
From: CHIAO Becky * PRC
Sent: Monday, August 17, 2020 4:21 PM
To: CHIAO Becky * PRC
Subject: PRAC Meeting-Additional Materials

The next meeting of the Oregon Public Records Advisory Council (“PRAC”) will be at 1 pm Thursday August 20. The agenda and instructions for joining the meeting via [gotomeeting.com](https://www.oregon.gov/prac/Pages/advisory-council.aspx) are on the PRAC website: <https://www.oregon.gov/prac/Pages/advisory-council.aspx>

There are also links draft meeting minutes from May 28, June 10, and June 17 on the page. If people have a chance to review the minutes before the meeting, we should be able to approve any corrections or amendments fairly quickly.

If you would like to review the proposed amendments to ORS 192.461, they are on the website as well, under the June 2020 meeting heading.

Attached to this email are two pdf documents that will also be posted on the PRAC website for review prior to the meeting. The first is from PRAC member Emily Harris to provide some background about an agenda item she proposed. The second is some preliminary thoughts I have about future PRAC meetings. I’m sending this out ahead of the meeting in aid of discussion, but want to be clear these are ideas subject to change after we talk as a group.

I’m looking forward to Thursday. If you have any suggestions for me about chairing a successful meeting, please let me know.

Regards,

Becky Chiao | Oregon Public Records Advocate
(she and they pronouns)
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Salem, OR 97310
(971) 345-1349 [oregon.gov/prac](https://www.oregon.gov/prac)

Aug 14, 2020

Hello PRAC members! Here is more information about agenda item V., the Governor's office investigation into Ginger's resignation, which I proposed for our August 20 meeting.

I first heard of the investigation in the July 24 email from Ginger; I believe everybody was on that but I've pasted it below just in case. I had some questions, including some logistical things (when authorized, by whom, when expected to end, cost, source of funding), and most importantly, what is the purpose of the investigation, especially at this point. I wanted to discuss at the Aug 20 meeting whether we wanted to send a note to the Governor with such questions.

Becky very kindly reached out to the Governor's office and learned some information, which she can share in detail at the meeting. Generally speaking, it was described as an effort to figure out what went wrong and seek ways for improvement. No one involved is an employee any more. There is no timeline for finishing the work.

I'd like to propose that we send a note to the Governor's office encouraging a deadline and asking that the results be shared with the PRAC.

Looking forward to seeing everyone soon.

Best,



Emily

Ginger McCall email to PRAC 7/24 / subject line Investigation

Hello PRAC members,

I hope that you are all well and staying safe. I was excited to see that a new Advocate was selected and will be starting work soon.

I am writing to you because I have been contacted by an attorney named Brenda Baumgart with Stoel Rives law firm. Brenda stated that her firm has been retained by Governor Brown's office to conduct an investigation into the events leading up to my resignation.

I cannot speak to the motivation or timing of this investigation. While I have been told that the investigation is independent, I have also been told that the Governor's office is funding it.

I have not yet decided how I will respond to the invitation to participate in this investigation. As you can probably guess, the last few months of my time in Oregon was the most difficult time in my life. I am now

expecting a baby on August 8 and I have worked hard to rebuild my life here in DC, so I am reluctant to revisit that difficult chapter a year after the fact.

I also feel that I've already said a lot about this in the public record. All relevant documents, at least from my end, have been disclosed. Nonetheless, my instinct is to at least endeavor to answer whatever questions may still be outstanding.

I wanted to write to you now, though, to let you all know about this investigation, because some of you may be contacted and because I think it would be helpful for you to understand my thinking about it.

I hope again that you are all safe and well and that you've found a way to manage in these difficult times. I look forward to continuing to follow your work and the work of the Advocate in the future.

*Sincerely,
Ginger McCall*

To: Oregon Public Records Advisory Council

From: Becky Chiao, Public Records Advocate

Date: August 17, 2020

Re: PRAC Meetings Proposal

I suggest that we schedule four quarterly meetings for the PRAC for the next year—November 20, 2020, February 20, May 20, and August 20, 2021 (or dates near those dates that work for people's schedules). Stephanie Clark has agreed to continue to help by setting up the meetings and taking minutes.

My goal is to present a draft 2019-2020 Biennial PRAC Report at the November meeting before the December 1, 2020 due date, and a draft Strategic Plan for the office at the February meeting.

In between the quarterly meetings, I suggest we convene in subcommittees focusing on the two immediate priority areas of Legislative Goals and the Report. I am willing to be the chair/convener of the subcommittees and will be asking for people to volunteer to join one or both groups. I estimate that the Legislative Subcommittee will meet at least once a week for the next month and then monthly thereafter and that the Report Subcommittee will meet once or twice in September and then more frequently in October and November.