



Government Restructuring and Operations Review Commission Meeting Minutes

DAY/DATE: **Tuesday, October 13, 2015**
TIME: **12:00 Noon**
LOCATION: Vermont Statehouse - Senate Room #6
ATTENDEES: John Sayles, Paul Costello, and Jeff Wilson (by conference call)
ABSENT:
SUPPORT: Sue Zeller - ADM, Stephanie Barrett - JFO, and Conor Kennedy - LEG
PURPOSE: Initial meeting
DISTRIBUTED: Committee and Support Staff

Item Number	Item Description	Action By
1.0	Call to order	12:03 pm
2.0	John Sayles recommended that the Commission should elect a Chair and then, the Chair should immediately notify the Legislature concerning the need for an extension to the initial report deadline of October 15, 2015.	
2.1	John also suggested that a review of previous reports which looked at government reorganization would be in order.	
2.2	Paul Costello noted that he would like to know what the Legislature's intent was for this Commission. Conor Kennedy and Stephanie Barrett provided comments from Legislators during session such as wanting to look at the services and benefits the State currently provides from an outside perspective to determine if reorganizations and efficiencies can be gained by focusing on what should be a priority and what should not.	
3.0	MOTION: Paul nominated John Sales to be the Commission's Chair. Jeff seconded the motion. The Motion was carried unanimously.	MOTION APPROVED
4.0	John reminded the Commission members that this was a public Commissioner and to be aware of the need for transparency in all that they do. The group proceeded to discuss ways in which public meeting requirements could be met. Conor reported that he had printed out the public meeting rules and would provide copies to the members.	
5.0	John went back to asking if a review of past documents and studies made sense. Paul likes this approach. The group mentioned some of the past efforts they were familiar with.	
5.1	Paul also suggested that the Commission should hear from Jeb Spaulding and/or Justin Johnson, the former and current Secretary of Administration, respectively. One or both of these people could provide a perspective on what has been tried, challenges faced and a broad view of how government is structured. Paul suggested that Legislative Chairs should be invited.	
6.0	Paul asked if John would craft a notification to the Legislature about the extension of the initial Commission report deadline of October 15, 2015 to a later date. John said he would do the	John Sayles

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	notification tonight and the group agreed that the extension would date would be February 16, 2016.	
7.0	The group agreed to schedule the next meeting for Tuesday, October 27, 2015. The meeting will be held in the Ethan Allen Room of the Statehouse (behind the cafeteria) from 1:30 pm to 4:00 pm. Note that the Statehouse closes at 4:15 pm off session.	10/27/15 1:30 pm – 4:00 pm
7.1	The Group discussed a webpage or some sort of list serve for public notification. The Agency of Administration will advise. Sue advised the group that agendas should be posed prior to meetings, draft minutes within 5 days of meeting, minutes should be approved at the subsequent meeting, and public notice of meeting must be posted on the website of the Department of Libraries. Sue also said she would find out about enabling Commission members to participate by video.	Sue Zeller to follow up.
8.0	Paul suggested that the goal for the next meeting was to have as many of the previous documents available to the Commission electronically. Sue Zeller will facilitate this.	Sue Zeller to follow up.
8.1	Paul also suggested that Senators Kitchel or Campbell or Speaker Smith be asked to attend the next meeting for ½ hour each.	Stephanie Barrett to follow up
9.0	The group will discuss how to obtain public input at the next meeting.	
9.1	John suggested that perhaps the group could get a public policy intern from UVM to work with them. John will see what he can do.	John Sayles to follow up
10.0	John reminded member that the campaign will be going on while the Commission is doing its work. The Commissions goal is apolitical and should be focused solely on public good and cannot conflict with the members' primary jobs.	
10.1	Paul made closing comments about how much he appreciated this opportunity to review the use of public assets and review the work of state government, the legacy of which is sometimes the continuation of inefficiencies. Jeff concurred and said he expected the work to be a challenge but looked forward to seeing what they could do.	
11.0	Having no other business, Paul moved to adjourn the meeting; Jeff seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 1:39 pm.	MOTION APPROVED

This summary of the meeting forms the basis upon which we will proceed. Please respond with changes, corrections or questions to the originator within 5 working days. If no corrections, changes or questions are received within 5 working days, these minutes will become part of the permanent record.

By: Sue Zeller
Cc: Committee Members