



TERRY BRANSTAD, GOVERNOR
KIM REYNOLDS, LT. GOVERNOR

IOWA CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION
BETH TOWNSEND
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Minutes of the September 26, 2013 Meeting of the Iowa Civil Rights Commission

- I. Roll Call:** Spicer, Lipski, Williams, Oelschlaeger, Cunningham
Staff: Townsend
Public/press: None
- II. Minutes from July 18, 2013 meeting:** distributed and approved.
- III.** Natalie Burnham, housing mediator, provided training on how mediations are conducted by her in the housing unit. She provided the commissioners with a draft settlement agreement that is typical of that used by the Commission in the case of a Commissioner complaint based on a failed test. She also discussed the compliance monitoring that she conducts including getting follow up with respondents to get certifications that required training and changes to policy have been completed or that the changes have been distributed and publicized. Ms. Burnham also discussed enforcement actions for settlement agreements including district court action. Commissioner Oelschlaeger asked about confidentiality and pre-investigation mediation which was answered by Ms. Burnham.
- IV. Director's Report:** The IPIB decision regarding confidentiality and the ICRC was distributed and discussed including a report of how the process was completed. The commissioners were provided copies of the original August 15, 2013 opinion issued by the IPIB as well as the Brief that was drafted by Ben Humphries and Deb Stewart from the commission asking for a revision to the opinion. (Attached) An updated production chart was provided to the commissioners. (Attached) The First Annual "Be the Change" symposium is coming up on November 1, 2013 and a summarization and schedule of the workshops that were being given was provided to the commissioners. (Attached) Eleven local agencies have signed and returned (or pending signature) workshare agreements including Sioux City (pending signature), Decorah, Council Bluffs, Cedar Falls (pending signature), Ames (pending signature), Clinton, Davenport, Dubuque, Mason City, Iowa City and Fort Dodge. Final numbers for attendees at the State Fair Booth were reported. (Attached)
- V. Commissioner Reports**
- Commissioner Spicer** – Report attached. Attended the Des Moines School Board Forum; served as a mentor to a Des Moines School Board candidate; reviewed the state fair attendee numbers and symposium materials available on the ICRC website.
- Commissioner Williams** – Report attached. Attended Jazz in July in West Des Moines; visited the Holocaust Museum and Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial in Washington DC in July; participated in The Feast of Tabernacles-Sukkot in Des Moines; announced the Iowa Justice Summit to be held October 10, 2013 at Drake University. At the symposium, the disparate impact on minority incarceration rates will be discussed. Reported on public hearings, settlement agreements and commissioner complaints approved and signed within this reporting period.

Commissioner Lipski – No report. Received positive feedback from this year’s state fair booth and expressed appreciation to the staff.

Commissioner Cunningham – Featured speaker at the Leadership Iowa University program speaking to 40 future graduates, providing information about the opportunities in the State of Iowa. Featured speaker at the DMACC Honor Society Banquet.

Commissioner Oelschlaeger – No report.

Next meeting was scheduled for November 21, 2013 at 3:30 pm.

Meeting adjourned after motion and vote to adjourn.