

## **MEETING OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMISSION**

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**Wednesday, November 12, 2014**

The meeting of the Local Government Commission was called to order by Senator John Eichelberger, Jr., at 8:45 a.m. in Room 14 East Wing-Main Capitol Building, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, with the following individuals present:

### **MEMBERS**

**Senator John H. Eichelberger, Jr., Chairman**  
**Senator John N. Wozniak**  
**Senator John P. Blake**  
**Representative Chris Ross**  
**Representative Mauree Gingrich**  
**Representative Kate Harper**  
**Representative Robert L. Freeman**  
**Representative Mary Jo Daley**

### **STAFF**

**Michael P. Gasbarre, Executive Director**  
**Philip H. Klotz, Assistant Director**  
**David A. Greene, Legal Counsel**  
**Kristopher Gazsi, Associate Legal Counsel**  
**Karen S. Bear, Secretary**

### **GUESTS**

**Chris Yniquez, Senator Robbins' Office**  
**Luc Miron, Senator Blake's Office**  
**Ed Troxell, PA State Association of Boroughs**  
**Ron Grutza, PA State Association of Boroughs**

As the first order of business, the Members discussed the minutes of the October 8, 2014, business meeting, which were unanimously approved on a motion by Representative Ross and a second by Senator Blake. The financial report for the month of October 2014 was presented, and a detailed explanation was given by the Executive Director. The financial report was unanimously approved on a motion by Representative Ross and a second by Senator Wozniak.

Local Government Commission meeting dates for 2015 were presented to the Members for their approval. After briefly reviewing the dates, the Members voted unanimously to meet on the following dates: January 28, 2015, monthly business meeting; February 11, 2015, monthly business meeting; March 11, 2015, monthly business meeting; March 12, 2015, meeting with local government associations; April 8, 2015, monthly business meeting; May 13, 2015, monthly business meeting; June 10, 2015, monthly business meeting; June 11, 2015, meeting with local government associations; July 8, 2015, monthly business meeting; September 23, 2015, monthly business meeting; September 24, 2015, meeting with local government associations; October 14, 2015, monthly business meeting; November 18, 2015, monthly business meeting; December 9, 2015, monthly business meeting; and December 10, 2015, meeting with local government associations. Separately, office closing dates for 2015 were presented to the Members and unanimously approved.

To accommodate the Members' schedules, the Members unanimously approved a motion by Representative Ross and a second by Senator Wozniak to change the time of the Commission's December 10, 2014, monthly business meeting to 4:00 p.m. The December 10, 2014, meeting had been scheduled for 8:45 a.m. The Director also reminded the Members of the Thursday, December 11, 2014, quarterly meeting with PSAECO at 11:00 a.m. in the Senate Majority Caucus Room. All Members were urged to attend.

The Director also announced that on Monday, November 17, 2014, at 2:00 p.m. in the Governor's Reception Room there will be a bill signing ceremony and photo-op concerning House Bill 1773, Printer's Number 4313 (Act 199 of 2014), which was sponsored by the Members of the Local Government Commission. Act 199 made extensive amendments to Act 47 (Municipal

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Financial Recovery Act), which was the result of the deliberations of the Act 47 Task Force. The *Act 47 of 1987 Municipalities Financial Recovery Act 2013 Task Force Report* was submitted to the General Assembly on October 16, 2013.

The Director presented to the Members information regarding a new billing contract being offered by Thomson Reuters. Thomson Reuters provides the Commission with legal publications and then remits a bill for the amount due upon the Commission's receipt of publications. The new billing contract offered by Thomson Reuters provides for a monthly discounted price plan of \$420.30 based upon either a 24 month conversion with 6 percent annual increases or a 36 month conversion with 5 percent annual price increases. With the 36 monthly plan, an estimated \$2,774.77 savings would be realized over the three year period; whereas, the 24 monthly plan would realize a cost savings of \$1,411.82 over a two year period. Included in the contract is an addendum offered to government accounts that permits the subscriber to cancel the contract with thirty days' written notice to Thomson Reuters if insufficient appropriations are made to the government agency that would preclude the subscriber from making payment. Commission Legal Counsel David Greene and Associate Legal Counsel Kristopher Gazsi reviewed the contract and approved its contents. After some discussion, the Members agreed unanimously on a motion by Representative Ross and a second by Senator Blake to accept the 36 monthly payment plan contract along with the addendum.

As the last order of business, the Commission resolved itself into executive session to discuss a personnel matter involving the tenure of the Executive Director. At the conclusion of the executive session, the Commission reconvened the public meeting. On a motion by Representative Ross and a second by Representative Gingrich, the retirement resignation of Executive Director Michael Gasbarre effective May 31, 2015, was unanimously accepted by the Members. The Members also unanimously approved the appointment of Philip Klotz as Executive Director of the Local Government Commission effective June 1, 2015.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 a.m.

ATTESTED: \_\_\_\_\_  
November 13, 2014