

DRAFT

Commission on Local Government Reform and Collaboration

January 30, 2009

10:30 a.m.

Minutes

Attendance

Dan Foley

Dean DePiero

Jennifer Economus

Anita Lopez

Tim Downing

Robert Roland

Larry Wolpert

Chester Jourdan

Tom Weidman

Daniel Troy

Lynda Murray

Michael Cochran

Via Telephone

Martin Jenkins

Open Meeting:

The meeting was called to order at 10:32 a.m. by co-chair Anita Lopez, everyone that was in attendance introduced themselves, minutes and handouts were distributed.

Anita Lopez reported that the draft of the minutes from the last meeting have been posted Lucas County website.

Dan Troy presented copies of the objectives from several of the commission members. He also discussed the issue of funding for the commission. He reported that about \$160,000 remained from the \$200,000 that was originally appropriated for the Cuyahoga Commission on Government Reform and has been in contact with several elected officials at the state level in having these dollars re-appropriated to this Commission. However, a commitment has not been received in light of budget constraints. It was suggested to continue to dialogue in order to identify funding. He also suggested that the Commission could ask for authorization for the Legislative Service Commission to provide staff.

Discussion:

Mission and Goals:

Facilitators from The John Glenn Institute at The Ohio State University, Dave Wyrick, and Professor Jennifer Evans Conway were invited to assist in a discussion to identify the mission and goals of the Commission. A summary handout of similar studies done in other states was presented.

Discussion began by asking the members to identify:

1. What should the mission and goals be?
2. What do you expect as the end result of your work here?

This led to an in depth conversation in which Commission members provided a wide range of their own thoughts on what the goals, mission, and end-results should be. The presenters from The John Glenn Institute agreed to pull together the comments, prepare a summary of goals, and provide this document to the Commission for review. It was agreed that this summary will be used to identify, prioritize, and reach a consensus of the Commission's mission and goals at the next meeting.

Research Proposal:

The Resolution from The John Glenn Institute at The Ohio State University to assist the commission research and study opportunities for reform was discussed. The John Glenn Institute stated that they were willing to take the lead in identifying and creating an alliance among other universities that would be interested partnering to perform the necessary research for the Commission. The John Glenn Institute was asked to amend their original proposal include other state agencies and other consulting firms as potential partners. Guests, in attendance, were asked if they had any concerns with this John Glenn Institute taking the lead in putting together the alliance. There was no opposition voiced. It was determined that the Resolution would be redrafted to include these amendments and adopted officially at the next meeting. The redraft would also provide a breakdown of the estimated costs for additional services. Co-Chair Lopez asked for a show of hands that it is ok to ask The John Glenn Institute to unofficially take the lead in moving forward. There was no opposition voiced.

Funding:

The importance of identifying potential funding for the Commission to accomplish its goals and to obtain the necessary research was discussed. Suggestions included the successful re-appropriation of the \$160,000 remaining that was originally designated for the Cuyahoga County Reform Commission, identifying state and local agencies that are able to provide assistance at no cost to help make the government more efficient, and other interested business entities and/or foundations.

Next Meeting:

1. The Commission agreed to invite Bob Steinbock from the Montgomery Planning Board to provide a timeline presentation at the next meeting.
2. The summary of goals from The John Glenn Institute would be reviewed in order to identify and agree upon the Commission's mission.
3. The amended Resolution from The John Glenn Institute would be submitted for review and possible approval.

The next meeting for the Commission on Local Government Reform and Collaboration set for Friday, February 27, 2009 at 10:30 a.m.

Motion to Adjourn was submitted by Lynda Murray and 2nd by Tim Downing.