



SPECIAL PERSONNEL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Electronically Recorded (AUDIO ONLY)

Assembly Bill 361 (9/2021) added section 54953(e) to the Government Code, authorizing a local agency to use teleconferencing without complying with the teleconferencing requirements imposed by the Ralph M. Brown Act during a declared state of emergency under specific scenarios. The law remains in effect until January 1, 2024.

Due to the state of emergency proclaimed by Governor Newsom in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and its highly contagious variants, and as authorized by per AB 361 and SMMUSD Board of Education Resolution No. 21-08, the February 23 special Personnel Commission meeting was held virtually via Zoom (<http://bit.ly/SMMUSDPCMEETING>; meeting ID: **898 6103 9433**; password: **SMMUSD**).

February 23, 2023

PERSONNEL COMMISSIONERS:

Mrs. Lauren Robinson, Mrs. Mahshid Tarazi, and Mr. Phillip Tate

A special meeting of the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Personnel Commission was held on **Thursday, February 23, 2022**, at **9:06 a.m.**, via Zoom.

❖ **Instructions on Public Comments:**

Persons wishing to address the Personnel Commission must submit a request for public comment using the following link prior to the beginning of Public Comments:
<https://forms.gle/HsfWNT5CzZ1QqgGr8>.

OPEN SESSION

I. GENERAL FUNCTIONS:

G.01 Call to Order: The Open Session of the Special Meeting of the Personnel Commission was called to order at 9:06 a.m.

G.02 Roll Call: Commissioners Robinson and Tate were present.

Commissioner	M	S	Yes	No	Abstain	ABSENT
Lauren Robinson		✓	✓			
Mahshid Tarazi						✓
Phillip Tate	✓		✓			

If you will require an accommodation to participate in the Commission meeting, please notify the Personnel Commission Office at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

G.03 Public Comments:

Public Comments is the time when members of the audience may address the Personnel Commission on items not scheduled on the meeting's agenda. All speakers are limited to three (3) minutes. The Brown Act (Government Code) states that Personnel Commission members may not engage in discussion of issues raised during "Public Comments" except to ask clarifying questions, make a brief announcement, make a brief report on his or her own activities, or to refer the matter to staff.

- **None**

II. HEARING:

H.01 Public Employee Disciplinary Hearing Conference
Employee #: TQ7792494

- **Commissioner Robinson introduced herself as the Hearing Chair who would make all the procedural rulings on behalf of the Personnel Commission. She assured that an orderly and equitable hearing will occur so that all relevant facts and evidence bearing upon the case may be presented for the Commissioners' consideration.**
- **The District was being represented by counsel, Ms. Elizabeth Zamora-Mejia.**
- **The Appellant, Mr. Daniel Guerrero, was being represented by SEIU Chief Steward, Mr. Chris Mock, and was also joined by SEIU Union Steward, Ms. Julie Bechtloff.**
- **The Witnesses were identified and sworn accordingly:
District witnesses: Cynthia McGregory, former Principal of Franklin Elementary
Vanessa Diaz, First Grade Teacher at Franklin Elementary
Jennifer Rodstrom, First Grade Teacher at Franklin Elementary
Monica Micale, First Grade Teacher at Franklin Elementary
Sheri Hynding, Assistant Principal at Franklin Elementary
Dr. Steven Richardson, Executive Director, Elementary**
- **Commissioner Robinson proceeded with a reading of the procedures that were followed in the hearing.**
- **The District and the Appellant's representative presented their opening statements.**
- **The District witnesses provided testimony and were cross-examined.**
- **Both parties agreed to continue with the hearing on March 2, 2023.**

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR CLOSED SESSION ITEMS ONLY:

Persons wishing to address the Personnel Commission regarding an item scheduled for closed session must submit the "Request to Address" card prior to the start of closed session.

- **None**

IV. CLOSED SESSION:

The Commission adjourned to closed session at _____ p.m. pursuant to Government Code Section 54957 to discuss:

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINARY HEARING DELIBERATION
Employee #: TQ7792494

The Commission reconvened into open session at _____ p.m. and reported on the following action taken in closed session:

- **Closed Session didn't take place due to continuation of the hearing.**

V. NEXT REGULAR PERSONNEL COMMISSION MEETING:

Wednesday, March 8, 2023, at 4:30 p.m. - *District Office Board Room*

The next Special Personnel Commission Meeting was scheduled for March 2, 2023.

VI. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Personnel Commission, it is recommended that the meeting be adjourned.

It was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting.

Commissioner	M	S	Yes	No	Abstain	ABSENT
Lauren Robinson		✓	✓			
Mahshid Tarazi						✓
Phillip Tate	✓		✓			

TIME ADJOURNED: 4:40 p.m.

Submitted by:

Joshua Kahn
Secretary to the Personnel Commission
Director, Classified Personnel