

# Louisiana Commission on Human Rights’ Commission Meeting Minutes

## Call to Order

A commission meeting of the Louisiana Commission on Human Rights was held on March 29, 2023, via Zoom and in person. It began at 8:05 a.m. presided over by Acting Chair Angela Faulk on behalf of Chairwoman Jacobson with Dr. Raby, as Executive Director.

## Attendees

<b>Commissioners</b> ■ – Denotes Absent		
Tamara K. Jacobson, Chairwoman ■	Commissioner Angela Faulk	■ Commissioner Terry L. Jackson
Commissioner Courtney L. Hunt	Commissioner Julia Mendez Achée	Commissioner Roxanne Foret
■ Commissioner Alison Bordelon	Commissioner Henry Garrett	
<b>Staff</b>		
Dr. Leah Raby, Executive Director	Christa Davis, MPA	Desha Gay, Esq.

## Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes and a correction to the minutes was noted from the previous November 9, 2022, meeting was made by Commissioner Courtney Hunt and seconded by Commissioner Achee.

## Chair’s Remarks

Acting Chair Angela Faulk acknowledged just substituted for Chairwoman Jacobson. Acting Chair Angela Faulk had no remarks other than it’s nice to see everybody again, Have a healthy Happy Easter until we speak again. Stay well. Thereafter, we proceeded to the next item on the agenda, the Executive Director’s Report.

## Executive Director’s Report

Dr. Raby shared that we are in the second term of the Governor John Bel Edwards administration and actions were moving toward transition for the next administration inclusive of the Annual Report, transition guides for new administrations, etc.

Next, we discussed the overflow of intake cases. There were approximately 211 cases and counting as the constituency learned of our online filing process and they seemly think we have the same resources as the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC). Dr. Raby mentioned that she was in discussion with a former EEOC employee who handled intake with hopes of reconciling this overflow.

Meanwhile, Dr. Raby has been in continuous discussion with the Governor’s Office regarding a full-time position being allocated with some promise, but those discussions did not yield fruitful. So, we will try with the next administration.

Dr. Raby reported that Desha Gay, Executive Assistant/Lead Investigator accepted a position with the Louisiana Workforce Commission and that Ms. Davis has agreed to transition to Ms. Gay’s role and the Governor’s Office would accommodate the hiring of someone in Ms. Davis’ position. Additionally, Alec Beller, a law clerk, also decided to focus more on school and is no longer with the Commission.

It was shared by Dr. Raby, that outreach has been quite expansive for LCHR over the last few months including by not limited to:

- December 2022 – March 2023 -Leadership training classes offered by the EEOC through HONE for FEPA Directors and Results-Based Leadership Training
- January 24, 2023 – Human Trafficking Commission – Appointed to the Subcommittee Labor Trafficking and Immigration; meets monthly and provides recommendations to the Human Trafficking Commission and ultimately to the Governor for potential legislation.
- January 30, 2023 – February 1, 2023 – DEI State Officers Network - Washington, DC – convening network of DEI professionals from across the country to address the issues of DEI and potential monies available for states.
- February 27, 2023 – DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America) – EEOC and LCHR collaboratively interview teens from across the state of Louisiana in competition on workplace scenarios and outcomes as potential managers.
- March 7, 2023– LCHR Present - Patterns Affect Attitudes and Behavior at Work for the Louisiana Workforce Commission
- March 26, 2023 – Conflict Resolution- Metropolitan Baton Rouge Chapter – National Coalition of 100 Black Women

Dr. Raby thanked Desha Gay for her tenure with the Commission and congratulated her on her new role; concluding her Executive Director's report.

Commissioner Hunt moved to accept the Executive Director's report. It was seconded by Commissioner Achee.

Commissioner Faulk asked if there was any new or unfinished business prior to moving into the executive session. There was none.

Commissioner Faulk reminded everyone to file disclosure paperwork with the Ethics Board.

Commissioner Faulk thanked everybody for their hard work and congratulated Desha Gay on her new endeavors.

There is no executive session and a tentative date for the next meeting is June 13, 2023.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Hunt. It was seconded by Commissioner Faulk.

The meeting ended at 8:23 a.m.