



OHIO CONSTITUTIONAL MODERNIZATION COMMISSION

REVISED MINUTES OF THE ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

FOR THE MEETING HELD
THURSDAY, MAY 30, 2013

Call to Order:

Chair Richard Walinski called the meeting of the Organization and Administration Committee to order at 11:39 a.m.

Members Present:

A quorum was present with Chair Walinski, Vice-chair Rugola, and committee members Brooks, Clyde, Cole, and Kurfess in attendance.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of the May 9, 2013 meeting of the committee were reviewed and approved.

Discussion:

Chair Walinski announced the next meeting date of June 13, 2013 in the morning, meeting time to be determined. Chair Walinski requested an update of budget details from Lizz Eisaman, majority policy advisor, and the staff indicated that they will follow up with the committee.

Discussion was held on extending/reviewing the temporary consulting contract with Steven H. Steinglass. Discussion was held regarding the Senior Policy Advisor role.

Chair Walinski moved to give authority to the Commission Co-Chairs to extend the contract of Mr. Steinglass. The motion was agreed to without objection. Committee member Charles Kurfess commented the contract should be extended until the chief of staff/executive director is on board.

Mr. Kurfess asked if Mr. Steinglass will play a direct role in hiring staff. Mr. Steinglass noted that he is interested in that responsibility.

Committee member Doug Cole inquired about contracting law. Richard N. Coglianesse, principal attorney with the Office of the Ohio Attorney General, addressed the members of the committee. They discussed if the dollar value is an issue or not for the Controlling Board. Mr. Coglianesse replied he needs to check with the Co-Chairs office to see if public contracting is an issue.

Chair Walinski held open discussion to the draft proposed amendment to the Interim Rules. Chair Walinski discussed the standing committee chairs' conference call regarding audio/video and public records. Representative Kathleen Clyde asked if the meetings will be video/audio recorded. Chair Walinski replied the Commission's Public Education and Information Committee will review this issue and make a recommendation to the full Commission.

Chair Walinski held discussion on the issue of whether the committee should draft a rule relating to nonpartisanship. The committee discussed the issue at length. Committee member Paula Brooks moved to table the discussion, and the committee agreed to the motion with no objections.

Chair Walinski held additional discussion with the committee regarding the budget. Sarah Cherry, minority legal counsel for the House, addressed the committee, stating that, at this time, no changes had been made to Commission's budget in the Senate. It was noted that the Legislative Service Commission (LSC) is listed as the fiscal agent for the Commission.

Chair Walinski held discussion on staffing positions regarding job descriptions, full-time, part-time and posting. Committee members discussed ranges of compensation and procedure for the search and hiring. Chair Walinski asked for recommendations from the members of the committee. The following positions were agreed by the members: Executive Director, Commission Counsel, Public Relations Officer, Administrative Assistant, Fiscal Officer. It was agreed that all would be full-time positions, with a part-time Senior Advisor to do consulting work.

Mr. Steinglass noted he will review the March 25, 2013 memo and follow-up with the committee.

Mr. Kurfess had questions about the fiscal officer position. Rep. Clyde also raised questions of LSC being the fiscal agent. Chair Walinski requested Rep. Clyde to research the role of independent fiscal agent and follow up with the committee. Chair Walinski requested Ms. Brooks to have pay range information and position descriptions at the next meeting. Additional items were discussed by the committee including cost for travel expenses and supplies.

Chair Walinski held a discussion on office space and cost. Ms. Cherry provided a draft of a floor plan and office space details.

The committee continued discussion on posting and procedures for search and hiring. It was noted that the Commission is not required by the Ohio Department of Administrative Services to publicly post job opportunities. Chair Walinski stated he will draft a proposal for the hiring of a Senior Advisor/Executive Director position and the other three positions will filled by the executive director, with oversight of the committee.

Chair Walinski opened the discussion to the public for questions.

Peg Rosenfield, elections specialist with the League of Women Voters of Ohio, commented that all public meetings should be noticed and open to the public.

Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 1:25 p.m.

Approval:

The minutes of the May 30, 2013 meeting of the Organization and Administration Committee were approved at the June 13, 2013 meeting of the committee.

/s/ Mark Wagoner

Mark Wagoner, Chair *for Richard Walinski*

/s/ Edward L. Gilbert

Edward L. Gilbert, Vice-chair *for Joseph Rugola*