

MINUTES OF MEETING
NEW JERSEY PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS COMMISSION
May 26, 2022
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
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 May 19, 2022, 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 April 28, 2022 meeting. Commissioner Bonanni moved the minutes and Commissioner Voos seconded the motion. The motion to adopt the minutes was approved by a vote of four in favor (Chair Weisblatt, Commissioners Bonanni, Papero and Voos) and one opposed (Commissioner Jones).

The Chair reported that the Agency is constructively addressing the pressures to respond to our caseload. This requires some flexibility in case distribution and the responsibilities of the various sections of the staff. For example, the counsel staff has taken a more active role in handling motions for summary judgment directly at the Commission level and this has not hampered our timely processing of scope of negotiations disputes. The interim relief cases are being delegated among the staff in an efficient approach to the expedited demands of those matters. We are in the midst of executing plans to replenish staff vacancies where they exist and to expand the staff in order to effectively handle the increased caseload driven by the passage of the Responsible Collective Negotiations Act. Finally, the June Commission meeting will be our last in the COVID-driven resort to telephonic Commission meetings. As usual, there is no July meeting and the August 18, 2022 meeting will be held in person at PERC's offices.

General Counsel Lucarelli-Carneiro commented on oral argument that took place in the 3rd Circuit Court of Appeals in the Lutter litigation, as well as the recently issued City of East Orange Appellate Division case.

The first case for consideration was Ridgefield Board of Education and Ridgefield Education Association, Docket No. CO-2020-061. Commissioner Voos moved the draft decision and Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Commissioner Bonanni is recused from voting on matters involving the law firm of Cleary, Giacobbe, Alfieri & Jacobs. The motion to adopt the draft decision was unanimously approved (Chair Weisblatt, Commissioners Jones, Papero and Voos).

The next case for consideration was New Jersey Transit Corporation (Mercer) and Pamela L. Williams, Docket No. CI-2019-035. Commissioner Papero moved the draft decision and Commissioner Voos seconded the motion. The motion to adopt the draft decision was unanimously approved (Chair Weisblatt, Commissioners Bonanni, Jones, Papero and Voos).

The next case for consideration was City of Newark and FOP Lodge 12 and Newark Police Superior Officers' Association, Inc., Docket Nos. CO-2016-038, CO-2016-196, CO-2020-092, CO-2020-063 and CO-2020-065. Commissioner Jones moved the draft decision and Commissioner Voos seconded the motion. Commissioner Bonanni is recused from voting on matters involving the law firm of

Carmagnola & Ritardi. The motion to adopt the draft decision was unanimously approved (Chair Weisblatt, Commissioners Jones, Papero and Voos).

The next case for consideration was Holland Township Board of Education and Holland Township Education Association, Docket No. SN-2022-023. Commissioner Jones moved the draft decision and Commissioner Papero seconded the motion. A discussion ensued. The motion to adopt the draft decision was approved by a vote of three in favor (Chair Weisblatt, Commissioners Bonanni and Papero), one opposed (Commissioner Voos) and one abstention (Commissioner Jones).

The next case for consideration was Township of Mount Olive and Fraternal Order of Police Lodge No. 122, Docket No. SN-2022-022. Commissioner Voos moved the draft decision and Commissioner Papero seconded the motion. Commissioner Bonanni is recused from voting on matters involving the law firm of Cleary, Giacobbe, Alfieri & Jacobs. The motion to adopt the draft decision was unanimously approved (Chair Weisblatt, Commissioners Jones, Papero and Voos).

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

The next meeting is scheduled to be held on Thursday, June 30, 2022.