



CITY HALL • 100 STATE STREET • BELOIT, WI 53511

**MINUTES  
BELOIT EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES  
AND HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION**

**Wednesday, June 15, 2011 at 5:30 PM**

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Meeting was called to order at 5:36 PM by Vice-chair Gretchen Roy.

Present: Commissioners Gretchen Roy, Matthew Finnegan, Marilyn Ophaegbulem, Ricardo Valdez, and Staff Representative Teri Downing. Excused: Commissioners Kathryn Ingram, Mark Spreitzer. Absent: Carolyn Lawrence.

2. Approval of Minutes of the May 18, 2011 Meeting

Commissioner Valdez moved for approval of the minutes of the regular meeting held on May 18, 2011 with the following change to item number eight: The meeting was adjourned at 6:00PM by Vice-chair Gretchen Roy. Commissioner Ohaegbulem seconded. The motion carried.

3. Public Participation

There were no members of the public present.

4. Compliance updates on the Countryside Village Fair Housing Conciliation Agreements for cases 2009-05, 2009-05-01, 2009-05-02, and 2009-07

Staff explained that the conditions of four Conciliation Agreements that the Commission approved on February 16, 2011 involving Countryside Village as the Respondent have been satisfied or no longer apply. Countryside Village owner, Barry Chernawsky paid all Complainants in-full within the 90-day deadline. Staff also explained that the Countryside Village properties were sold under foreclosure and that Mr. Chernawsky does not own any other property in Beloit. Therefore, Mr. Chernawsky's obligation to provide training to all employees and to prominently display Fair Housing posters in his rental buildings in Beloit does not apply at this time. The four cases are now closed.

5. The Equal Opportunities and Human Relations Commission (EOHRC) shall consider:

- a. Appeal of the no cause determination for Complaint 2010-07 regarding an alleged violation of the City of Beloit's Chapter 20 Fair Housing Code.
- b. Appeal of the no cause determination for Complaint 2010-08R regarding an alleged violation of the City of Beloit's Chapter 20 Fair Housing Code.

Commissioner Marilyn Ohaegbulem motioned to adjourn into closed session to consider the appeals of the no-cause determinations for Complaints 2010-07 and 2010-08R regarding alleged violations of the City of Beloit's Chapter 20 Fair Housing Code. Commissioner Roy seconded the motion. Motion carried. The commission adjourned into closed session at 5:45PM.

6. The Equal Opportunities and Human Relations Commission (EOHRC) may adjourn into closed session pursuant to WI Statutes 19.85(1)(a) for deliberations and reconvene into open session for possible action.

The Commission reconvened into open session at 6:25PM. A motion was made by Commissioner Ricardo Valdez to affirm the Fair Housing Investigator's determination of no-cause in Complaint # 2010-07. Commissioner Ohaegbulem seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Commissioner Marilyn Ohaegbulem motioned to affirm the Fair Housing Investigator's no-cause determination in Complaint # 2010-08R. Commissioner Finnegan seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Staff was directed to notify the parties of the Commission's decisions.

7. Upcoming Events

Staff notified the Commission that Gretchen Roy and Kathryn Ingram requested to not be reappointed to another term due to personal commitments and employment conflicts. Staff updated the Commission that there are now three open seats on the EOHRC and asked Commissioners to make people aware of the vacancies.

8. Adjournment

Commissioner Valdez moved for adjournment and Commissioner Ohaegbulem seconded. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 6:32 PM by Vice-chair Gretchen Roy.

Teri Downing  
Grants Administrator