



## OHIO CONSTITUTIONAL MODERNIZATION COMMISSION

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### MINUTES OF THE ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

#### FOR THE MEETING HELD THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2015

#### **Call to Order:**

Chair Mark Wagoner called the meeting of the Organization and Administration Committee to order at 11:35 a.m.

#### **Members Present:**

A quorum was present with Chair Wagoner and committee members Brooks, Cole, Kurfess, and Skindell in attendance.

#### **Approval of Minutes:**

The minutes of the September 11, 2014 and July 9, 2015 meetings of the committee were approved.

#### **Presentations:**

*“Proposed Amendments to Rules of Procedure and Conduct”*

*Steven C. Hollon*  
*Executive Director*

Executive Director Steven C. Hollon presented a new draft of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct incorporating changes discussed at the committee’s last meeting. Mr. Hollon referenced a memorandum on the topic, provided in the meeting packet, describing the proposed changes to the rules.

Senator Michael Skindell then discussed amendments he was proposing to the rule changes, to further clarify that if a committee or the Commission is recommending no change to a constitutional provision, there can be at least one meeting, but if a change is recommended, the

committee or Commission is required to consider the change in at least two consecutive meetings.

The committee first considered the initial amendment as proposed at its previous meeting. Upon motion by committee member Doug Cole, and second by Ms. Brooks, there were no objections to the amendment. The amendment was adopted.

The committee then considered whether the clarifying amendment as proposed by Sen. Skindell should be adopted. Chair Wagoner asked for a roll call on the motion to adopt the amendment to the rules with Sen. Skindell's amendment.

Yea – 5  
Nay – 0  
Absent – 3

Commissioner Brooks – yea  
Doug Cole - yea  
Speaker Kurfess – yea  
Senator Skindell – yea  
Mark Wagoner – yea

The roll call vote passed unanimously. Chair Wagoner then asked staff to harmonize the changes and circulate the new version of the rules.

*“FY2016 Proposed Budget”*

*Steven C. Hollon*  
*Executive Director*

The committee then turned to the Commission's proposed budget for the new fiscal year. Mr. Hollon stated that the committee could not vote to adopt the budget at the last meeting because there was not a quorum. Mr. Hollon described the changes in the budget from last year, indicating that staff now has all necessary furniture and has a better estimate of the costs for office supplies.

Sen. Skindell asked whether, for the most part, the Commission will adhere to these particular line items, not to exceed. Mr. Hollon said there is a \$600,000 annual budget, and he worked with the Legislative Service Commission budget person to address the various allocations. Sen. Skindell asked, if there is a change, such as if staff needs to spend more on office supplies, whether the committee would be consulted or whether the amount would just come from another category. Chair Wagoner offered that the solution would be to treat the budget figures as “not to exceed” numbers, and for Mr. Hollon to get a vote from the committee if it is necessary to exceed the budgeted amount.

Committee member Paula Brooks referenced an interest she has expressed on other occasions to have the Commission hold meetings on the road. She asked whether, if the Commission does

that, the budget would suffice to cover that expense. Mr. Hollon said that is a good question to which he doesn't know the answer at this time.

Sen. Skindell noted that when he sat on one of the redistricting committees in the General Assembly, the group held hearings in Lima and Cincinnati. He said those trips required an overnight stay, and there may be some expense if the Commission does something similar. Ms. Brooks said it is part of democracy to be sure the Commission has the input of many people, so it is important to get out to other parts of Ohio. She said that concept is critical to this process, and she finds it disappointing that the Commission hasn't traveled in the three years of its existence. Sen. Skindell agreed the Commission might do this, but if meetings are held in other communities it would be necessary to get the funding if there will be overnight expenses.

Chair Wagoner asked for a motion to approve the budget, and Sen. Skindell so moved, with a second by Mr. Cole. The budget passed unanimously by roll call vote.

With leave of the chair, Ms. Brooks then introduced a guest, Awa Moriba Coulibaly, Project Manager with the Prime Minister's office, and a citizen of Cote d'Ivoire, whom Brooks is sponsoring in Columbus as a guest of the United States State Department. She said Coulibaly is participating in a program to allow her to learn about local government, and that she will produce a report on women leaders and youth.

**Adjournment:**

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned.

**Approval:**

The minutes of the September 10, 2015 meeting of the Organization and Administration Committee were approved at the September 8, 2016 meeting of the committee.

/s/ Mark Wagoner  
Mark Wagoner, Chair

/s/ Edward L. Gilbert  
Edward L. Gilbert, Vice-chair