

Local Government Commission  
Worthington Board of Education Building  
200 E. Wilson Bridge Road  
Worthington, Ohio

Minutes  
July 31, 2009

The Local Government Commission meeting was called to order on July 30, 2009 at 10:35, by Chairman Daniel Troy. A quorum was present.

In attendance:

Daniel Troy, Chair	Charleta Tavares	Larry Wolpert
Anita Lopez, Chair	Tom Weidman	Jennifer Economus
Chester Jourdan	Tim Downing	
Lynda Murray	Robert Roland	
Michael Cochran	Martin Jenkins	

*Tavares moved, and Lopez seconded the approval of the June 26 Minutes. The motion was adopted unanimously.*

Tim Downing notified the Commission that the Commission had received its first invoice from Ohio State University's John Glenn School of Public Policy. The invoice was for \$1,010.00. Downing recommended that the invoice be paid.

*Downing moved, and Tavares seconded the payment of the John Glenn School invoice for \$1010.00. The motion was adopted unanimously.*

Martin Jenkins asked if it was necessary for the Commission to approve each invoice. Downing reminded the Commission that at an earlier meeting, it was decided that the Commission would approve each invoice. The Commission would not be receiving that many additional invoices, and Mr. Downing indicated that he would be more comfortable if the Commission approved each invoice.

Chairman Troy advised the Commission that the language amended into HB 1 by the House and amended out by the Senate giving additional responsibilities to the Commission, mysteriously reappeared in the final version of HB 1. The language asks the Commission to consider including language that makes annual financial reporting across local government consistent and aligning regional planning units across state agencies. Mr. Jenkins suggested that we have considered it, and that is sufficient, and believes that no further action need be taken by the Commission on these two points.

Randy Cole from the Office of the State Auditor spoke briefly about some of the work the Auditor's office is doing that may be of interest to the Commission. They are working with the Ohio Auditors Association on a more uniform accounting and reporting mechanism through a

Department of Development grant. They are also doing research on accounting Best Practices that will be applicable to local governments (contact is Penny Stiple) that they will share with the Commission. The Auditor's office is planning a Local Government Summit on November 19, 2009.

Bonnie Michael, Worthington City Council member welcomed the Commission to Worthington, and thanked the Commission for hosting their first Public Hearing in Worthington.

The Commission began the Public Hearing at 10:55. Copies of testimony are appended to these minutes.

Jennifer Crowley provided the research report summary to the Commission for their review. Although the Commission initially identified the possibility of six separate research projects, the review committee recommended the following four projects:

Kent State University "Local Government Collaboration in Ohio: An Assessment of Inter-Governmental Collaborations"

Miami University "Inter-jurisdiction Collaboration Begets Collaboration? Does inter-jurisdictional collaboration in one area lead to additional collaboration in other areas?"

Wright State University "Creative Government: State Policies and Incentives to Foster Interlocal Collaboration"

The University of Toledo "The Study of Local Governments Collaboration in Lucas County, Ohio"

Cochran moved and Murray seconded to authorize the acceptance of and funding for the four recommended research projects. Mr. Rowland asked how much money was held back as a result of only approving four research projects. Mr. Downing said that if the four research projects were approved, there would be \$30,000 remaining for other projects or expenses. The motion was then adopted unanimously.

The next meeting of the Commission will be held at the Toledo Lucas County Public Library in Toledo on August 28. The library is located at 325 Michigan Street, Toledo.

Mr. Downing asked if the Commission was interested in changing the date of the November Commission meeting, since it would fall on the day after Thanksgiving as currently scheduled. The Commission agreed that the November Commission meeting will be held on November 20 in the Cleveland area.

*Weidman moved and Lopez seconded adjourning the Local Government Commission meeting. Without objection, the meeting was adjourned by Co-chair Troy.*