



**Indiana Commission on Hispanic/Latino Affairs  
Commission Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, August 21, 2014  
1:00pm – 3:00pm  
Conference Center  
Indiana Government Center South  
Indianapolis, IN**

**Commissioners Present:**

Senator Michael Crider (TELEPHONE)  
David Galvin, Designee, Department of Education  
Virginia Hernandez, Designee, Civil Rights Commission  
Tina Little, Designee, Department of Correction  
Brenda Summers, Department of Workforce Development  
Seth Morales, Governor Appointee (TELEPHONE)  
Richard Espinosa, Senate Lay Member, Fort Wayne  
Christian Gallo, Senate Lay Member (TELEPHONE)  
Guadalupe 'Herb' Hernandez, Senate Lay member, Fort Wayne  
Pedro Ledo, Jr., Senate Lay Member, Fort Wayne (Chair)  
Charlie Garcia, House Lay Member, Indianapolis (TELEPHONE)  
Francisco Garcia, House Lay Member  
Gerardo Gonzalez, House Lay Member, Bloomington  
Jesusa Rivera, House Lay Member, South Bend (TELEPHONE)

**Commissioners Not Present:**

Rep. Mara Candelaria Reardon  
Rep. Rebecca Kubacki  
Senator Frank Mrvan  
Teresa Mora, Designee, Family and Social Services Administration  
Andrea Perez, Designee, Department of Health

**Visitors:**

Eric Jones, Indiana Legal Services

**Staff Present:**

Danielle Dean, Executive Director

**Opening:**

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

**Approval of Minutes:**

Commissioners were given time to review the July 2014 minutes. There was a motion to approve the minutes, and the minutes were voted on and approved.

**Approval of Financials**

Commissioners will be sent an electronic version of all budgets from July 2014 forward.

**Chairman's Report**

Pam Cook, ICRC's CFO, gave an update on items required for travel reimbursements, stipends and the budget.

Herb and Richard joined the meeting.

If appointed members select a designee, the designee must be Hispanic/Latino in order to vote.

Herb reiterated the rules on voting. Eleven people have to agree to vote *in favor* of something, it's not majority rules. Example, if 11 people are at a meeting, 10 vote yes and one votes no, the motion does not pass. Commission should set up voting policy. A policy doesn't need to be an amendment to the bylaws or code, it can simply be created and voted on. We will create a policy draft.

Nomination for officer positions will be during the October meeting and elections will be in January.

Attention turned to ICHLA's mission/purpose. Gerardo suggests that commissioners interpret the mission differently and that we need to take positions on issues.

Danielle clarified where the 200 children (that came to the US without their parents) were placed and the different laws that protect them. Gerardo notes that this is a perfect example on educating the commission on information/topics they don't know about.

Herb read from ICHLA documents to clarify the mission and commissioners agree to bring important issues to board meetings to be discussed as a group.

There was a motion to keep the officers the same until the January of 2015, at which time new officers will take over. After a vote, the motion passed.

The minutes from the November meeting were lost. There was a motion to approve the lost minutes. After a vote, the motion passed.

Richard made a motion to pass July's minutes. After a vote, the motion passed.

Gerardo would like more presentations from educators or those in the field regarding Latinos and education to get a big picture view of the problems and possible solutions.

Richard thanks those who checked on him after his ordeal.

Eric Jones then addresses the board and explained how his organization helps the Latino community with tax issues. He explained what the Low Income Taxpayer Clinic is and how they're funded. They cover the entire state.

There was discussion on replacing commissioners that don't meet the attendance rules and changing the frequency of the board meetings to every other month.

There was a motion to have the attendance policy based on the calendar year (January-December). After a vote, the motion passed.

There was an idea to set aside some money for an annual convention or something similar.

### **New Business**

There was a proposal to change the meeting frequency to every other month. This addendum to the bylaws will be sent in writing two weeks prior to the next meeting and will be voted on by Commissioners.

There has been a second proposal to create an election policy. The policy is as follows: Nominations for each office should be made no later than 45 days prior to the first meeting of the calendar year. Such nominations should be sent to the current Chairman/President and to the executive director. The executive director should contact each nominee to confirm that they are willing to serve in the office for which they were nominated. If any nominee declines, then the executive director and current chairman/president should fill such vacancy with another nominee.

The slate of officers should be sent by the executive director to all current commissioners either by email, by writing or by telephone at least 30 days prior to the first meeting of the calendar year.

### **Adjournment**

At 2:30 pm, the meeting was adjourned.