MINUTES OF MEETING
NEW JERSEY PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS COMMISSION
June 27, 2019
10:00 a.m.
495 West State Street
Trenton, New Jersey

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

Present were:

Commissioners:

John Bonanni
Paul Boudreau
David Jones
Pasquale Papero
Paula Voos

Also present were:

Christine Lucarelli-Carneiro, General Counsel
Don Horowitz, Senior Deputy General Counsel
Frank Kanther, Deputy General Counsel
Ramiro Perez, Deputy General Counsel
Kellie Hullfish, 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 20, 2018 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 June 24, 2019, 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 May 30, 2019 meeting. Commissioner Bonanni moved the minutes and Commissioner Boudreau seconded the motion. The motion to adopt the minutes was approved by a vote of five in favor (Chair Weisblatt, Commissioners Bonanni, Boudreau, Papero and Voos) and one abstention (Commissioner Jones).

Chair Weisblatt started his report first focusing on the fact that we arrived at our office a week ago, Monday, June 17th, to learn that there was a teacher strike that began at 6:30 that morning in Franklin Lakes. Ordinarily, we are alerted to strike potential situations before they arise to make sure that mediation services are available before any crisis occurs, but not so on June 17th. He stated that it is important to reflect that the agency performed nimbly and constructively to provide conciliation services that day. Mary Beth Hennessy-Shotter and Bob Glasson worked as a team to successfully resolve the dispute by 2 a.m. that night. That is exactly the kind of response and service the agency strives to provide the parties and ultimately the public, without bureaucratic technicalities. The Division of Conciliation and Arbitration must be commended for its swift and professional response to the surprise presentation of a crisis bargaining situation.

Chair Weisblatt stated that he had hoped to introduce to the Commissioners our new mediator, Julian Krol, however he has hit
the ground running and is working in the field today with one of
our other staff mediators.

Chair Weisblatt stated all else is well at the agency.

The Counsel’s Office distributed a monthly report.

The first case for consideration was Sussex County and CWA
Local 1032, Docket No. SN-2019-020. Commissioner Boudreau moved
the draft decision and Commissioner Voos seconded the motion.
Commissioner Bonnani recused himself because the law firm
Trimboli and Prusinowski represents the Petitioner, Sussex
County, who also serves as counsel to Morris County. The motion
to adopt the draft decision was approved by a vote of five in
favor (Chair Weisblatt, Commissioners Boudreau, Jones, Papero and
Voos) and one recusal (Commissioner Bonanni).

The next case for consideration was City of Elizabeth and
Commissioner Boudreau moved the draft decision and Commissioner
Bonnani seconded the motion. The motion to adopt the draft
decision was approved by a vote of four in favor (Chair
Weisblatt, Commissioners Bonnani, Boudreau and Voos) and two
opposed (Commissioners Jones and Papero).

The next case for consideration was Northvale Board of
Education and Northvale Township Education Association, Docket
No. SN-2019-033. The parties mutually agreed to have this matter
pulled from the agenda because of a possible settlement.
The next case for consideration was Northern Valley Regional Board of Education and Northern Valley Education Association, Docket No. SN-2019-038. Commissioner Voos moved the draft decision and Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Commissioner Bonanni recused himself because the law firm Cleary, Giacobbe, Alfieri and Jacobs represents the Petitioner, Northern Valley Regional Board of Education, who also serves as counsel to Morris County. The motion to adopt the draft decision was approved by a vote of five in favor (Chair Weisblatt, Commissioners Boudreau, Jones, Papero and Voos) and one recusal (Commissioner Bonanni).

The next case for consideration was Sussex County Sheriff’s Office and PBA Local 378A, Docket No. SN-2019-041. Commissioner Jones moved the draft decision and Commissioner Voos seconded the motion. Commissioner Bonanni recused himself because the law firm Trimboli and Prusinowski represents the Petitioner, Sussex County Sheriff’s Office, who also serves as counsel to Morris County. Commissioner Papero recused himself because he is a PBA member. The motion to adopt the draft decision was approved by a vote of four in favor (Chair Weisblatt, Commissioners Boudreau, Jones and Voos) and two recusals (Commissioners Bonanni and Papero).

The last case for consideration was Township of Old Bridge and United Service Workers Union, Local 255, Docket No. SN-2019-
042. A motion was made to table this decision for further research. Commissioner Bonanni recused himself because the law firm Cleary, Giacobbe, Alfieri and Jacobs represents the Petitioner, Township of Old Bridge, who also serves as counsel to Morris County. Commissioner Papero made a motion to table this matter and Commissioner Voos seconded that motion. The motion to table this decision was approved by a vote of five in favor (Chair Weisblatt, Commissioners Boudreau, Jones, Papero and Voos) and one recusal (Commissioner Bonanni).

The Chair asked for a vote on the November Commission meeting date, which has yet to be determined. The meeting was unanimously approved to be held on Tuesday, November 26, 2019. (Chair Weisblatt, Commissioners Bonanni, Boudreau, Jones, Papero and Voos).

Chair Weisblatt asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Jones made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Voos seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting was then adjourned.

The next meeting is scheduled to be held on Thursday, August 15, 2019.