

**Co-Chair**  
Charleta B. Tavares  
Assistant Minority Leader  
15<sup>th</sup> Senate District



**Co-Chair**  
William G. Batchelder, Speaker  
69<sup>th</sup> House District

**Senate Members**

Larry Obhof, Majority  
Whip

Bill Coley

Bob Peterson

Michael J. Skindell

Tom Sawyer

**House Members**

Matt Huffman, Speaker  
Pro Tempore

Ron Amstutz

Kathleen Clyde

Michael Curtin

Vernon Sykes

**Public Members**

Janet Abaray

Herb Asher

Roger L. Beckett

Karla L. Bell

Paula Brooks

Douglas R. Cole

JoAnn Davidson

Patrick F. Fischer

Edward L. Gilbert

Jeff Jacobson

Charles F. Kurfess

Larry L. Macon

Frederick E. Mills

Dennis P. Mulvihill

Chad A. Readler

Richard R. Saphire

Bob Taft

Pierrette Talley

Kathleen M. Trafford

Mark Wagoner

**OHIO CONSTITUTIONAL MODERNIZATION COMMISSION**

Speaker Batchelder called the March 13, 2014 meeting of the Ohio Constitutional Modernization Commission meeting to order at 1:37pm and asked staff to call the roll. The following members were present:

Janet Gilligan Abaray

Rep. Ron Amstutz

Herb Asher

Speaker Batchelder

Roger Beckett

Karla Bell

Paula Brooks

Rep. Clyde

Douglas Cole

Sen. Coley

Rep. Curtin

Speaker Jo Ann Davidson

Rep. Matt Huffman

Speaker Charles Kurfess

Dr. Larry Macon

Fred Mills

Dennis Mulvihill

Sen. Larry Obhof

Sen. Bob Peterson

Chad A. Readler

Richard Saphire

Sen. Tom Sawyer

Sen. Michael Skindell

Governor Bob Taft

Sen. Tavares

Kathleen Trafford

Mark Wagoner

Staff noted that communication regarding anticipated absences had been received from Judge Patrick Fischer, Edward Gilbert and Jeff Jacobson prior to the meeting.

Speaker Batchelder asked the members to review and approve the minutes from the February 13<sup>th</sup> meeting. The minutes of the meeting were approved without objection.

Speaker Batchelder noted the reports from the committees were in the members folders. Without objection, the written reports of the committees were accepted.

Senator Tavares recognized Mark Wagoner for a report of the Organization and Administration Committee. Mr. Wagoner brought forth a recommendation that the Commission hire Steven C. Hollon as the Executive Director of the Commission and that the Co-Chairs negotiate the terms of compensation for Mr. Hollon within the confines of the Commission's appropriation. Mr. Wagoner moved that the Commission hire Steven C. Hollon for the position of Executive

Director and Senator Obhof seconded the motion. Senator Obhof also noted that the subcommittee and committee vote on Mr. Hollon was unanimous. Speaker Batchelder asked the staff to call the roll and with a vote of 27-0, Mr. Steven C. Hollon was selected as the Executive Director for the Ohio Constitutional Modernization Commission.

Mr. Hollon was present at the meeting and made a few comments to the Commission.

Senator Tavares recognized Mark Wagoner for an additional recommendation. Mr. Wagoner presented a recommendation to the Commission to amended hiring process for the three additional staff members. Mr. Wagoner moved to accept the amended hiring process and Senator Obhof seconded the motion. Senator Tavares asked the staff to call the roll and with a vote of 27-0 the amended hiring process was adopted.

Senator Tavares recognized Roger Beckett, the Chair of the Public Education and Information Committee for a committee report. Mr. Beckett announced that the Public Education and Information Committee and the Liaisons with Public Offices Committee are rescinding their recommendation to merge committees. Additionally the two committees recommend that committee report be submitted one week after the committee meeting and sent to the members soon after and posted to the commission website. Without objection the recommendation was agreed to.

Senator Tavares recognized Dr. Herb Asher, Chair of the Liaisons with Public Offices Committee and Dr. Asher had no additional comments beyond what Mr. Beckett had reported.

Senator Tavares recognized Kathleen Trafford, Chair of the Coordinating Committee and Ms. Trafford indicated that the Committee had no recommendations, but was working on assisting subject matter committees in making recommendations to the Commission.

Senator Tavares recognized Fred Mills, Chair of the Legislative Branch & Executive Branch Committee. Mr. Mills reported to the Commission on the committee's discussions regarding redistricting and indicated that the committee will take testimony on the issue of term limits at their April meeting.

Senator Tavares recognized Chad Readler, Chair of the Education, Public Institutions, Miscellaneous & Local Government Committee and indicated that the committee had been discussing education and that the committees was at the preliminary stages of possible recommendations.

Senator Tavares recognized Richard Saphire, Chair of the Bill of Rights & Voting Committee. Mr. Saphire stated that the committee was working through the Road Map that they had adopted last year.

Senator Tavares recognized Janet Abaray, Chair of the Judicial Branch and the Administration of Justice Committee and stated that the committee was focusing on judicial elections, specifically for the Supreme Court.

***Co-Chair***  
*Charleta B. Tavares*  
*Assistant Minority Leader*  
*15<sup>th</sup> Senate District*



***Co-Chair***  
*William G. Batchelder, Speaker*  
*69<sup>th</sup> House District*

**OHIO CONSTITUTIONAL MODERNIZATION COMMISSION**

Senator Tavares recognized Dennis Mulvihill, Chair of the Constitutional Revisions and Updating Committee and indicated that the committee may have recommendations in the next few months. The committee is currently focused on ways to potentially make an initiated law more accessible and desirable versus a constitutional amendment

Senator Tavares recognized Douglas Cole, Chair of the Finance, Taxation & Economic Development Committee and state that the committee will bring non controversial issues to the Commission regarding bonding authority that is no longer needed.

Speaker Batchelder recognized Dean Steinglass for an update on his work for the Commission.

Speaker Batchelder asked if there was any further business to come before the Commission. Seeing none, the Commission adjourned at 2:05pm

---

SPEAKER WILLIAM G. BATCHELDER, CO-CHAIR

---

CHARLETA B. TAVARES, CO-CHAIR