



Meeting Minutes
Red Lion Hotel, 510 Kelso Drive, Kelso, WA

February 25, 2015

The meeting of the Washington Citizens' Commission on Salaries for Elected Officials was brought to order by Dick Walter at 6:02 p.m. Roll Call of Commissioners by Teri Wright.

Commissioners Present:

- Melissa Albert
- Greg Dallaire
- Michael Donabedian
- Dorothy Gerard
- Elizabeth Heath, Vice-Chair
- Lynda Henderson
- Steve Isaac
- Wayne Jiang
- Erin John
- Ned Lange
- Sarah Mahoskey
- Flasha Merris
- Raymond Miller
- Patrick Pavey
- Dick Walter, Chair
- Justine Winnie

Commissioners Unexcused:

- Chuck Marlow

Staff Present

- Teri Wright
- Pam Morris

Meeting Opening Statement and Approval of the January 20 & 12, 2015 Minutes

Dick Walter, read the meeting opening statement and asked if everyone had reviewed their copy of the minutes from January 20 & 21, 2015. There was a motion made by Greg Dallaire to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Dorothy Gerard and carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Dick asked if Commissioners were having problems getting into their Commission's email accounts, he shares that if so to remember to use https:// instead of http.

Review Meeting Folder Items

Teri Wright went over the meeting folder contents, including travel reimbursement, Commissioner Contact List, salary setting binder updates, and the meeting agenda. Teri asked Commissioners to take about 15 minutes to read public comments received regarding the

Proposed 2015 and 2016 Salary Schedule. She stated that it's important that if people take time to shared their feels that all Commissioners and Staff should take time to read the comments.

After reading the 27 comments received from the public after setting the Proposed 2015 and 2016 Salary Schedule. Nineteen of the comments raised concerns regarding teacher compensation.

Liz asked is there a way that for the Commission to do some outreach to educate the educational community as well as the general public on the role and duties of the Commission. Teri agreed to prepare an explanation of the Commission. The website is the most complete resource.

Greg shared that the McCleary decision is not about brick and mortar, a large part of decision addresses teacher salaries and class sizes.

Ray stated that sometime when trying to explain your actions it comes off as being defensive. He went on to say that the lack of comments affirms that the majority of the public agrees with the proposed salary schedule.

Dick shared that the Commission doesn't have the budget to do any outreach or website updates. After a lengthy conversation, regarding the agency's budget, Liz suggested that Commissioners craft a message to their Legislators.

Greg stated that he thinks that Commissioners should follow-up on Liz's idea with a one page papper explaining the need for an increase in budget.

Dick asked Teri to explain the limitations of such a small budget. Teri shared the inadequacies of the Commission's budget. One of the issues that she mentioned was to have the website redone by the State the cost would be around \$4,000.00 with a monthly cost of \$200.00 to host the website on the State's server. Additionally, maintaining adequate staff who are knowledgeable regarding the Commission is impossible with the current budget level.

Ray shared that he was a former Legislator Assistant, and he suggested that along with contacting their Legislators that they also should contact the Appropriations Committees of the House and Senate.

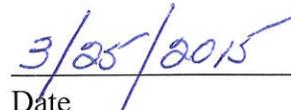
Michael asked if the budget was a value statement of the agency, Dick and Teri responded that they didn't feel that was the case.

Teri asked if there was any other business that needed to be discussed prior to adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned by a motion by Flasha and seconded by Erin. The motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.



Dick Walter, Chair



Date