

Legislative Salary Council
Friday, January 27 2017
9:00 AM

Meeting Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dr. Thomas Stinson, Chair
Patrice Hannan, Vice Chair
Joseph Boyle
Diana Burlison
William Donohue (via telephone)
Gregory Fox
Charles McElroy
Dr. David Metzen (via telephone)
Gloria Myre
Deborah Olson
Sherrie Pugh
Randy Twistol (via telephone)
Marsha VanDenburgh
Kenneth Wilmes
Laura Witty

MEMBERS EXCUSED

James Joy

Dr. Tom Stinson, Chair, called the Legislative Salary Council meeting to order at 9:02 AM in Room 230 of the Judicial Center. A quorum was present.

Adopt Agenda and Minutes

Greg Fox moved approval of the agenda and January 11, 2017 meeting minutes. Seconded.

A roll call vote was taken. The results were as follows:

Yes – Chair Stinson, Patrice Hannan, Joseph Boyle, Diana Burlison, William Donohue, Gregory Fox, Charles McElroy, Dr. David Metzen, Gloria Myre, Deborah Olson, Sherrie Pugh, Randy Twistol, Marsha VanDenburgh, Kenneth Wilmes and Laura Witty

There being 15 Yes, 0 No, and 1 Absent, THE MOTION PREVAILED.

Adopt Policies

Greg Hubinger, Director, Legislative Coordinating Commission, presented an overview of the proposed Legislative Salary Council Data Practices Policy for Members of the Public and the proposed Legislative Salary Council Data Practices Policy for Data Subjects.

Marsha VanDenburgh moved adoption of the Legislative Salary Council Data Practices Policy for Members of the Public and the Legislative Salary Council Data Practices Policy for Data Subjects. Seconded.

A roll call vote was taken. The results were as follows:

Yes - Chair Stinson, Patrice Hannan, Joseph Boyle, Diana Burlison, William Donohue, Gregory Fox, Charles McElroy, Dr. David Metzen, Gloria Myre, Deborah Olson, Sherrie Pugh, Randy Twistol, Marsha VanDenburgh, Kenneth Wilmes and Laura Witty

There being 15 Yes, 0 No and 1 Absent, THE MOTION PREVAILED.

State Budget Forecast

Margaret Kelly, State Budget Director, Minnesota Management and Budget, presented an overview of the process for conducting the state budget forecast and an overview of the November 2016 Budget and Economic Forecast.

Income Tax Issues Related to Legislator Compensation

Joel Michael, House Research Department, presented an overview on how legislators' compensation is taxed and spoke to Section 162(h) of the Internal Revenue Service Code.

Legislator Pay and Outcomes

Mark Haveman, Executive Director, Minnesota Center for Fiscal Excellence, presented an overview of a literature review on the relationship between legislator pay rates and outcomes.

Testimony from Former Legislators

Steve Sviggum, former Speaker of the Minnesota House of Representatives, presented on legislative salaries.

Kate Knuth, former member of the Minnesota House of Representatives, presented on legislative salaries.

Public Testimony

The following people provided testimony:

- Paul Stennes, Alexandria

Council Discussion

Chair Stinson reviewed a document developed by the National Council of State Legislators titled "Number of Legislators and Lengths of Terms in Years".

Chair Stinson reviewed a PowerPoint on the demographics of Minnesota Senators and Representatives by age and by occupation.

Angela Behrens, Office of the Attorney General's Office, addressed questions raised at the January 11, 2017 Council meeting regarding performance-based bonuses for legislators. Ms. Behrens explained that the charge of the Council does not include consideration of bonuses for legislators.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Friday, February 10, 2017 at 9:00 AM in Room 230 of the Judicial Center.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:05 PM.