



Governor Terry E. Branstad
Lt. Governor Kim Reynolds
San Wong, Director

MEETING Minutes
IOWA COMMISSION OF LATINO AFFAIRS MEETING
Thursday, May 9th, 2013
Lucas State Office Building, 4th Floor – Room 418
321 E. 12th, Des Moines Iowa
2:30-4:30 p.m.

- I 2:30 PM Call to Order and Introductions. Sal Alaniz**
Meeting called to order at 2:38PM
Commissioners present: Ramon Rodriguez and Sal Alaniz in person, Joan Jaimes and Rebecca Jackson via conference call.
Staff Present: Alba Perez, Heidi Smith and San Wong.
Public present: None present or over via conference call.
- II 2:35 PM Approval of minutes for March 28, 2013. Sal Alaniz**
Approval of Minutes. Request for comments. R. Rodriguez, motion, Jaimes second. Roll call for acceptance, Rodriguez, Jaimes, Jackson, Alaniz accepted.
- III 2:40 PM DHR Director's Report San Wong**
Director's Report. Wong, budget has not been approved, we are aware that level funding will be approved. A salary bill will be introduced but we know we will get status quo. We keep our ears open on education and mental health redesign, we don't have a say but it will impact our population. Alaniz, has Iowa healthcare been resolved? Wong, no. Portions of the budget have been resolved but not all. We have been proactive in communicating with the Legislature. Alaniz, in terms of outreach are we done? Smith, yes. Alaniz, can we receive a copy? Yes and it will soon be available over the web. Smith, the criteria use for the outreach is listed in the report. Alaniz, when will be available? Smith, the week of May 20th. Alaniz, what did we learned? Smith, we confirmed things we knew, i.e.: lack of interpreters, lack of mental health services. We also made connections so maybe folks can replicate solutions that worked somewhere else. Alaniz, after this can we seek solutions, are we going back to seek/help with solutions? Wong and Smith, things/solutions could come out of these. Smith, we could reconvene and find solutions with that community. Outreach felt like a first step. Each community had a different take on the meetings. Some wanted to tackle their issues others wanted us to comeback. Alaniz, as suggestions, some communities may have the means to address their own issues but some may want to encouragement their communities to seek a way to facilitate that (find solutions). Maybe us being able to offer them ways to move to action. There is value to what was done to alleviate their issues. Wong, communities expressed that they may not have the opportunity to have broad discussions as the one we



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hosted/facilitated and maybe they saw that they needed to do that on their own on a regular basis. Wong, we invited folks but not all attended but sometimes we realized we might have been missing representation from a specific sector (i.e.: education, business). Alaniz, it takes work to do that.

IV 2:50 PM DHR Deputy Director's Report, including financials. Heidi Smith
Smith. You should have received the financials. Any questions on the financial report? None. Alaniz asked if there is anything in play. Smith, we are waiting to hear from the appropriations committee. There is a small item being discussed, it is an FT (full time position) equivalent. Alaniz has a film "Made in Iowa" film. Alaniz has the master set and will be made available to Alba Perez for possible use. Alaniz will be providing all the documentation related to the film. Perez and Smith thanked Alaniz.

V 3:00 PM Executive Officer's Report. Alba Perez
EO Report. Shared the top three projects working on LLI, Latino Forum and Multi Consulate Fair. In the leadership arena Perez is working in four different ways with four different leadership efforts (LLI, ISU Extension/Exito, Greater Des Moines Leadership Institute/GDMLI and the Regional Leadership Council). Health, Perez obtained permission from Henny Ohr, there are some additional recognition that will be added to the document including to the Mexican Consulate in Omaha, Office and Commission of Latino Affairs. Perez will also seek additional clarification on how the final Spanish version be shared. Alaniz offered to print the document once it all details are completed. Perez indicated that there is a desire from the planning committee for the Consulate Generals to meet with the Governor and other agencies. One of the action items that Perez brought up would be the opportunity to sign MOU's that affect Latino children. Perez, it may be a good idea to plan the commission meeting for the day before and if commissioners wanted to stay and volunteer the next day it would be helpful. Wong stated that a meeting with the Governor would be a great opportunity. Alaniz wanted to know if the commission could invite the Governor to the public meeting. Wong said it all depended on the purpose of his presence. Would this be one of the quarterly meetings planned with the Governor? Perez indicated she would contact the Governor's office since she was cleared to do this earlier. Perez will go through Plogmann to inquire. African American report, specific report about the Ambassador of Botswana. Kim Cheeks will be primarily in charge of Status of African Americans, she will also be attending the Latino Affairs meeting except for today.

VI 3:10 PM Discussion and vote on statement draft presented by commissioner Jaimes on Immigration Reform. Joan Jaimes
Immigration Statement. Jaimes said: I don't know if everyone has had the opportunity to read the letter I drafted. The letter is intended for the Iowa legislatures, the Governor, the US Iowa



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Congressional Delegation, Iowans, Latinos and the governor. The intent of the letter is for the recipients to know where the commission stands on the issue, for them to read and understand the issue. Recipients don't have to agree with everything we recommend. The statement is simply broad and it is pro humane and sensible reform. It is pro Human Rights and it connects to why we are here. Jaimes asked if there were any revisions from the commissioners. R. Rodriguez asked about obtaining some metrics to the family separation issue to have more impact. Jaimes indicated that the Department of Homeland Security may have that information but was not sure where to get that information. Jaimes shared that deportations of low priority individuals continue to happen. Alaniz, in terms of this dialogue we are having as commissioners each of us needs to weigh in, I do. There is a lot of data there. The data sometimes can be questioned. It will be good to have it signed on by the commission and seek an amendment that is data related in supporting this data. We have looked at reports that are in the media targeting the Latino community, nationally and locally. Perez indicated many local/state organizations are drafting very similar documents and they are as general, without detailed data. Perez also said these are statements shared with the communities to share a position in support of something that benefits Latinos. Alaniz, I have heard from an individual that had made a data case for the separation of families. Jackson, not sure how will this be received by the Governor since we are programmed to have more direct dialogue with the Governor. Alaniz, I have great respect for the Governor and DHR Staff (Wong, Smith, and Perez). This is an issue that affects all of us and both sides of the isle. I would like to see this resolved quickly and humanely. I don't see this statement as being difficult for the commission to support immigration reform in this manner. Wong, this is how this work aligns with your goals. Wong, I don't think it would be out of order for this commission to point out to the Governor that if this goes through it would support the goals of the state. That is what Jaimes put in place, there is no criticism to the state, is really pointing out how it aligns with the administration's goals. The second part is not directed to the Governor, it is directed to the Iowa Legislature and the Iowa US congressional delegation. The commission is pointing out it affects the Governor's goals. Jaimes, Wong was reading my mind; it is exactly how she explains it. Alaniz, are you suggesting that we take a roll call on this? Jaimes, yes. Alaniz, the document itself would be directed to whom? Iowa Legislature, US Congressional and the Governor. Wong, is this two different documents? I would recommend that it would be two separate documents, that is fine and you can copy the Governor on the one addressed to US Congressional delegation. Wong, you can send this one and the bottom you can address it to the US Congressional delegation and there is no confusion. The second part is directly addressing one of your audiences. The transition is at: As it relates and you can separate it with a line in between both texts.

Division of Community Advocacy and Services



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Alaniz, the one document is OK with me. The background is stated at the beginning of the document. I say we consider accepting as is. We can add a line or bold and underline to see the break of the letter. Use a line break to divide the content of the statement. Alaniz, I propose we vote. Jaimes motions, R. Rodriguez second. Vote: R. Rodriguez, yes, Jaimes accepts, Jackson accepts, motion approves. Perez will make sure to deliver to the three audiences and make sure it is posted online. Deliver is to Iowa Legislature, the Governor's office and the US Congressional delegation and have the letter posted online.

Quorum ended at 3:36PM, no further official business or discussion from this point on.

VII 3:15 PM Commission Report as it relates to the Iowa Code and the work by individual Commissioners in different priorities set by the commission. **Sal Alaniz**

- Opportunities for & Changing Needs of Iowa Latino Population
- Liaison & Partnership
- DHR Board – Recommendations, Studies & Action
- Legislative & Executive
- Advisory Committees, Work Groups & Partnerships

VIII 4:00 PM Department of Human Rights Board representative report.

Joan Jaimes

IX 4:10-4:25 PM Public comment.
available).

Public (Signup sheet

X Adjourn.
Adjourned at 3:36PM.

Respectfully submitted:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alba Perez", written over a horizontal line.

Edits by Alba Perez
Executive Officer of Latino Affairs