

Co-Chair
Vernon Sykes, Representative
34th House District



Co-Chair
William G. Batchelder, Speaker
69th House District

OHIO CONSTITUTIONAL MODERNIZATION COMMISSION

Organization and Administration Committee **Report of Meeting Convened on July 10, 2013**

Due to Chairman Richard Walinski's continuing difficulty speaking, Douglas Cole accepted designation as Chair Pro Tem for the Committee's July meeting. Present at the meeting were Chair Walinski, Chair Pro Tem Cole, Representative Kathleen Clyde, and Commissioner Paula Brooks. In advance of the July meeting, the Co-chairs announced that Senator Coley has been removed from the Organization and Administration Committee and that that Senator Obhof was appointed to the Committee. Senator Obhof was present at the July meeting.

Discussion among the Committee members revealed that their memories were vague about whether the Commission acted on the Organization and Administration Committee's recommendation to amend the Interim Rules of Procedure and Conduct to require roll-call votes in Subject-Matter Committees. Without the ability to review the minutes of the Commission's June meeting, the Committee voted to recommend that the Commission amend the Interim Rules – if it has not already done so – to require that votes taken in Subject-Matter Committees on whether to recommend to the Commission a specific proposal to amend the Ohio Commission be taken by roll call and that each committee member's vote be recorded in the minutes of the committee. The motion was accepted (5-0).

In view of the enactment of the biennial budget bill, Chair Pro Tem Cole led a discussion on a draft budget for the Commission. Chair Walinski noted that the draft budget he prepared included margin comments regarding several budget items. Because those comments did not appear on the printed copy that was distributed to each committee member, Chair Pro Tem Cole read each of the comments to the Committee. The committee discussed the draft budget at length as well as the budgeted salaries for the Commission's staff. Commissioner Brooks suggested that the committee accept the draft budget in concept, recognizing that before the Committee's August meeting effort would be made to firm up some budget items and to estimate items that are blank in the draft. Chair Pro Tem Cole moved to accept the budget in concept. The motion was accepted (4-1). Chair Walinski stated that he would include the preliminary draft of the budget in the report to the Commission and that the Committee at its August meeting would continue work on a budget to propose to the Commission at its August meeting. A copy of the draft budget discussed at the July meeting of the Organization and Administration Committee is attached.

Representative Clyde presented the enhanced job description of the Executive Director. The Committee discussed Representative Clyde's presentation at length. The Committee agreed to specific changes and that Representative Clyde and Chair Pro Tem would insert the changes in Representative Clyde's draft. A copy of the job description is attached

Chair Pro Tem Cole led a lengthy discussion regarding the posting of the Executive Director position. In light of the authority that the Commission gave the Committee in June to proceed with posting of the Executive Director position, the Committee voted to post the job description as modified. The motion was accepted (5-0). The Committee expects the position to be posted by late July.

Chair Walinski offered a proposed guideline of the process for hiring the remainder of the Commission's full-time staff. The committee stood at ease while copies of the guideline were made and distributed; once reconvened the committee discussed the hiring processes at length. Senator Obhof requested that committee members be allowed more time to review the intended hiring process. Chair Pro Tem Cole moved to table further discussion of the hiring process until the August committee meeting (5-0).

On July 15, Chair Walinski notified the Co-chairs of the Commission that, because of the intractable difficulty he has had speaking and the uncertainties about the cause and probable course of the condition, the best interest of the Commission require him to relinquish his position as chair of the Organization and Administration Committee. Email attached.