



MINUTES
CUYAHOGA COUNTY CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11, 2018
CUYAHOGA COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS
COMMITTEE ROOM A – 4TH FLOOR 4:00 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL 4:10pm

Commission Members: Chairperson Ronald B. Adrine, Michael W. King, The Honorable Susan A. Drucker, Victor A. Ruiz, Vice Chairman Dennis G. Kennedy, Diane Downing. The Honorable Thomas P. Perciak and Davida Russell, Claire Rosacco.

Chairperson Ronald B. Adrine: Roll called: Chairperson Ronald B. Adrine, Michael W. King, The Honorable Susan A. Drucker, Vice Chairman Dennis G. Kennedy, The Honorable Thomas P. Perciak and Davida Russell, Claire Rosacco was not in attendance. A quorum is established. Victor A. Ruiz and Diane Downing entered the meeting late.

MINUTES: minutes from the 16th and 23rd.

2. Minutes – May 16, 2018

3. Minutes – May 23, 2018

Chairperson Ronald B. Adrine called for an approval of minutes from the previous commission meetings. A motion was made by Thomas P. Perciak and seconded by Davida Russell to accept the minutes from the May 16th and May 23rd meeting. Approved by unanimous vote.

4. DISCUSSION: Proposed Amendment Language for Final Report

- HR/PRC

Chairperson Ronald B. Adrine: Proposed amendment to language for the final report as it relates to it HR/PRC. We have previously have discussed this at length the item in front of you. If it's acceptable I would ask for a motion.

Motion made by Susan Drucker: move to approve as written, seconded by Davida Russell.

Chairperson Adrine: it has been properly moved and seconded. The language developed for the HR/PRC department be included in the final report. Any unreadiness? All those in favor indicate by saying aye. Motion approved by unanimous vote. Motion carried.

Let the record reflect we have been joined by Victor Ruiz and Diane Downing.

5. DISCUSSION: Proposed Amendment Language for Final Report

- Campaign Finance

Chairperson Ronald B. Adrine: discussion for the proposed amendment to language for the final report as it relates to it Campaign Finance.

That language has been circulated. The same as you seen before with the amendment of one word. So that it provides as written authority to county council to take up issue to do with campaign finance as the council might see fit. A copy of the proposed language is in front of you. If it's acceptable I would ask for a motion to include it in the final report.

Motion made by Davida Russell to approve, seconded by Vice Chairman Dennis G. Kennedy.

Chairperson Adrine: it has been properly moved and seconded that this language be included in the final report. Any unreadiness on the motion?

Michael W. King: no unreadiness, point of clarification: we have the proposed charter language as well as the stated rationale for including in this report. Are we voting on both?

Chairperson Ronald B. Adrine: yes, you are. Any unreadiness on the motion? All those in favor indicate by saying aye. Motion approved by unanimous vote. Motion carried.

6. DISCUSSION: Proposed Amendment Language for Final Report

- Inspector General

Chairperson Ronald B. Adrine: discussion on proposed amendment language for the final report as it relates to the **Inspector General**. This particular item - we were not in consensus as to the way forward as it relates to it. I understood the position taken by the majority, but I understand there are minority positions that probably would like to be heard.

In order to have it be fully debated this afternoon, I am going to ask for a motion to accept the language as drafted and the rational that was proposed to go along with it, so we can put it before the body. Is there a motion to accept the language? Moved by Michael King, seconded by Susan Drucker.

Chairperson Ronald B. Adrine: properly moved and seconded. Any unreadiness on the motion? All those in favor indicate by saying aye. Majority approved with one opposed vote by Diane Downing. Motion carried. Language will go into the recommendations we make to County Council.

Proposal brought to the commission.

Vice Chairman Dennis G. Kennedy: **this was the outcome that was held at last weeks' audit committee meeting. We do have the internal auditor here. I ask Mr. Swaisgood to come up and briefly discuss the proposed changes to the Charter Amendment.**

7. DISCUSSION: Internal Auditor/Proposed Charter Amendments

Corey Swaisgood – Director of Internal Audits. My dept was created under article 11 of the county charter.

Proposal: Requesting two minor cosmetic changes to the wording in the auditing standards and of billed fees in the Internal Auditing Charter.

Making changes to wording in Section 11.04

(3) Guide the internal audit process through employment of:

(a) Government Auditing Standards, United States General Accounting Office developed by the Comptroller General of the United States; ~~and~~ (change ~~and~~ to ~~and/or~~)

Director Corey Swaisgood: Complying to two different standards, I would recommend that we change the requirements to and/or.

Making changes to wording in Section 11.04

(2) Develop a schedule of department audit fees, which ~~shall~~ (change ~~shall~~ to ~~may~~) be billed to each department as it is audited;

Director Corey Swaisgood: Reason for the change - we are currently auditing the same source of funds that we receive from the County Executive. So, we receive general funds and we're auditing general funds and we don't need to audit general funds to general funds.

Commission members asked questions of Director Corey Swaisgood regarding the two minor changes, which he answered accordingly.

Chairperson Ronald B. Adrine: If it's the will of the body perhaps we can accept the proposal from the dept as recommended.

Motion made by The Honorable Thomas P. Perciak to approve, seconded by Diane Downing.

Chairperson Adrine: it has been properly moved and seconded that we accept the language coming from the department of internal audit as it relates to the changes in auditing standards and of billed fees in the internal auditing portion of the charter. Any unreadiness on the motion? Hearing none all in favor. No oppose. Motion carries.

8. DISCUSSION: General discussion. None presented. Time frame / due date is July 1. We will take one more opportunity to come together to see if there are any final tweaks to be made. We will send out a future date for the next meeting.

9. Public Input:

1. **Councilman Dale Miller** – I would just like to thank you very much for your support of the Inspector general amendment which I think is very important for Cuyahoga County and thank you for all the countless hours and of all the hard work you put in.

Chairperson Adrine thanked Councilman Miller for all of the work that he has done.

2. **Will Tartar Jr.** – As a tax payer I want to thank you very much for the opportunity to present in front of the commission and to thank all the commission for their service.

Chairperson Adrine thanked Mr. Tartar Jr. for all of his work that he has done.

3. Lynda Mayer – League of Women Voters

I echo those remarks as well. However, I also thought that perhaps today we would have a chance to talk about or input on the wording.

So, I believe you already decided on the wording without any public input. So, let me phrase the suggestions I was going to make, instead I will ask questions on the wording. Maybe we the league does not have any problem with the wording at all but there are a couple of questions we do not understand and maybe somebody would clarify them for us.

Inspector General:

In section **(1)** it clearly does no longer require **adequate** funding.

The word adequate was taken out. So, I'm wondering since there is nothing in there that would prevent the council from cutting the funding of the agency if it wanted to, does anybody see or is it possible that I am missing something on that paragraph? I thought it should at least say: **though the regular budget process based on agency requirements and available resources.** Do believe that it's covered?

Commission members and Lynda Mayer discussed the question(s) regarding the wording in Inspector General proposal.

In section **(2)** jurisdiction: when it says it shall extend to any employee, official or appointee. Does official mean elected official?

Commission members and Lynda Mayer discussed the question(s) regarding the wording.

On parentheses 5: removal - If he's being removed or during the removal process we want there to be a public hearing. It just says opportunity to be heard. Does that mean public hearing, or does it mean you will listen to him in an office?

Commission members and Lynda Mayer discussed the question(s) regarding the wording.

Chairperson Adrine: I would suggest we are going to have one more meeting and at that time why don't we play with the language for rational and the language of the proposed recommendation and bring it to the next meeting and see if we can find an appropriate way forward. At the end of the day we will bring things to county council and they will accept or reject our suggestions.

The Honorable Susan A. Drucker: Do we resend our motion to accept our motion to accept the language?

Chairperson Adrine: For right now we leave it as is and if we have any changes we can move to amend it.

Lynda Mayer – League of Women Voters – one more question in the PRC section.

9.01 – PRC is authorized to employ persons in the service of the county. The PRC shall be responsible for administering the personnel system.

9.05 – HR dept shall be responsible for managing all matters of personnel matters.

Wondering if you could clarify the distinction between administering the personnel system and managing it?

Commission members and Lynda Mayer discussed the question(s) regarding the wording.

4. **Councilman Dale Miller**- ask to add a comment. Believe I can clarify the fairly allocated language for Inspector General.
5. **Cuyahoga County Executive Armond Budish** – I wanted to share my thanks for all the work you have done. This is quite a process, it takes a lot of time, it's not easy. Thank you all for the work you have done.

Chairperson Adrine thanked County Executive Armond Budish.

6. **Loh** – for me this is a very valuable civic lesson and I 'm very honored to learn from all of you. But still I really feel disappointed that we still have that particular topic we couldn't include this time (Executive Succession).
Fortunately, we do have a very diligent County Executive right now. But we don't know a few years later the next person would be up.

I still would like to repeat my idea, ***If we have that side leaking and you decide to move the boxes to this side.*** I still don't think that's a really a good idea for the government. We don't know what will happen in the future. Inspector General - that office, I think we should assure we should have very solid funding for this office because this office is the one doing independent work. Right now, our current County Executive is here and healthy and very capable. We don't know what will happen in the future and plus the next charter review is 5 yrs away. I just wanted to say I am a little disappointed about that.

Chairperson Ronald B. Adrine – clarified the wording in regard to the Inspector General.

10. ADJOURNMENT - Chairperson Ronald B. Adrine adjourned the meeting.

Next Meeting: Jeane Holley will send out a doodle poll to commission members to schedule the last official meeting of the commission.