



COALITION of LARGE OHIO URBAN TOWNSHIPS Executive Committee Meeting

Monday, October 25, 2010

MINUTES

- I. Welcome (10:30 am) Chair Earhart called the meeting to order at 10:35 am. Those in attendance were: Vicky Earhart (Hamilton County - South), Karl Schultz (Clermont County - South), Chris Galloway (Lake County - NE), Christine Maticic (Butler County - South), Phil Haskell (Lake County - NE) and Jeff Ferrell (Erie County - NW). Also in attendance were Matthew DeTemple (OTA Executive Director) and Heidi M. Fought (OTA Director of Governmental Affairs).
- II. Old Business
 - A. **Approval of July 19, 2010 Minutes - Maticic moved, seconded by Schultz, to approve the July 19 minutes. Without objection, motion carried.**
 - B. Commission on Local Government Reform & Collaboration - Fought informed the Committee that the Commission issued their report on September 1 and that a copy of the report can be found at www.ohioreformandcollaboration.org.
 - C. Review of Amicus Curia Briefs Filed - **For the record, it was noted that via e-mail Galloway moved, seconded by Gebhardt, to support CLOUT joining an amicus brief in support of the Medina County Commissioners' request for the Supreme Court to exercise jurisdiction over Sanderbeck v. County of Medina where the Ninth District Court had improperly expanded the duties of public entities to test and maintain their roads by declaring that a road was not in repair because the skid resistance of the road reached a certain point and therefore was "worn out." Motion carried 8-0.**

DeTemple reviewed several cases currently pending that do or could have an impact on larger townships. In *Rumpke Sanitary Landfill v. State of Ohio* a case involving Colerain Township in Hamilton County, the case concerns a private landfill being considered a public utility for zoning purposes and the township being considered a party for purposes of intervening in the case. DeTemple noted that the Supreme Court has accepted the case and has had oral arguments. The next case DeTemple spoke of involves Hamilton Township in Warren County. DeTemple explained that *Homebuilders Association of Greater Cincinnati v. Hamilton Township* pertains to a limited home rule township's ability to levy an impact fee. The lower court and court of appeals has ruled in favor of Hamilton Township. The State Association and CLOUT will be filing an amicus brief should the Supreme Court hear the case.

- D. Review of CLOUT Regional Meetings - Chair Earhart, Matacic and Schultz shared details about the SW regional meeting that took place on October 1 in Liberty Township (Butler Co.). It was reported that a representative from 12 townships attended the meeting. At the meeting, it was noted that all townships need to engage in better public relations to make sure residents and media understand what townships do and services they provide. Other topics discussed include: weight limits on township roads, median landscaping, and legislative priorities.

Chair Earhart encouraged Executive Committee members from other CLOUT regions to organize a meeting of their respective townships.

III. New Business

- A. Approval of Recommended Process for Requesting CLOUT Support/Funding - Chair Earhart distributed a draft of process for review and comment. It was suggested by one member to add a line asking requestor to state why he/she feels the case or issue has statewide importance. Executive Committee members were asked to provide further feedback to the Chair within the next month so that the process can be finalized prior to CLOUT annual meeting in February.
- B. Membership for 2011 - Fought distributed a draft copy of the membership letter which will be mailed to all CLOUT townships in the next week.
- C. Approval of CLOUT Priorities for 129th General Assembly - Members reviewed and discussed the legislative priorities from the 128th General Assembly in order to develop priorities for the 129th General Assembly. **After much discussion it was moved by Matacic, seconded by Earhart, to eliminate the priority that would allow urban townships to join the municipal rate pool for workers' compensation purposes. Motion carried. It was moved by Galloway, seconded by Schultz, to eliminate the priority that would remove rollback requirements on levies that included "no rollback" in language. Motion carried. It was moved by Matacic, seconded by Haskell, to alter the priority requiring ODOT to place a township with a minimum of 5,000 population in the unincorporated territory on exit signs from state and interstate routes, defining them as a place.** Fought will send altered priority list to Executive Committee members for a final review prior to the annual meeting.
- D. 2011 Legislative Breakfast Reception - Wednesday, February 9 from 8:00-9:30 am - Fought reported that the State Association has finalized reception details including transportation, invitations, cost and catering. She noted that the Reception will be held at the Capital Club, located across from the Statehouse, and that transportation will be provided to and from the Hyatt Regency. Invitations will be mailed to CLOUT members in December and to legislators the first week of January.

IV. Items for the Good of the Organization

Matacic encouraged Executive Committee members to attend GoOhio meetings that are being organized by ODOT. Additionally she provided information on a piece of potential legislation that would create Regional Transportation Infrastructure Zones. The concept is endorsed by the Ohio Kentucky Indiana (OKI) Regional Council of Governments.

Haskell requested the Executive Committee consider utilizing technology to provide video conferencing. Fought will look into costs and set up requirements and report back at next Executive Committee meeting.

V. Next Meeting Date (Winter Conference - February 9 @ 10:30 am)

VII. Adjournment (12:30 pm) - **With no further business to come before the Committee, Matic moved, seconded by Ferrell, to adjourn. Without objection, motion carried and meeting was adjourned at 12:48 pm.**