

# HUMBOLDT COUNTY HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION



## **Regular Meeting Minutes**

May 1, 2025 5:31–7:20 pm.

### **I. CALL TO ORDER: 5:31 pm**

#### **Land Acknowledgement:**

Chair Glover read the Wiyot land acknowledgment statement as follows:

"As we gather today, we acknowledge that Eureka, California, is the ancestral territory of the Wiyot people. We also honor all Indigenous people, territories, and Sovereign governments that share governance within Humboldt County, California. We gather with respect and gratitude to these Indigenous People. We thank and honor the Indigenous Caretakers of this land who continue to cherish and protect it. Their elders have instructed the young to consider the seven generations ahead as they continue to protect the rights of the land and all people who live on it. We encourage all to align and follow the lead of local Indigenous communities as they steward the land and protect its natural resources."

A moment of silence was held.

A consensus of the members present approved a slight change of the agenda sequence to allow Rowan Estlin of the Youth Human Rights Commission to make a brief presentation and answer questions.

### **II. ROLL CALL:**

#### **DISTRICT 1**

Jim Glover (Chair) ~ present

Carol Larsen ~ present

Byrd Lochtie ~ present

DISTRICT 2

Larry Miller ~ excused

DISTRICT 3

Guy Aronoff ~ present

Jamie Jensen ~ excused

Ellen Murphy (secretary)~ absent

DISTRICT 4

Richard Botzler ~ present

Peter Pennekamp ~ present

DISTRICT 5

Lisa Sundberg ~ absent

Present: five (5) members were present for a quorum during the roll call.

III. Agenda Adjustments: (1 min)

IV. Approval of April 3 Meeting Minutes: still pending

**V. Treasurer's Report:**

Commissioner Larsen reported a balance of \$3219.00 in our county budget account and \$4470.22 in our checking account.

**VI. Guest Speaker(s):**

Tracy D'Amico, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors made a presentation regarding the structure and performance of various commissions and boards. Her primary concern at this point is the unbudgeted commissions and boards. She indicated our commission was functioning well but sought ideas for strengthening and streamlining our operations and to be a more effective advisory group to the Board of Supervisors. The presentation was followed by a lengthy exchange of ideas between her and members of the commission.

**VII. Commissioner Communications:**

Chair Glover reminded all there would be elections for officers during the June meeting. He indicated he would like to step away from his current role but was staying on the Commission. All were advised to submit nominations or self-nominations to the Secretary by May 15 so we would know who the choices would be for the four officer positions. He also noted a Northcoast Childrens' Services activity occurring Friday, May

2. Carol commented on an upcoming IUHS activity, Guy commented on communications he has had on the homelessness issue, and Byrd commented that this was Law Day and she read comments related to that day. She also asked that the comments be entered into the minutes. Those comments are found following the minutes.

**VIII. Public Comment on non-agenda items:**

None

**IX. Public Comment on agenda items:**

None

**X. Standing Committee Reports:**

**a) Correctional Facilities Liaison Report:** Due to Larry's absence, there was no liaison report.

**b) Message Line Report**

Reports were offered by Jim for April 1-15 and Rick for April 16-30

**C) Future Dates**

May 1-15-Ellen

May 16-31 Carol

June 1-15 Guy

June 16-30 Peter

**SANCTUARY ORDINANCE:**

[Aronoff, Glover]

(No activity)

**XI. Ad hoc Committee Reports:**

**RAPID RESPONSE COMMITTEE:**

Committee Members: (Miller, Glover, Jensen)

(No activity)

**CULTURAL AWARENESS:**

Committee Members: [Larsen, Miller, Lochtie]

(No activity) Intention is to set a new meeting date that could include Larry who is currently unavailable.

**TECHNOLOGY-COMMUNICATIONS**

**Committee Members:** (Aronoff, Glover) Guy reported increased activity on our Facebook page. He also noted he was cleaning up stale information and offering relevant links for the public.

## **FREE SPEECH VS. HATE CRIMES**

**Committee Members:** (Botzler, Lochtie, Miller, Larsen)

Rick reported on the April 26 workshop held at the Wharfinger Building in Eureka. He thought the event was very successful with 29 participants. The expectation is that there may be a follow-up event. This will be discussed in about two weeks.

## **HOMELESSNESS / BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**

**Committee Members:** [Aronoff, Larsen, Glover]

In part, due to comments made by Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, Tracy D'Amico, it was decided to revise and resubmit a "request for action" letter for the BOS. Guy will offer a new version for review by members of the Commission.

## **XII. Unfinished Business:**

In considering a letter to the BOS regarding the desirability of a tribal liaison to the BOS, Carol agreed to circulate the existing draft among tribal leaders for comment and support. It will be reviewed at the June meeting. No other action at this time.

## **XIII. NEW BUSINESS:**

It was the intention to discuss multilingual translations for our meetings, but due to the clear statement that there was no funding available for such an effort, it was put off for a later meeting. What may be possible is support in a multilingual phone tree message for the message line. That will be addressed in the near future.

## **XIV. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**

Election of Officers

Shall we set a schedule for designated guest speakers?

Shall we continue Zoom and Access Humboldt availability?

Shall we pursue a multilingual message line recording?

Homelessness Letter to BOS, what shall we recommend?

Shall we develop a card-stock flyer for recruitment to Commission?

BOS commission/board restructuring ideas to consider?

## **XV. ADJOURNMENT:**

Chair Glover called for adjournment at 7:20pm

Minutes prepared by Commissioner Glover