



Minutes of Meeting
CITIZENS' EFFICIENCY COMMISSION
April 14, 2014

ATTENDANCE

Citizens' Efficiency Commissioners

X	Larry Bomke	X	Robert Plunk
X	Josh Collins	X	J.D. Sudeth
X	James Donelan	X	Joan Walters
X	Karen Hasara	X	Robert Wesley
	Jackie Newman		

Others

Norm Sims- SSCRPC
 Jeff Fulgenzi- SSCRPC

Amy Uden- SSCRPC

I. CALL TO ORDER

Interim Chairperson Karen Hasara called the meeting of the Citizens' Efficiency Commission to order. New commissioners were introduced to the group.

II. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Interim Chair Hasara indicated that, while it had been an honor to serve as chair of the CEC during its first term, she felt it appropriate for the group to consider electing new officers for its renewed work. She asked for a motion to amend the agenda so that this business item could be handled first. Mr. Wesley made this motion, with Mr. Plunk seconding, followed by a unanimous vote in favor.

Chair Hasara opened the floor for discussion and nominations. Mr. Plunk moved that Joan Walters be nominated as Chair, with Sen. Bomke seconding. Ms. Walters was unanimously elected.

Ms. Hasara then moved that Mr. Plunk be nominated for vice-chair. Sen. Bomke again seconded the motion, and Mr. Plunk was unanimously elected vice-chair of the renewed Commission.

III. DISCUSSION OF UPDATED BYLAWS

Chair Walters asked SSCRPC staff to provide an overview of the draft amended bylaws that had been prepared for the CEC's review. SSCRPC staff highlighted any amendments that had been made to the CEC's prior bylaws. These amendments reflected changes such as the new structure of the CEC and a changed approach to committees. First, the group clarified that, per its establishing resolution, its work would continue until April 2, 2017, thirty-six months after the approval and certification of its establishing referendum.

The CEC members discussed some changes to the bylaws in greater detail, including processes for replacing commissioners if needed, the number of votes that would be required for certain action items, and when regular meetings should take place. They



established that they would meet on the second Wednesday of each month at 3:00 pm.

The group established a consensus that they would not have standing committees at this time, but may work via task force, with at minimum one current CEC member serving on each task force and acting as chair. They also briefly discussed what their role would be in assisting local governments in implementing recommendations, and indicated they would further define their role in relation to implementing agencies in a future discussion of the commission's goals and strategies for its new term.

The group established that SSCRPC staff would make minor amendments to the bylaws to reflect the discussion, and would share a revised copy with the Commissioners for review prior to a vote at their next meeting.

IV. DISCUSSION OF PUBLIC COMMUNICATION POLICY

Chair Walters then asked that the group address its policy for public communications. The bylaws had been updated to reflect the CEC's process over the last two years, in which the Chair served as the primary liaison for public communications and news media contacts. The group established a consensus, however, that members could be responsive to the media if questioned, but should use a common sense approach to ensure that their personal opinions are not represented as the opinions of the full group.

The group also established a consensus that SSCRPC staff could attend meetings and publicly represent the views of the commission as needed, but that two commissioners should attempt to attend meetings at which controversial concerns were anticipated. The Commission noted that this was particularly important in light of the recent publicity some CEC recommendations had received during the interim phase between the commission's terms, and indicated a desire to support staff in attempts to articulate the content of CEC recommendations.

There was a discussion related to a recent communication piece from a former commissioner that the group felt did not accurately reflect the opinions of the commission, had been sent without approval and outside of the established process, and had potential to damage the validity of the CEC's work and message. The group agreed that this communication piece was unwarranted, and Chair Walters indicated that she would draft a response letter to the former commissioner in question. Several members also agreed to personally reach out to leaders of various jurisdictions that had been referenced in the communication, and ensure that they were aware that this piece did not reflect the views of the full CEC.

The Commissioners noted the importance of ensuring that local leaders and citizens continued to be aware of their philosophy of openness and their desire to work with various groups in the region to ensure that sound research and beneficial actions would be taken. Mr. Plunk noted that he had received some comments from a rural fire chief related to the CEC's Fire/EMS Recommendation, and would be preparing a report on these comments for the Commission and SSCRPC staff to review in light of its goal of ensuring recommendations included sound information. Staff indicated



that they were eager to review this report, as they have not yet been provided any specifics related to FPD concerns regarding the recommendation provided in 2013 to the districts.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

Chair Walters indicated that the CEC would address additional items on its agenda at a later date. She tasked Commissioners with developing ideas about their approach to their work, in preparation for a strategic discussion on the CEC's new work plan at the coming meeting.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

Chair Walters indicated that the next Commission meeting date will be May 14th at 3:00 pm, in the SSCRPC Conference Room 212.

She asked for new business. No members presented new business, and no members of the public were in attendance. SSCRPC staff noted that the Regional Leadership Council of mayors and village presidents in Sangamon County would hold its next meeting on April 30th at 6:00 pm at the Williamsville Village Hall.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further comments, Chair Walters called for a motion to adjourn. Ms. Hasara made the motion with Mr. Donelan seconding. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy Uden
Acting as Recording Secretary