

MINUTES OF MEETING  
NEW JERSEY PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS COMMISSION  
March 26, 2020  
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  
Don Horowitz, Senior Deputy General Counsel  
John Boppert, 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 19, 2019 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 March 18, 2020, copies of an additional written "Notice of Meeting" were posted and sent in a similar manner.

Chair Weisblatt took roll call, as the meeting was being held by phone due to the coronavirus crisis. All were present.

The first item for consideration was the minutes of the February 20, 2020 meeting. Commissioner Voos moved the minutes and Commissioner Papero seconded the motion. The motion to adopt the minutes was unanimously approved (Chair Weisblatt, Commissioners Bonanni, Ford, Jones, Papero and Voos).

The next item for consideration was the minutes of the Executive Session of the February 20, 2020 meeting. Commissioner Voos moved the minutes and Commissioner Papero seconded the motion. The motion to adopt the minutes was unanimously approved (Chair Weisblatt, Commissioners Bonanni, Ford, Jones, Papero and Voos).

Chair Weisblatt reports that these are truly extraordinary times. The agency is managing to remain productive and fulfill our statutory mission despite the need to respond to the coronavirus health crisis. He stated that the staff is all working remotely to reduce the risk of spreading the virus through inter-personal contact. He said that all in-person case conferences, hearings and mediations have been postponed for at least thirty days. The office remains open with as small a staff present as possible, just to be able to accept service, refer any cases of an emergent nature for immediate attention and provide necessary support for those working at home. Some

responsibilities have been redistributed, for example, mediators are now working on scope files while awaiting the resumption of scheduled mediations. Some dispute resolutions can be accomplished over the phone but most of these functions will have to await the return of more normalized work times.

The Chair announced that the PERC conference scheduled on April 24, 2020 is postponed and rescheduled tentatively for October 9, 2020.

In conclusion, the Chair stated that PERC will remain able to respond to crisis bargaining situations and to manage the remaining caseload through these sensitive times. PERC will maintain its responsibilities as emergent matters do arise during this crisis.

Mr. Horowitz then commented on the General Counsel's report.

The first case for consideration was Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey and AAUP-Biomedical and Health Sciences of New Jersey and Dr. Gaetano G. Spinnato, Docket No. CI-2019-031. Commissioner Jones moved the draft decision and Commissioner Bonanni seconded the motion. Commissioner Voos was recused from voting on this matter because of her employment with Rutgers University. The motion to adopt the draft decision was unanimously approved (Chair Weisblatt, Commissioners Bonanni, Ford, Jones and Papero).

The next case for consideration was Middlesex Board of Education and Middlesex Education Association, Docket No. SN-2020-009. Commissioner Bonanni moved the draft decision and Commissioner Papero 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 Colts Neck Township and Teamsters Local 11, Docket No. SN-2020-012. Commissioner Jones moved the draft decision and Commissioner Ford seconded the motion. Commissioner Bonanni was recused from voting on this matter because the Cleary, Giacobbe, Alfieri & Jacobs law firm serves as counsel to Morris County. The motion to adopt the draft decision was unanimously approved (Chair Weisblatt, Commissioners Ford, Jones, Papero and Voos).

The next case for consideration was Township of Lacey and Teamsters Local 97, Docket No. SN-2020-020. Commissioner Bonanni moved the draft decision and Commissioner Voos seconded the motion. The motion to adopt the draft decision was approved by a vote of five in favor (Chair Weisblatt, Commissioners Bonanni, Ford, Papero and Voos) and one opposed (Commissioner Jones).

The last case for consideration was Willingboro Board of Education and Willingboro Education Association, Docket No. SN-2020-030. Commissioner Voos 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 Chair asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Jones made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Bonanni seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting was then adjourned.

The next meeting is scheduled to be held on Thursday, April 30, 2020.