

**South Carolina Human Affairs Commission
Board Meeting
Via WebEx**

November 29, 2022

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairman James T. McLawhorn
Commissioner Steve Hall
Commissioner Sharon Sellers
Commissioner Mary Amonitti

STAFF PRESENT

Commissioner/CAO Janie A. Davis
Deputy Commissioner Marvin Caldwell
Deputy Commissioner Dan Koon
General Counsel Caroline Scrantom
Janeen Sanders

I. CALL TO ORDER

The South Carolina Human Affairs Commission (“SCHAC” or the “agency”) held a special Executive Session Board Meeting via WebEx on Tuesday, November 29, 2022, at 3:30pm. Public notice was posted on SCHAC’s website. Chairman McLawhorn called the meeting to order at 3:31pm and asked for the roll call.

II. ROLL CALL

Janeen Sanders, Executive Assistant, called the roll of Board members. A quorum was established.

III. NEW BUSINESS

This meeting was to discuss the document due to the Governor’s office regarding the potential merger between the South Carolina Human Affairs Commission and the State Commission for Minority Affairs.

Commissioner Davis wanted the Board’s review and comments before submitting the study to the Governor, and the Chairs of both the House Ways and Means and Senate Finance Committees.

Commissioner Hall commented that the team had done a great job with the document and although he knew a lot about the Commission, he still learned things about both organizations by reading the study. He believed the pros and cons/advantages and disadvantages to the merger were helpful and still believes there is no reason for the two agencies to merge.

Vice Chair Sellers thought the document was very informative and thorough. She requested that the document be strengthened by strongly adding “that by combining these two agencies, it would be doing South Carolinians a disservice”. Also, she added that this opinion comes to the Board from Commissioner Davis who has headed both agencies, since it was not mentioned in the document.

Commissioner Amonitti asked if there would be a special committee that would review this document before it is taken to the full House. Commissioner Davis advised this document would likely start in subcommittee review. The public would be able to speak about their thoughts and concerns, as well as the Board could also speak regarding their opinions concerning why they do not think this merger should take place. It would likely take the same review process through the House and the Senate. If there are any recommendations from these two bodies that do not match up, it would then go to a conference committee. This could be a lengthy process.

Chairman McLawhorn asked Commissioner Davis if there could be some verbiage added to explain how beneficial SCHAC had been to business development? She informed him that she would be seeking letters of support to include.

Vice Chair Sellers asked if the team had any thoughts or views on the document, of which they all stated how happy they were with the finished product. It is a detailed and researched document full of informative information.

Commissioner Davis thanked the Leadership Team members for their hard work towards the document.

Charmain McLawhorn called for a motion to be made to accept the document with the adjustments discussed. Vice Chair Sellers made a motion and Commissioner Amonitti seconded.

Chairman McLawhorn called for any Old Business and there was none; however, Commissioner Amonitti had a question about the next steps for the Agency Head position. Commissioner Davis advised there was a packet being prepared to send to the Governor and once he has responded, the Board will meet again.

Chairman McLawhorn called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Vice Chair Sellers made the motion and Commissioner Amonitti seconded. After unanimous consent the meeting was adjourned at 4:00pm.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for February 16, 2023, at 10:00 A.M. with a location to be determined.

Respectfully submitted by Janeen D. Sanders, SCHAC Executive Assistant.


Janie A. Davis, Commissioner


James T. McLawhorn, Chairman

12-29-2022
Date