



**Indiana Commission on Hispanic/Latino Affairs  
Commission Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, March 19, 2015  
1:00pm – 3:00pm  
Teleconference Media Center  
Indiana Government Center South  
Indianapolis, IN 46204**

**Commissioners Present:**

David Galvin, Designee, Department of Education  
Virginia Hernandez-Ocasio, Designee, Civil Rights Commission  
Teresa Mora, Designee, Family and Social Services Administration  
Brenda Summers, Department of Workforce Development  
Richard Espinosa, Senate Lay Member, Fort Wayne  
Christian Gallo, Senate Lay Member  
Guadalupe 'Herb' Hernandez, Senate Lay member, Fort Wayne  
Pedro Ledo, Jr., Senate Lay Member, Fort Wayne (Chair)  
Francisco Garcia, House Lay Member  
Jesusa Rivera, House Lay Member, South Bend

**Commissioners Not Present:**

Senator Frank Mrvan  
Senator Michael Crider  
Rep. Christina Hale  
Tina Little, Designee, Department of Correction  
Andrea Perez, Designee, Department of Health  
Seth Morales, Governor Appointee  
Charlie Garcia, House Lay Member, Indianapolis  
Gerardo Gonzalez, House Lay Member, Bloomington

**Visitors:**

Bradley Favazza

**Staff Present:**

Danielle Dean, Executive Director

**Opening:**

Pedro Ledo called the meeting to order at 1:10pm.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Commissioners approved the minutes from the last meeting in January 2015.

**Approval of Financials**

Commissioners approved the budget for February of 2015.

**Chairman's Report**

At 1:10 Chairman Pedro Ledo calls the meeting to order. He notes that the first item is the budget and the amount left that ICHLA can distribute.

He thanks the commissioners for nominating various organizations.

Asks that at the end of the meeting someone nominate themselves to follow up with the organizations that receive funds to check on how they were spent.

Richard wants to make a comment about a program that was nominated. Pedro asks that he hold his comments until we discuss each individual organization.

Danielle then gives her report and updates on her travels and meetings. They include meetings with Abby Kuzma, Rick Ruble and the Immigrant Welcome Center.

She also touched on her meetings with various superintendents. Richard suggested meeting with churches and Virginia suggested meeting with high school councilors.

Pedro then gives the floor to Herb so he can go over the budget with the commissioners. Herb goes over the budget in detail and asks if there are any questions. He explains that ICHLA could disperse up to \$19,000, but 20% of that should be set aside for anything that comes up between now and June. Any and all items must be invoiced by June 15.

That leaves the amount at \$13,500 to disperse. Voting on these allocations must also be made ASAP so that the invoices aren't received past the deadline.

Herb also notes that if quorum isn't met today, ICHLA will need to hold another meeting before June. He mentions that we always need to be fiscally responsible and that any money we don't use reverts back to the state.

For the retreat, we want to have a local organization like ILI talk about what they're seeing in the community and to identify in which areas they need help.

Herb asks if there are any questions and says that he wants the commission to understand that the missions of the organizations ICHLA chooses to support must align with ICHLA's mission.

He then moves on to describe each organization that was nominated for funding. Any commissioner who is an employee of an organization or is on the board cannot vote as to avoid a conflict of interest.

Christian has a question about introducing a new organization for consideration even though it's past the deadline. Pedro suggests that he wait until the next fiscal year.

Herb continues with the informal poll and asks if the commissioners would like to support Project Stepping Stone. He then asks about dollar amounts and writes down the highest number commissioners are comfortable with, not to exceed \$2,500.

He repeats this for each organization.

- For Project Stepping Stone of Indiana, the commission is comfortable with \$1500.
- For Proteus, the commission is comfortable with \$2500.
- For El Campitio, the commission is comfortable with \$2500.
- For the Latino Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence, the commission is comfortable with \$1000.
- The commission voted not to support the Indiana Association for Childcare Resource and Referral, noting that there aren't any specific programs that align with ICHLA's mission.
- For the Indiana Latino Expo, the commission is comfortable with \$2500 which qualifies the commission as a sponsor.
- For the Asociacion Venezolanes en Indiana, the commission is comfortable with \$500.
- For the Immigrant Welcome Center, the commission is comfortable with \$2500.

Herb thanks everyone for their feedback and participation.

Pedro mentions again that ICHLA will need to hold a special budget meeting in April since quorum wasn't met.

Jesusa says that South Bend is organization a city ID for those who are undocumented. New York and New Jersey are models for this and the Mayor is on board.

Danielle reminds everyone that we agreed to help migrant workers in the field for a day.

Pedro thanked David for attending Latino Page Day on behalf of the commission and says that he did a great job.

David mentions that DOE was approved for a grant for video equipment. They will be following a family from Texas to Indiana to document their struggle. They want to see what outside forces affect a child's academic performance. He urges commissioners to go to [Stateoftheclassroom.com](http://Stateoftheclassroom.com)

He mentions that they also received funds to do a migrant worker mobile application. It's a way for students and parents to stay engaged in what's going on with education and it will be in both English and Spanish. He's working on another app aimed for parents to stay engaged. ATT is partnering with DOE for that and hopefully it will be launched in May.

### **Adjournment**

At 2:35 pm, the meeting was adjourned.