

MINUTES OF MEETING
NEW JERSEY PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS COMMISSION
February 29, 2024
10:00 a.m.
495 West State Street
Trenton, New Jersey

The meeting was called to order by Chair Mary Beth Hennessy-Shotter.

Present were:

Commissioners:

Ronald Bolandi
Adrienne Eaton
Craig Ford
Barry Kushnir
Pasquale Papero

Also present were:

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

At the commencement of the meeting, Chair Hennessy-Shotter, 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 15, 2023 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 February 23, 2024, 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 January 25, 2024 meeting. Commissioner Papero moved the minutes and Commissioner Kushnir seconded the motion. The motion to adopt the minutes was unanimously approved (Chair Hennessy-Shotter, Commissioners Bolandi, Eaton, Ford, Kushnir and Papero).

The next item for consideration was the minutes of the February 20, 2024 special meeting. Commissioner Kushnir moved the minutes and Commissioner Ford seconded the motion. The motion to adopt the special meeting minutes was unanimously approved (Chair Hennessy-Shotter, Commissioners Bolandi, Eaton, Ford, Kushnir and Papero).

The Chair advised that the farewell reception held the past week for Chair Weisblatt was a success. The Chair advised that a late request for oral argument that was received in the afternoon on Wednesday, February 28, 2024 in Docket No. IA-2024-002 was denied. The Chair advised that a request to stay the underlying grievance arbitration pending appeal in P.E.R.C. No. 2024-2 was denied. The Chair advised that since we have a full Commission and quorum issues will not arise often, in-person attendance is required for Commission meetings. The Chair acknowledged that the new Commissioners did not have the benefit of the Commission schedule prior to their confirmation, so a grace period permitting calling into the meeting will be observed. The Chair gave a general reminder to the Commissioners that they are

prohibited from speaking with parties regarding matters before the Commission.

The General Counsel commented on cases summarized in the Counsel's Report and advised the Commissioners about the upcoming Financial Disclosure Statement filing deadline.

The first case for consideration was Neptune Township Board of Education and Neptune Township Education Association, Docket No. SN-2024-014. Commissioner Kushnir moved the draft decision and Commissioner Papero seconded the motion. The motion to adopt the draft decision was unanimously approved (Chair Hennessy-Shotter, Commissioners Bolandi, Eaton, Ford, Kushnir and Papero).

The next case for consideration was Township of Maplewood and PBA Local 44, Docket No. SN-2024-016. Commissioner Ford moved the draft decision and Commissioner Eaton seconded the motion. The motion to adopt the draft decision was unanimously approved (Chair Hennessy-Shotter, Commissioners Bolandi, Eaton, Ford, Kushnir and Papero).

The next case for consideration was City of Paterson and Paterson Deputy Fire Chiefs Association, Docket No. SN-2024-019. Commissioner Kushnir moved the draft decision and Commissioner Papero seconded the motion. The motion to adopt the draft decision was unanimously approved (Chair Hennessy-Shotter, Commissioners Bolandi, Eaton, Ford, Kushnir and Papero).

The next case for consideration was Matawan-Aberdeen Regional Board of Education and Matawan-Aberdeen Regional Education Association, Docket No. SN-2024-017. Commissioner Kushnir moved the draft decision and Commissioner Eaton seconded the motion. The motion to adopt the draft decision was unanimously approved (Chair Hennessy-Shotter, Commissioners Bolandi, Eaton, Ford, Kushnir and Papero).

The next case for consideration was City of Paterson and Paterson Fire Officers' Association, FMBA Local 202, Docket No. IA-2024-002. Commissioner Eaton moved the draft decision and Commissioner Kushnir seconded the motion. A discussion ensued. The motion to adopt the draft decision was approved by a vote of four in favor (Chair Hennessy-Shotter, Commissioners Bolandi, Eaton and Kushnir), one opposed (Commissioner Papero) and one abstention (Commissioner Ford).

The next items for consideration were the resolutions of Commissioners John Bonanni and Paula Voos, and former Chair Joel Weisblatt. Commissioner Papero made a motion to adopt the resolutions and Commissioner Eaton seconded the motion. The motion to adopt the resolutions of Commissioners John Bonanni and Paula Voos, and former Chair Joel Weisblatt were unanimously approved (Chair Hennessy-Shotter, Commissioners Bolandi, Eaton, Ford, Kushnir and Papero).

The Chair asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Kushnir made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Eaton seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved (Chair Hennessy-Shotter, Commissioners Bolandi, Eaton, Ford, Kushnir and Papero). The meeting was then adjourned.

The next regular meeting is scheduled to be held on Thursday, March 28, 2024.