



COALITION of LARGE OHIO URBAN TOWNSHIPS
Winter Conference Annual Meeting
Thursday, February 18, 2010

4:45 pm
C 223

MINUTES

- I. Welcome (4:45 pm) Fought called the meeting to order at 4:50 pm. Cochran welcomed members and introduced new OTA Executive Director Matthew DeTemple. Cochran noted that OTA staffers were running the meeting due to the past CLOUT chair, Trustee Jim Agan (Orange Twp. / Delaware Co.) not being re-elected.
- II. Old Business
 - A. Review of legislation pending 128th General Assembly - Fought reviewed several bills pending before the General Assembly that would have an impact on large townships. This included: HB 271 (Firefighter Collective Bargaining) and HB 393 (Nuisance Abatements). She noted that only a handful of bills had been enacted by the Governor so far in the first 13 months of the 128th General Assembly which could be a good thing right now but could cause craziness during lame duck later in the year. Fought informed the members that former township trustee, now Senator, Bill Seitz would be introducing legislation on behalf of the OTA that will address annexation, JEDD, TIF and executive session issues. (handout provided listing all of the items included)
 - B. Review of CLOUT priorities for 128th General Assembly - A handout was provided listing the CLOUT priorities for this General Assembly. Fought asked that members review the priorities and share thoughts with new executive committee, as priorities will be set later this year for the new Assembly elected in November.
- III. New Business
 - A. Discussion on requests for amicus curiae briefs (Impact Fees, Land Use, Annexation) - Cochran provided details on three court cases that were recently before the Supreme Court or Court of Appeals. Cochran explained that typically the CLOUT Executive Committee would be providing input to the State Association staff but due to half of the Committee not getting re-elected, the State Association was bringing the items before the membership. The first case was a request by Hamilton Township (Warren Co.) asking for CLOUT to join in an amicus brief supporting the township's position that as a home rule township they may impose an impact fee. The court of common pleas ruled in favor of the township and now the case is before the Court of Appeals. Without objection, the membership agreed to file an amicus brief with the State Association supporting Hamilton Township. The second case, which CLOUT joined with the State Association on an amicus brief, pertains to land use. The Supreme Court recently concluded that a township does not have to have its own comprehensive

plan but can use a county comprehensive plan for the basis of the township's zoning plan. It was noted by Cochran that the better practice is for the township to have its own plan. The last case was also recently decided by the Supreme Court. The Court ruled that a township may not be a party to seek a writ of mandamus to compel the board of county commissioners to perform its duties under ORC §709.023(G), which requires the petition for annexation under this section to meet seven criteria. CLOUT had participated in an amicus brief with the State Association on this case. State Association staff will be working with Senator Seitz to try and include corrective language in the omnibus township bill.

- B. Discussion of CLOUT Executive Committee - Fought provided a brief overview of the history and responsibilities of the Executive Committee and how representatives from each district are selected. (map outlining districts was distributed)
 - 1. Leadership - CLOUT Chair and Vice Chair will be selected from the representatives that comprise the 2010-2011 CLOUT Executive Committee.
 - 2. Election - Each district met to select three members and one alternate for the Executive Committee. (see attached list of 2010-2011 Exec. Comm.)
- C. 2011 Legislative Luncheon - Fought asked for guidance with respect to continuing the legislative luncheon for CLOUT members in odd years. She noted that attendance by legislators has been very poor due to the fact that the luncheon is on a Thursday afternoon and most legislators return home on Wednesday evening or Thursday morning. She suggested CLOUT may want to consider an event on Wednesday but cautioned that CLOUT members would need to come in a day earlier. It was suggested that CLOUT consider a breakfast on Wednesday morning in the Statehouse Atrium or at the Capital Club. Fought will work with new Executive Committee on this suggestion.

IV. Items for the Good of the Organization - The following items were raised by members: HB 317 (Credit Unions) and annexation case involving North Canton, Canton and Jackson Township.

V. Next General Meeting Date - The next general meeting date will be at the 2011 Winter Conference. The next Executive Committee meeting will be in April.

VII. Adjournment (5:48 pm)