

Co-Chair
Vernon Sykes, Representative
34th House District



Co-Chair
William G. Batchelder, Speaker
69th House District

OHIO CONSTITUTIONAL MODERNIZATION COMMISSION

FINANCE, TAXATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ROLL COMMITTEE
DOUGLAS COLE, CHAIR
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2013

Chairman Cole called the meeting of the Finance, Taxation, and Economic Development Committee to order at 11:22a.m. A quorum was present, and the Committee approved the minutes from the September 12th meeting.

Paul Toth presented the history of Port Authority emphasizing particularly Ohio's history. He enumerated their powers as a public entity and explained their role in economic development. They experience challenges with the Constitution concerning public-private partnerships; the Constitution prohibits these partnerships. Committee should consider allowing limited investment in corporations within the Constitution.

Questions were asked regarding the Port Authority's ability to tax and what other states are doing to address this issue. Mr. Toth stated that Ohio has a competitive advantage to other states in finding creative means for funding; no other state does this.

Lisa Patt-McDaniel gave her presentation and stated three issues that the committee could address: 1.) Ability of the State to have maximum flexibility in financing, 2.) Permission for Local Government to make loans for economic development purposes, 3.) Multiple Local Government Jurisdictions. Both presentations gave an overview of Article VIII and specifically Sections 4, 6, and 13. Questions were asked throughout the presentation.

Chairman Cole asked the committee how they wanted to proceed. Speaker Davidson suggested research the debate on this issue from 1851 to see if it's germane with issues being discussed today. The committee looked to Steve Steinglass for input. Chairman Cole then suggested the look for more specific issues to discuss such as opponents to the idea of expanding State flexibility in financing. Dr. Asher suggested obtaining a copy of Enterprise Universities from the Board of Regents.

With no further business, the committee adjourned at 12:43p.m.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Douglas Cole".

DOUGLAS COLE, CHAIR

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Herb Asher".

HERB ASHER