



## **ANCHORAGE EQUAL RIGHTS COMMISSION**

REGULAR MEETING  
THUR, JANUARY 15<sup>TH</sup>  
2026

6:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M.

EQUAL RIGHTS COMMISSION CONF. ROOM (1<sup>ST</sup> FLOOR OF CITY  
HALL) AND VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS  
632 W. 6<sup>TH</sup> AVE. STE 110

### **Minutes**

#### **1. Call to Order**

#### **2. Roll Call**

##### **a. Members Present**

Elan Aqua, Chair  
Doreen Brown, Vice Chair  
May Ramirez-Xiong  
Antavia Hamilton  
Heather Barbour  
Stephanie Harrod

##### **b. Members Absent**

Gabriel Garcia

##### **c. Staff Present**

Jennifer Booz, Executive Director  
Lanette Harley, Investigator  
Maya Amor, Executive Assistant  
Paul Ervasti, Municipal Attorney and Legal Advisor

##### **d. Public Present**

Wauren Ochs  
Dr. Yolanda Inker  
Bernice

#### **3. Land Acknowledgment.**

- a. Read by Elan Aqua

**4. Mission Statement.**

- 5. Swear-in All Commissioners-** Maya, AERC Executive Assistant
- a. Maya Swore in the commissioners who attended in person.
  - b. Maya exited the meeting.

**6. Approval of Previous Minutes**

- a. September 19th, 2025
- b. October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025
  - i. Motion: To approve the two previous meetings minutes
  - ii. Maker: Commissioner Harrod
  - iii. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Vice Chair Brown

**7. Disclosures**

- a. None

**8. Unfinished Business**

- a. None

**9. New Business**

- a. Welcome - Chair Aqua
  - i. Tabled for Next Meeting.
- b. On-site vs. Remote Meetings
  - i. Chair Aqua opened the floor for discussion.
  - ii. The commissioners discussed this topic.
    - Motion: To decide at each Regular Commission Meeting if Commissioners will meet remote or on site for the next Commission Meeting.
    - 2<sup>nd</sup>: Commissioner Ramirez-Xiong
    - Vote: Unanimous approval.
- c. Executive Director's Report - No report. 2025 Annual Report in progress.
- d. Outreach and Education
  - i. Commissioners discussed Executive Director Booz' Outreach and Education plans.
  - ii. Commissioners discussed their Outreach and Education plans.
  - iii. Commissioners will report on Outreach and Education activities to Staff and at Commission Meetings.
  - iv. Commissioners can reach out to Staff to post to AERC Social Media.

## **10. Requests for Future Agenda Items and Commissioner Comments**

- a. Clarify Officer roles.
  - i. Commissioners discussed Officer roles with Executive Director Booz.
- b. Motion: to read an Educational Statement related to AERC's Mission at the next Regular Meeting.
  - i. Maker: Commissioner Hamilton
  - ii. Commissioners deliberated about this motion.
  - iii. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Commissioner Ramirez-Xiong
  - iv. Vote: Passed unanimously.
- c. Motion: for Legal Advisor Paul Ervasti clarify the Open Meetings Act with regards to emailing Commissioners.
  - i. Maker: Vice Chair Brown
  - ii. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Chair Aqua
  - iii. Vote: Unanimous
  - iv. Legal Advisor Paul Ervasti Explained this topic.
- d. Motion: to discuss Commissioner Hamilton's "Governance Grievance" Emails in Executive Session at the next Commission meeting.
  - i. Maker: Commissioner Ramirez-Xiong
  - ii. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Commissioner Brown
  - iii. Vote: Passed Unanimously

## **11. Public Comments and Audience Participation**

- a. Wauren Ochs asked "What does an executive session entail?"
  - i. Chair Aqua spoke.
- b. Bernice introduced herself and asked how to get information about the AERC and Commission meetings.
  - i. Chair Aqua spoke.
- c. AERC Investigator Lanette Harley recommended connecting with Trade

Associations and Unions for Outreach and Education efforts.

**12. Date for Next Meeting**

- a. February 19<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 pm
- b. Commissioners will meet in person.

**13. Adjournment**

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 7:03 pm.

Maker: Chair Aqua

Second: Commissioner Ramirez-Xiong