COUNTY OF VENTURA

civil service commission

BOARD OF REVIEW AND APPEALS



Commissioners
Don Becker
Alyse M. Lazar
J. William Little
Haywood Merricks III
James Vandenberg

MINUTES REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2011 9:30 a.m.

LOWER PLAZA ASSEMBLY ROOM

- I. CALL TO ORDER Chair Vandenberg called the meeting to order at 9:30 am.
- II. ROLL CALL Commissioners present: Chair Vandenberg, Vice-Chair Merricks and Commissioners Becker, Little and Lazar. Staff present: Cheryl Shaw, Commission Assistant, Robert Orellana, Law Advisor and Jim Dembowski (IR).
- III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- IV. MINUTES FOR APPROVAL The minutes of the Special Meeting of January 19, 2011, were approved on motion by Commissioner Little, seconded by Vice-Chair Merricks.
- V. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** None.
- VI. OLD BUSINESS None.
- VII. NEW BUSINESS The Commissioners completed written evaluations of Stephen Millich and Bob Boehm who are under contract with the County to act as outside legal advisors to the Commission. The evaluations shall be kept in the Commission's office.
- VIII. REQUEST FOR HEARING None.
- IX. REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION None.
- X. INFORMATIONAL Chair Vandenberg asked Mr. Dembowski about the status of any remaining MOA's with employee groups. Mr. Dembowski indicated the County had completed negotiations with all groups except the County had reached an impasse with SEIU Local 721. Mediation has not yet resolved the impasse but the mediator is holding the matter open until March 5.

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The mediator does have the ability to make suggestions to the parties to overcome the impasse. If the impasse is not broken then the County can avail itself of a variety of legal options. In response to Commissioner Little, Mr. Dembowski stated that the County has reached agreements with all other employee groups regarding pension sharing and employees are now paying 3% more towards their pension plans.

XI. COMMISSION/STAFF COMMENTS – Commission Assistant Cheryl Shaw reported that she attended hearings concerning writ petitions filed in the Superior Court pertaining to two prior CSC matters, that of Pablo Lazaro and William Markov. The Markov hearing involved a demurrer to the pleadings filed by the County. The court sustained in part and overruled in part the demurrer so Mr. Markov's counsel will be filing an amended pleading. With respect to the Lazaro hearing, the County had brought a motion to dismiss the writ petition. Following oral argument, the court has taken the matter under submission.

Ms. Shaw also reported she wasworking with GSA projects division to look into installing audio gates on the microphones for meetings and hearings which will hopefully eliminate the majority of background noise in the recordings.

XII. ADJOURNMENT – The meeting was adjourned at 9:52 a.m.