

MINUTES OF MEETING
NEW JERSEY PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS COMMISSION
November 17, 2025
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:

Adrienne Eaton
Craig Ford
William Higgins
Barry Kushnir
Pasquale Papero

Also present were:

Christine Lucarelli-Carneiro, General Counsel
John Boppert, Deputy General Counsel
William Campbell, IV, 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 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 12, 2024 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 12, 2025, 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 23, 2025 meeting. Commissioner Higgins moved the minutes and Commissioner Papero seconded the motion. The motion to adopt the minutes was unanimously approved (Chair Hennessy-Shotter, Commissioners Eaton, Ford, Higgins, Kushnir, and Papero).

The Chair advised that the Rutgers University constitutional challenge to the subcontracting amendments of the Act is scheduled for a hearing on January 26, 2026.

The General Counsel commented on the Appellate Division affirmance in the matter of Township of Mount Olive and FOP Lodge 22, P.E.R.C. No. 2025-16, 51 NJPER 166 (¶41 2024) and the filing of a petition for certification in In re City of Linwood, 2025 N.J. Super. Unpub. LEXIS 1769 (App. Div. September 29, 2025).

The first case for consideration was Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey and AFSCME New Jersey Council 63, Local 888, Docket No. SN-2005-020. Commissioner Kushnir moved the draft decision and Commissioner Papero seconded the motion. Commissioner Eaton is recused from voting on matters involving Rutgers. Commissioner Ford is recused from voting on matters involving AFSCME. The motion to adopt the draft decision was unanimously approved (Chair Hennessy-Shotter, Commissioners Higgins, Kushnir, and Papero).

The next case for consideration was Sayreville Board of Education and NJEA Regional Office 11/12 and Elena Makarets,

Docket No. CI-2026-010. Commissioner Kushnir moved the draft decision and Commissioner Papero seconded the motion.

Commissioner Ford is recused from voting on matters involving the law firm of Oxfeld Cohen. The motion to adopt the draft decision was unanimously approved (Chair Hennessy-Shotter, Commissioners Eaton, Higgins, Kushnir, and Papero).

The next item for consideration was Township of Springfield and PBA Local 76 and 76 SOA, Docket Nos. SN-2025-015 and SN-2025-016. Commissioner Higgins moved the draft decision and Commissioner Ford seconded the motion. Commissioner Papero is recused from voting on matters involving the Policemen's Benevolent Association. The motion to adopt the draft was unanimously approved (Chair Hennessy-Shotter, Commissioners Eaton, Ford, Higgins, and Kushnir).

The next item for consideration was County of Hudson and Hudson County Superior Officers Association, Docket No. SN-2025-025. Commissioner Eaton moved the draft decision and Commissioner Higgins seconded the motion. Commissioner Papero is recused from voting on matters involving the Policemen's Benevolent Association. The motion to adopt the draft was unanimously approved (Chair Hennessy-Shotter, Commissioners Eaton, Ford, Higgins, and Kushnir).

The Chair asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Higgins made a motion to adjourn the meeting and

Commissioner Kushnir seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved (Chair Hennessy-Shotter, Commissioners Eaton, Ford, Higgins, Kushnir, and Papero). The meeting was then adjourned.

The next regular meeting is scheduled to be held on Thursday, December 18, 2025.