

1. ROLL CALL AND GREETING OF VISITORS

The meeting was called to order by the Chair Billy DeBerry at 3:40 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Vice Chair Joe Watson, Kay Kirkland, Carlos Martinez, Sandy Fuerte Eric Lauritzen, Jess Barreras, and Maryellen Aisenberg.

Commissioners Absent: Elliott Robinson, James Bogan and Fabian Barrera.

Staff and Guests Present: Irma Ramirez-Bough, Equal Opportunity Officer, Elisa Cantu Equal Opportunity Analyst and Deputy County Counsel William Litt, Director of Human Resources James May, Helen Rucker, Assistant Probation Officer Marcia Parsons and Management Analyst Dannie Ryan.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Helen Rucker congratulated Commissioner Aisenberg on her appointment to the Commission. Ms. Rucker also commented that she is happy to see the future agenda items, this motivates her to come to the meetings.

3. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Lauritzen made a correction to the minutes of July 29, 2014 stating that he should show as “excused.” Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the minutes of July 29, 2014 as amended; seconded by Commissioner Fuerte; motion carried.

The Chair requested clarification from Deputy County Counsel Bill Litt regarding the seating of a new Commissioner. The Chair stated that because this was a Special Meeting and the Agenda was posted 24 hours prior to the meeting and everyone was notified, his understanding is that at a Special Meeting only those items on the Agenda can be discussed and no additions can be made. The Chair also indicated that past practices have been that the seating of a Commissioner has been an agenda item, this time it was not agendized. Deputy County Counsel indicated that he found no authority to the contrary. He advised that it’s the Board of Supervisors’ (BOS) prerogative to appoint Commissioners and there is no need for it to be placed on the agenda. Deputy County Counsel further stated that since Commissioner Barreras was appointed by the BOS, nothing precludes him from being seated. He further stated that this is not a violation of the Brown Act. After further discussion, the Chair welcomed Commissioner Barreras and asked that he introduced himself to the Commission.

4. Report from the Departmental Review Compliance Committee

Commissioner Lauritzen reported that the Committee met on August 13, 2014. While they did not have a quorum and no action was taken, those present reviewed the EO Plans for County Counsel’s Office, Probation Department and Economic Development. They suggested that all three Department Heads be invited to present before the Equal Opportunity Advisory Commission.

5. Review Departments Equal Opportunity Plans

The Chair asked if the Commissioners had reviewed the EO Plans included in their packet and if they had any questions and/or comments. There were none.

6. Action Item: Review and Approve Memos inviting Departments to Present before the Commission

The Chair provided the Commissioners with additional questions that he had drafted and would like to include them in the Memos. These questions were also available to the Public. Deputy

County Counsel advised that because the questions are not part of the agenda, it would be a violation of the Brown Act to approve the additional questions. The Commission would be approving something different than the Memos provided to the Commissioners. Commissioner Lauritzen stated he would like to have the Departmental Committee review the questions. It was agreed to have the Committee review the questions and make their recommendations to the full Commission at the September meeting. Commissioner Kirkland made a motion to move forward with the Memos; motion seconded by Commissioner Fuerte; motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Ms. Helen Rucker addressed the Commission stating that when she read the Memos, they are standard. When Department Heads come before the Commission they all basically have a standard presentation, reading what's in their Plan. Ms. Rucker indicated that she preferred for Department Heads to respond to the questions provided by the Chair. She stated she would like to hear what they are doing as it relates to "working with the community."

7. Action Item: Review and grant leave of absence for Commissioner Fabian Barrera
Due to the fact that a Commissioner questioned Commissioner Barrera's membership term, the Commission did not move forward with this item. Staff indicated that Commissioner Barrera has not yet served the six year consecutive membership and dates indicated on the Roster are for the previous representative and will be corrected on the Roster. Staff will check their records and confirm with the Clerk of the Board. Staff was also directed to communicate with Commissioner Barrera regarding his request for leave of absence.

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS
County Counsel's EO Plan presentation
Economic Development EO Plan presentation
Probation Department EO Plan presentation
District Attorney's EO Plan presentation
Nepotism roles
Review the use of limited term Management Specialist
Positions and impact to meeting goals in the EO Plan

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS
Commissioner Fuerte announced that Early Child Development will be conducting a meeting tonight from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Sunset Center on Hebron Street.

Commissioner Lauritzen announced that they had established a Farmworker Advisory Committee. The Committee will advise on pesticides and safety and disseminate information about resources and programs.

10. DATE TIME OF NEXT MEETING
September 17, 2014 at 3:30 p.m.

11. ADJOURNMENT
The meeting was adjourned