

1 STATE OF INDIANA

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CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION

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7 The Indiana Civil Rights Commission meeting

8 was held on the 22nd day of MAY, 2015, at the Indiana

9 Government Center South, 402 West Washington Street,

10 Conference Rooms 1 and 2, Indianapolis, Indiana, and

11 reported by me, Marjorie A. Addington, Notary Public

12 in and for the County of Hamilton, State of Indiana,

13 CM, CSR: KS.

14 The following persons were present for the

15 meeting: Judge Noell Allen, Deputy Director Akia

16 Haynes, CFO Pam Cook, Administrative Assistant Debbie

17 Rincones-Chavez, Chairperson Alpha Blackburn, Vice

18 Chairman Steven Ramos, Commissioners Sheryl Edwards,

19 Suzanne Gaidoo, Michelle McKeown, Ahmed Young, and

20 Keith Hill.

21

22

23 ACCURATE REPORTING OF INDIANA

William F. Daniels Prop. RPR/CP CM

24 12922 Brighton Avenue

Carmel, Indiana 46032

1 CHAIRPERSON BLACKBURN: Good afternoon, and  
2 welcome everybody. We have a quorum and the Indiana  
3 Civil Rights Commission is now in public meeting. I  
4 would like to have the motion to approve the minutes.

5 VICE CHAIRMAN RAMOS: So moved.

6 COMMISSIONER YOUNG: Second.

7 CHAIRPERSON BLACKBURN: All in favor?

8 (All respond "aye.")

9 CHAIRPERSON BLACKBURN: Anyone opposed?

10 (No response.)

11 CHAIRPERSON BLACKBURN: Thank you. And has  
12 our Director appointed someone to make his report?  
13 If not, we can get it later in the agenda.

14 DEPUTY DIRECTOR HAYNES: Yes, Madam Chair, I  
15 will be delivering that today.

16 CHAIRPERSON BLACKBURN: All right, thank you.

17 DEPUTY DIRECTOR HAYNES: So your financial  
18 report is in your packets and if you have any  
19 questions at this time please let me know.

20 (No response.)

21 DEPUTY DIRECTOR HAYNES: Okay, hearing none,  
22 moving on to what we have been doing. We have been  
23 quite busy as of late. We actually recently received  
24 our EEOC contract and we will be exceeding

25 expectations as usual, so we're excited to report

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1 that to you guys. As well we're working on our HUD  
2 questionnaire, so we get that every single year and  
3 that will be completed within this coming week. So  
4 in May, about the 1st, we had our sixth CLE, "The  
5 Intersection Between Civil Rights and Education" and  
6 our very own Commissioner McKeown participated in  
7 that. We were in Terre Haute and we did get some  
8 interesting questions while we were there.

9 We were also in "Women's Empowerment  
10 Series," that was in Indianapolis on the 2nd, and as  
11 our Native American Commissioner is now seated, they  
12 are participating in the Lawrence County History  
13 Festival & Powwow. And, of course, the La Voz Latino  
14 Festival is going to be occurring at the end of May  
15 and we will likely be participating in that as well,  
16 our Hispanic Commission will be participating.

17 In June we have another CLE, Fair Housing  
18 Accessibility Seminar, this is about accessibility  
19 and architecture, so if you get a chance, please drop  
20 by. That will be in Indianapolis, in this building,  
21 actually, Room B. There is the Indiana Dads Expo,  
22 that is June 20th, as well as the Indiana Latino Expo  
23 that same day. So as you can see, we're very busy  
24 trying to traverse the whole state and making sure

25 that we meet everyone's needs. So are there any

4

1 questions at this time?

2 COMMISSIONER YOUNG: Will I need to register  
3 for the CLE on the 10th?

4 DEPUTY DIRECTOR HAYNES: Yes, and we'll get  
5 you that information after the Commission meeting.

6 COMMISSIONER YOUNG: Thank you.

7 DEPUTY DIRECTOR HAYNES: You're welcome.

8 COMMISSIONER HILL: Can I just ask a  
9 question? The last time we were trying to get our  
10 pictures taken for IDs. Is that going to take place  
11 later, or how are we doing that? That didn't happen.

12 DEPUTY DIRECTOR HAYNES: Yes. What I will do  
13 is I will touch base with Paula Barnett. We will  
14 schedule another time for you guys to go down there  
15 because they have very selective hours, so we will  
16 make sure that we get that done.

17 COMMISSIONER HILL: I guess there's no way  
18 they can take the pictures that were taken, that were  
19 photographs that were taken here the last time, and  
20 just paste those on or something like that?

21 DEPUTY DIRECTOR HAYNES: Yes, we --

22 MS. RINCONES-CHAVEZ: In reference to that --  
23 I'm so sorry. In reference to that, I was told that  
24 they're going to place a hold on it until further

25 notice.

5

1 COMMISSIONER HILL: They're going to do what?

2 MS. RINCONES-CHAVEZ: They're going to have a  
3 hold on that until further notice. There are some  
4 changes that are going on in reference to the badges.

5 COMMISSIONER HILL: Okay.

6 MS. RINCONES-CHAVEZ: So until I get some  
7 word, I'll let you all know.

8 COMMISSIONER HILL: Okay.

9 MS. RINCONES-CHAVEZ: Okay?

10 COMMISSIONER HILL: Yes.

11 DEPUTY DIRECTOR HAYNES: Any other questions?

12 COMMISSIONER EDWARDS: It really kind of  
13 impacts our parking to find someplace to park when we  
14 come here, and I'm not from Indianapolis, so I'm  
15 always challenged when I get here.

16 DEPUTY DIRECTOR HAYNES: I understand. One  
17 thing we can discuss is the possibility of perhaps  
18 getting you guys temporary badges. We will touch  
19 base with other members in our office to figure out  
20 the best way to allow you guys to park until we get  
21 that all sorted out. Any other questions or  
22 concerns?

23 CHAIRPERSON BLACKBURN: Well, I'm still using  
24 a temporary parking pass, it's only been 27 years, I

25 think.

6

1 COMMISSIONER EDWARDS: May I have one of  
2 those?

3 COMMISSIONER HILL: Yeah, you got an extra  
4 one?

5 MS. RINCONES-CHAVEZ: In reference to the  
6 parking -- Again I apologize. In reference to the  
7 parking, I will get with Paula later this afternoon  
8 and I will send you all an e-mail about that, but at  
9 the moment that I know of they're in the process of  
10 getting you a temp badge for parking for either  
11 garages, but as far as a picture badge, that's on  
12 hold right now.

13 CHAIRPERSON BLACKBURN: Okay.

14 MS. RINCONES-CHAVEZ: Okay?

15 CHAIRPERSON BLACKBURN: Okay, thank you. You  
16 have already in your packet the financial report, but  
17 Ms. Cook is here if you would like to address it.

18 CFO COOK: The only thing at this time is  
19 we're in the middle of our fiscal year end, which is  
20 June 30th. I'm working diligently to make sure that  
21 each of our commissions is on point to have a  
22 successful fiscal year end staying on budget, on  
23 target, and hopefully we will still be able to meet  
24 the Governor's request for a reversion of four and a

25 half percent of all of our combined budget, so as of

7

1 right now we're on target.

2 CHAIRPERSON BLACKBURN: Any questions about  
3 the financial report?

4 (No response.)

5 CHAIRPERSON BLACKBURN: Thank you very much.  
6 External Affairs and Outreach, is there someone to  
7 report?

8 DEPUTY DIRECTOR HAYNES: Madam Chair, we have  
9 discussed some of those portions already. Is there  
10 any additional information that you guys would like  
11 to know about what we're doing?

12 (No response.)

13 DEPUTY DIRECTOR HAYNES: Fantastic. Thank  
14 you.

15 CHAIRPERSON BLACKBURN: Thank you very much.  
16 There being no oral argument and no report by  
17 Commissioners on complainant appeals, we have a  
18 couple of items, or at least one item of new  
19 business, the assignment of a new appeal and it is  
20 Telmeaka Johnson versus the Indiana Department of  
21 Environmental Management, and I will happily review  
22 that, and no motions before this commission.

23 Let us move to Item F on your agenda,  
24 findings of fact, conclusions of law and order, and I

25 suspect that we have someone who will present.

8

1 JUDGE ALLEN: Well, good afternoon, everyone.

2 In the matter of Samantha Marshall versus Sugar Creek  
3 Group, LLC, doing business as Sugar Creek Nursing and  
4 Rehabilitation, the parties in that case settled and  
5 wishes to have the matter dismissed from the  
6 Commission.

7 CHAIRPERSON BLACKBURN: May I have a motion  
8 -- First, are there any questions?

9 (No response.)

10 CHAIRPERSON BLACKBURN: May I have a motion  
11 then that we dismiss that case?

12 COMMISSIONER EDWARDS: I move that we  
13 dismiss.

14 CHAIRPERSON BLACKBURN: Thank you.

15 COMMISSIONER MCKEOWN: Second.

16 CHAIRPERSON BLACKBURN: Thank you. All in  
17 favor?

18 (All respond "aye.")

19 CHAIRPERSON BLACKBURN: That's unanimous.  
20 Thank you.

21 JUDGE ALLEN: In the matter of Donald F.  
22 Hughes versus Howard County Sheriff's Department,  
23 also in that case the parties have settled and wishes  
24 the Commission to dismiss that case.



25 CHAIRPERSON BLACKBURN: May I have a motion

9

1 to dismiss?

2 COMMISSIONER GAIDOO: So moved.

3 CHAIRPERSON BLACKBURN: And a second?

4 COMMISSIONER YOUNG: Second.

5 CHAIRPERSON BLACKBURN: Thank you. All in

6 favor?

7 (All respond "aye.")

8 CHAIRPERSON BLACKBURN: Is there anyone

9 opposed?

10 (No response.)

11 CHAIRPERSON BLACKBURN: Thank you.

12 JUDGE ALLEN: Finally, in the matter of Jamal

13 L. Smith, in his official capacity as Executive

14 Director of the Indiana Civil Rights Commission

15 versus Troy Manor Cooperative, Inc., the respondent

16 elected to the take the matter to state court. As

17 such, the election is timely, so we must dismiss this

18 case out of the Commission's jurisdiction.

19 CHAIRPERSON BLACKBURN: Thank you very much

20 for that update and thank you for presenting.

21 JUDGE ALLEN: You're welcome.

22 CHAIRPERSON BLACKBURN: There being no

23 consent agreements, I would ask if there's any public

24 comment?

25 (No response.)

10

1 CHAIRPERSON BLACKBURN: Are there any  
2 announcements?

3 (No response.)

4 JUDGE ALLEN: Just as an FYI, in the coming  
5 weeks you will receive an e-mail from me requiring  
6 you to take the ethics, it's not an exam, but  
7 training, if you will, per the State Personnel  
8 Department. As new Commissioners, you are deemed as  
9 State employees, so with that you must follow some of  
10 the rules and requirements.

11 Michelle, I know you already probably have  
12 taken it as a current State employee, but those of  
13 you who are not State employees you must take the  
14 ethics training and we will follow up with you to be  
15 sure that is done in a timely manner. Any questions?

16 COMMISSIONER EDWARDS: Is this just going to  
17 be an online course?

18 JUDGE ALLEN: It is.

19 COMMISSIONER EDWARDS: Okay, thank you.

20 VICE CHAIRMAN RAMOS: Yeah, just one and I  
21 know you just answered it. So if you are applying  
22 for an opportunity, the answer to that question is  
23 "Yes," "Are you a State employee?"

24 JUDGE ALLEN: Yes.

25 VICE CHAIRMAN RAMOS: Okay, I just want to

11

1 make sure I get it right.

2 JUDGE ALLEN: Yes, sir.

3 VICE CHAIRMAN RAMOS: Thank you.

4 COMMISSIONER HILL: And you said it was  
5 online?

6 JUDGE ALLEN: It is.

7 COMMISSIONER HILL: Okay.

8 JUDGE ALLEN: I will provide you step-by-step  
9 instructions on how to access and take that training.

10 CHAIRPERSON BLACKBURN: Thank you, ma'am.

11 JUDGE ALLEN: You're very welcome.

12 CHAIRPERSON BLACKBURN: You have on your  
13 agenda the meeting dates for the rest of the year,  
14 and have you any other announcements to make?

15 (No response.)

16 CHAIRPERSON BLACKBURN: No? Commissioners?

17 Nobody's promoting their events the way I am?

18 Really? Okay, June 20th, the Artsgarden, fundraiser  
19 for scholarships. Please send me a little e-mail.

20 The tickets are very affordable. I would love to  
21 save you a seat. There being no other announcements,

22 thank you for your attention and this meeting is

23 adjourned.

24

## 1 CERTIFICATE

2 STATE OF INDIANA

ss:

3 COUNTY OF HAMILTON

4

5 I, Marjorie A. Addington, the undersigned  
6 Court Reporter and Notary Public residing and  
7 maintaining offices in the City of Carmel, Hamilton  
8 County, Indiana, do hereby certify:

8

9 That I reported to the best of my ability in  
10 machine shorthand all of the words spoken by all  
11 parties in attendance during the course of the  
12 hearing;

12

13 That I later reduced my shorthand notes into  
14 the foregoing typewritten transcript form, which  
15 typewritten transcript is a true record to the best  
16 of my ability of the hearing;

16

17 That I am not a relative or employee or  
18 attorney or counsel of any of the parties, nor am I a  
19 relative or an employee of such attorney or counsel,  
20 and that I am not financially interested in this  
21 action.

20

21 IN WITNESS HERETO, I have affixed my  
22 Notarial Seal and subscribed my  
23 signature below this 23rd day of  
24 MAY, 2013.

23

24 Notary Public  
County of Residence: Hamilton (Seal)

25 My Commission Expires on: August 22, 2015