

Public Employee Relations Board
Public Meeting – IN PERSON – January 10, 2025
10:00

Board Members Present: L. Solomon, H. Cooperman, J. Rivlin, & L. Ohman

Board Staff Present: E. Snipes, C. Franzoni, W. Suggs

Acting Chair Solomon opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

MINUTES

1. Acting Chair Solomon Introduction

L. Solomon provided his background with the NLRB and the Department of Labor, indicated he was pleased to be working with the members and staff, and noted his open door policy in terms of connecting with interested parties.

2. Approve minutes from 12.18.24 meeting

Moved: J. Rivlin

Seconded: H. Cooperman seconded.

Approved without objection.

3. Updates

a. New Deputy Director

E. Snipes noted that a new deputy director would be starting with PERB on January 22.

b. Legislative Report

(1) PERB proposed legislation – Chair Barnes, Appropriations, will sponsor in the House; Chair Biedel, Finance, will sponsor in the Senate.

E. Snipes noted the hearing date for the Senate Bill.

(2) Legislation impacting PERB

E. Snipes spoke about multiple bills that would be impactful to PERB if passed. These included bills granting collective bargaining rights to graduate assistants and post-doctoral associates at state and community colleges and state universities, a general ombudsman bill granting collective bargaining rights to those working in the state of Maryland, and an arbitration reform bill requiring the appointment of a mediator/arbitrator at a certain point in the negotiations process should the parties not be able to reach agreement.

c. Next public meeting: February

Following Board discussion, L. Solomon indicated that the date and format of the February meeting would be forthcoming.

4. Question & Answer

Several members of the public who practice before the PERB welcomed Acting Chair Solomon and expressed pleasure at having a fully staffed Board, as well as the Acting Chair's open-door policy.

Following the public comment, there was a motion to adjourn, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

The Board adjourned at approximately 10:40 a.m.