

**CITY OF LINCOLN, NEBRASKA
COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
MINUTES**

THURSDAY, October 27, 2011
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
555 S. 10TH STREET

The October 27, 2011 meeting of the Commission on Human Rights was called to order at 4 p.m. by Vice-Chairperson Gene Crump.

Bennie Shobe was sworn in by Joan Ross, City Clerk, as a new Human Rights Commissioner.

ROLL CALL:

The roll call was called and documented as follows:

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Commissioners: Jose Quintero, Sue Oldfield, Mary Reece, Bennie Shobe and Gene Crump, Vice-Chairperson. Quorum present.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Commissioners: Wendy Francis, Hazell Rodriguez, Karla Cooper and Takako Olson.

STAFF PRESENT:

Angela Lemke, Margie Nichols, Loren Mestre-Roberts, Rod Confer, Jocelyn Golden and Janice Folkner.

APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 29, 2011 MINUTES:

A motion was made by Commissioner Reece and seconded by Commissioner Quintero to approve the minutes of the September 29, 2011 meeting as presented.

Hearing no discussion, Vice-Chairperson Crump asked for the roll call. Voting "aye" was: Commissioners Oldfield, Reece, Quintero, and Crump. Abstaining was Commissioner Shobe. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 27, 2011 AGENDA:

A motion was made by Commissioner Oldfield and seconded by Commissioner Quintero to approve the October 27, 2011 meeting agenda as presented.

Hearing no discussion, Vice-Chairperson Crump asked for the roll call. Voting “aye” was: Commissioners Reece, Quintero, Oldfield, and Crump. Abstaining was Commissioner Shobe. Motion carried.

CASE DISPOSITIONS:

Commissioner Crump excused himself due to conflict of interest on the following case. Commissioner Reece presided in his place.

LCHR No.: 11-0120-004-E-R

A motion for a finding of **No Reasonable Cause** on all allegations was made by Commissioner Oldfield and seconded by Commissioner Quintero.

Discussion ensued. Commissioner Oldfield inquired as to why there was no written disciplinary action taken on this case. Investigator Nichols explained that the Supervisor prefers to handle things informally and even though there was not a written disciplinary action, he did verbally warn the Complainant as well as sending her an email. Commissioner Reece asked if it was accurate that the Complainant did not attend the meeting on the 30th but did attend a basketball game. Nichols confirmed that was correct.

Commissioner Crump rejoined the meeting. Hearing no further discussion voting “aye” was: Commissioners Quintero, Oldfield and Reece. Abstaining was Commissioners Shobe and Crump. Motion carried.

LCHR No.: 11-0302-012-E-R

A motion for a finding of **No Reasonable Cause** on all allegations was made by Commissioner Reece and seconded by Commissioner Oldfield.

Hearing no discussion Vice-Chairperson Crump asked for the roll call. Voting “aye” was Commissioners Quintero, Oldfield, Reece and Crump. Abstaining was Commissioner Shobe. Motion carried.

LCHR No.: 11-0504-019-E-R

A motion for a finding of **No Reasonable Cause** on all allegations was made by Commissioner Oldfield and seconded by Commissioner Quintero.

Hearing no discussion Vice-Chairperson Crump asked for the roll call. Voting “aye” was Commissioners Oldfield, Reece, Quintero and Crump. Abstaining was Commissioner Shobe. Motion carried.

PRE-DETERMINATION SETTLEMENT

LCHR No.: 11-0721-013-H

A motion was made by Commissioner Reece and seconded by Commissioner Oldfield to accept the pre-determination settlement agreement as presented.

Hearing no discussion, Vice-Chairperson Crump asked for the roll call. Voting “aye” was Commissioners Reece, Quintero, Oldfield and Crump. Abstaining was Commissioner Shobe. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATIVE CLOSURE/WITHDRAWAL

LCHR No.: 11-0307-007-H

A motion was made by Commissioner Oldfield and seconded by Commissioner Quintero to accept the Administrative Closure, Withdrawal.

Investigator Lemke informed the Commissioners that a decision was made to write this respondent a letter after the Complainant decided to withdraw the complaint. The letter addresses the concerns they had regarding the complaint and asked that the Chairperson sign the letter.

Hearing no further discussion, Vice-Chairperson Crump asked for the roll call. Voting “aye” was Commissioners Quintero, Oldfield, Reece and Crump. Abstaining was Commissioner Shobe. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Update on Hiring of Human Rights Director

Rod Confer reported the period for receiving applications has been closed. Interviews should be starting around November 27th and the Mayor will be reviewing the individuals selected shortly after that.

B. Commission Initiated Complaint Procedure

Jocelyn Golden stated they are still in the process of revising the policies and hope to put it before the Commission to review at the December 15th meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Angela Lemke stated there will be a training session for new Commissioner Shobe on November 8th at 9:00 a.m. and encouraged all the Commissioners to attend if they are available. She also explained to the Commissioners that there are surveys that go out to all Respondents and Complainants to get feedback on the investigation of each particular case. After a brief discussion it was decided that a copy of all the surveys that contain written comments will be included in the monthly meeting packets.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held on Thursday, December 15, 2011 at 4:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers at the County City Building at 555 S. 10th Street.

ADJOURNED: The meeting adjourned at 4:23 p.m.