

Prince George's County Human Rights Commission

Monday, May 19, 2025
Zoom Meeting of the
Prince George's County
Human Rights Commission

Attendees:

Commissioners:

Joseph Reed, Chair
Keith Adams, Vice-Chair (Excused)
Shonda Harmon, Secretary
Traci Birckhead (Absent)
Turkessa Brown
Caren Gillison
Erica Jenkins
Sylvia Johnson (Excused)
Erin Kabba
Regina Truesdale
Ademola Oduyebo
Kayon Williams

Staff:

Jose Villegas
Acting Director

**Kyla Hanington, Acting Clerk
to the Commission**

Guests:
Zelda Proctor

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1. Call to Order – The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:31 pm. Secretary Harmon conducted the roll call for the Commission Meeting. The Chair announced that a quorum was present for the meeting.
2. Adopt Agenda – The Chair called for a review of the agenda. The agenda was approved as distributed.
3. Approval of Minutes of the April 28, 2025, Commission meeting. The Chair called for a review of the minutes. The minutes were approved as distributed.
4. **REPORT OF THE CHAIR**

The Chair thanked everyone for being there and emphasized that it is an honor to be part of the Commission and to work for dignity and rights for all people. The work we do together truly matters. The Chair also congratulated Secretary Harmon for her unanimous election to Secretary.

5. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Acting Executive Director thanked Commissioner Harmon for putting her name out there for the important role of Secretary. He encouraged Commissioners to refer back to the website to see the events we have going on as we have many going on. He also stated that Commissioners could represent the Commission at community events and share materials; the Office can provide brochures to share.

The Acting Executive Director reminded people of the upcoming County Executive election on June 3rd and estimated the new County Executive might step in on June 13, 14, 15 time frame, which means there might be a new Executive Director by the next meeting, June 23rd. After the election is certified, the Office will move forward on ordering business cards for the Commissioners, once there is an updated county seal.

6. CASES SCHEDULED FOR PUBLIC HEARING

OHR Charge No: OHR24-0106

Duane Cooper v. Shamona Sanders/Taylor Properties

Investigator Charles Floyd

Panel Members: Panel Chair Johnson, Commissioner Birkhead; Chair Reed, Commissioner Truesdale as alternate.

The Public Hearing in this matter was scheduled for May 6, May 7, and May 8, 2025.

The hearing was postponed and is awaiting a confidential settlement agreement and joint motion to dismiss..

7. CASE STATUS UPDATE

FEPA Case No.: OHR22-3301

EEOC Case No.: 12H-2022-00017

Tammie Owens v. Prince George's County Department of Corrections

Investigator Clay Langston

Panel Members: Vice Chair Adams as Panel Chair, Commissioner Birkhead, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Oduyebo as alternate.

This case was stayed by order of the Commission on March 25, 2024 (amended March 28, 2024), before the first night of public hearing. This matter is scheduled for Circuit Court on June 18, 2025.

9. ATTENDANCE RECORD – Attached. Please alert the Clerk to any necessary corrections.

10. NEW BUSINESS – None

11. OLD BUSINESS - None

12. **ANNOUNCEMENTS** – The next Commission meeting will be held on June 23, 2025.

13. **CLOSED SESSION** – Under article 3-305b of the Open Meetings Act, the Commission moved to closed session to consult with counsel or to obtain legal advice, or to comply with a specific constitutional, statutory, or judicially imposed requirement that prevents public disclosure about a particular proceeding or matter.

By unanimous vote, the Commission moved to closed session.

6:04 return from Closed session. Chair Reed welcomed Zelda Proctor, member of the public.

OHR24-0903 moved by Harmon, second by Jenkins, to uphold the decision of the Executive Director.

OHR23-1004, moved by Truesdale and seconded by Jenkins, to uphold the decision of the Executive Director.

14. **ADJOURNMENT** – Chair Reed adjourned the meeting at 6:05pm. The next Commission meeting will be held on June 23, 2025.

Shonda W. Harmon
Commission Secretary