

MINUTES OF MEETING  
NEW JERSEY PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS COMMISSION  
November 23, 2021  
10:00 a.m. by Phone  
495 West State Street  
Trenton, New Jersey

The meeting was called to order by Chair Joel M. Weisblatt.

Present were:

Commissioners:

John Bonanni  
Craig Ford  
David Jones  
Pasquale Papero  
Paula Voos

Also present were:

Christine Lucarelli-Carneiro, General Counsel  
John Boppert, Deputy General Counsel  
Frank Kanther, Deputy General Counsel  
Ramiro Perez, Deputy General Counsel  
Grace Xanthacos, who acted as Stenographer

At the commencement of the meeting, Chair Weisblatt, pursuant to Section 5 of the Open Public Meetings Act, entered this announcement into the minutes of the meeting:

Adequate notice has been provided by the dissemination of a written "Annual Notice of Meeting." On December 10, 2020 a copy of such notice was:

- (a) prominently posted in a public place at the offices of the Public Employment Relations Commission;
- (b) e-mailed to the business offices of the Trenton Times and the Courier Post;
- (c) posted on the agency's web site.

Furthermore on November 17, 2021, copies of an additional written "Notice of Meeting" were posted and sent in a similar manner.

The first item for consideration was the minutes of the October 28, 2021 meeting. Commissioner Voos moved the minutes and Commissioner Ford seconded the motion. The motion to adopt the minutes was unanimously approved (Chair Weisblatt, Commissioners Bonanni, Ford, Jones, Papero and Voos).

The Chair reported that COVID-related issues continue to be predominant in the Agency's most recent case filings. It is likely that the Appellate Division's ruling in the City of Newark's consolidated cases will have a major impact on the filing and processing of cases as we move forward. However, there are many elements of the pandemic, other than vaccine mandates that generate labor-management disputes. We will continue to tackle these disputes and there are some emerging experiences that will guide the way for the parties and the Commission.

Additionally, the Chair believes we are seeing a growing interest in the use of our mediation services to resolve disputes that may have led to litigation or interest arbitration in the past. The Director of Mediation, Mary Beth Hennessey-Shotter, is working hard to emphasize this approach with the parties. If that trend continues to develop, the collective negotiations process will be well-served.

Lastly the Chair reported that the Agency, in accordance with executive service policy, is preparing to return to pre-

pandemic schedules. We plan to maintain vigilance toward protecting the health and safety of the staff and any visitors to the office. As we have kept the office open throughout the pandemic, we are already adept at employing appropriate safety measures.

General Counsel Lucarelli-Carneiro commented on the Jersey City case outlined in the Counsel's Report regarding double time pay during a state of emergency and its potential implications.

The first case for consideration was Trenton Board of Education and Trenton Educational Secretaries Association, Docket No. CO-2014-028. Commissioner Jones moved the draft decision and Commissioner Bonanni seconded the motion. The motion to adopt the draft decision was unanimously approved (Chair Weisblatt, Commissioners Bonanni, Ford, Jones, Papero and Voos).

The next case for consideration was Salem County Sheriff's Office (Corrections) and PBA Local 400, Docket No. SN-2022-005. Commissioner Voos moved the draft decision and Commissioner Bonanni seconded the motion. The motion to adopt the draft decision was approved by a vote of four in favor (Chair Weisblatt, Commissioners Bonanni, Voos and Ford) and two opposed (Commissioner Jones and Papero).

The next case for consideration was Salem County Sheriff's Office (Corrections) and PBA Local 400, Docket No. SN-2022-006.

Commissioner Jones moved the draft decision and Commissioner Voos seconded the motion. The motion to adopt the draft decision was unanimously approved (Chair Weisblatt, Commissioners Bonanni, Ford, Jones, Papero and Voos).

The next case for consideration was Borough of Bergenfield and PBA Local 309, Docket No. IA-2021-016. Commissioner Jones moved the draft decision and Commissioner Ford seconded the motion. The motion to adopt the draft decision was unanimously approved (Chair Weisblatt, Commissioners Bonanni, Ford, Jones, Papero and Voos).

The next item on the agenda was the consideration of resolution for John F. Tesauro, Sr. Commissioner Jones moved to adopt the resolution and Commissioner Bonanni seconded the adoption of the resolution. The resolution was adopted unanimously (Chair Weisblatt, Commissioners Bonanni, Ford, Jones, Papero and Voos).

The Chair asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Bonanni made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved (Chair Weisblatt, Commissioners Bonanni, Ford, Jones, Papero and Voos). The meeting was then adjourned.

The next meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, December 21, 2021.