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This Zoom link will allow for any individual the opportunity to speak during the public comment portion of the Commission meeting. Please contact the Iowa Office of Civil Rights with any questions or concerns regarding virtual comment during the ICRC meeting at 515-281-4121 or icrc@iowa.gov

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Join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone or Android device:
Please click this URL to join. https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82390004699

Or One tap mobile:
+13052241968,,82390004699# US
+13092053325,,82390004699# US

Or join by phone:
Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):
US: +1 305 224 1968 or +1 309 205 3325 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 646 558 8656 or +1 646 931 3860 or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 719 359 4580 or +1 720 707 2699 or +1 253 205 0468 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 360 209 5623 or +1 386 347 5053 or +1 507 473 4847 or +1 564 217 2000 or +1 669 444 9171 or +1 689 278 1000
Webinar ID: 823 9000 4699
International numbers available: https://us06web.zoom.us/u/kcYsLpTybj

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IOWA CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION PUBLIC MEETING FORUM RULES

Below are the rules adopted by the Iowa Civil Rights Commission on August 16, 2024

Public Comment is the Civil Rights Commission's opportunity to hear comments from you at the beginning of the Civil Rights Commission meeting for items both on and off the agenda. During Public Comment, the Civil Rights Commission receives comments and refrains from speaking. The Chairperson may ask the Executive Director to follow up regarding public comments received. The number of speakers will not usually be limited at the public comment; total length of the comment period is desired to not exceed ½ hour, and may be lengthened at the discretion of the Chairperson.

Anyone who wants to speak during Public Comment Period should do the following:

1. Raise your hand to be recognized by the Chairperson and then come to the podium and state your name and county. If you have handouts, please give them to the Executive Director before the meeting.
2. Be concise and limit comments to four minutes. You may not save your time for later or yield the remainder of your time to someone else. After speaking, please be seated.
3. If you are addressing a matter on the agenda, state the agenda item you are speaking about and if you are speaking on more than one agenda item, arrange your comments in chronological order.
4. Try not to duplicate information that has already been presented.
5. Direct comments to the entire Commission and not to an individual. Questions and issues raised during this time will generally not be answered during this time.
6. Maintain a courteous and respectful manner.
7. If you are the presenter on an item which has been formally placed on the Commission's agenda, this public forum process does not apply, although you are asked to be succinct in your presentation.
8. Iowa law requires certain matters to have public hearings, which have their own comment periods. Comments pertaining to a public hearing item should be saved for that item, and the four-minute comment period will also apply for public hearings.