

The meeting came to order at 9:30 AM. Present were: John H. Fisher, III, Chair; Betty Lou DeCroce, Marvin Reed, Robert F. Casey, Gary Passanante, Steven M. Cozza, Regina Egea. BettyLou DeCroce came late.

The minutes of the May 6, 2010, meeting were approved unanimously. Regina Egea and Marvin Reed abstained.

There was some discussion regarding the League of Municipalities in November. Commission Member Casey indicated that he is running a session at the League of Municipalities Conference: "Doing Less with Less" and that there is a possibility that it may be in conflict with LUARCC's session. There was discussion with Bill Dressel about LUARCC doing a roundtable at the League which Mr. Dressel thought it was a good idea. The session could perhaps be conducted in the room where the Red Tape Panel had conducted its session. Also mentioned that the League wants to do a big article in the October, 2010 League magazine on what LUARCC is providing. The League needs the article by August. A concern was that that Greg Fehrenbach may be doing a similar-type session the same time so the Commission must coordinate timing of its session with Greg Fehrenbach to avoid scheduling conflict. The Commission favors a Wednesday date for the League session. Need to determine what "breakout" groups are needed: police, fire, etc., pertinent people to help staff session and material that could be given out to attendees will need to be discussed at next Commission meeting. The Process Subcommittee will also address this issue and report at the next Commission meeting.

Executive Director's Report:

Operational Tax Index (OTI) report was condensed and is going out to municipal clerks via GovConnect today. Hit counter on the web site is fixed. The Conference of Mayors is sending out OTI report to the mayors. Municipal clerks were asked to share OTI report with local elected officials. The report will most likely be put on the website sometime in July, after getting feedback from the mayors. LUARCC already has a link from the League to our site and we will have a link created at the Conference of Mayors web site. Unfortunately, Ed Burek was on the agenda to speak but was unable to attend; however, he mentioned that he could be here on June 24. Commission members do not think that they want Mr. Burek here for the next meeting but would request that the Commission obtain copies of his presentation and information he was going to use for his testimony.

General discussion of local vs. county revaluation process.

Draft reports on Shared Services:

The executive director is looking for input from LUARCC members; need to solidify a position and report on fire services. Commission member indicated that the first draft on Shared Services is too bland. Must show how consolidation and shared services can cut costs – an economic necessity. Commission Member Casey distributed a document that he assembled from listening to testimony from the speakers that we invited. This document, which he also used in a speech, included themes with 14

key points. Other members thought the document was good. They had urged that the Commission needs to present shared services as something new and different and not the same old same old. Mayors are tired of studies – they want to implement. They need to be given the tools. Commission should give a picture of where we are headed – a vision of where LUARCC sees municipalities in five to seven years. Commission should put examples of at least six good shared services contracts on its website so there is a reference for people to review i.e. courts, police. It is also time to make strong recommendations to the State Legislature for legislative changes. The Commission needs to resurrect its legislative hurdle list which identifies obstacles and start to address them. The Commission would like get the Walter Rand Institute to tell us if our criteria for assessing municipal mergers are valid. Would like to try to get a new contract with a reduced cost so that we can get the OTI analyzed. The process subcommittee would like to meet with WRI. Are economic circumstances of the moment a short term downturn or a long term structural change that requires a bigger, broader, deeper structural change at the local level? It was suggested that LUARCC can act as a facilitator in this process of bringing municipalities together and that perhaps we can use DCA personnel as the consultants as there is not money for outside consultants.

It was stated that LUARCC should provide “useful tools” to build a simple model that lets locals figure the situation out for themselves.

The Commissioner also advised that there would be no action on fire district draft paper.

Commission Member Passanante suggested that the five municipality police consolidation report they he is currently a part of could be useful in trying the concept of LUARCC acting as a facilitator. He will speak to all parties involved to obtain buy-in. The five communities involved in the study are Somerdale, Magnolia, HI-Nella, Stratford and Laurel Springs. This issue will be discussed at a meeting of the Process Subcommittee. This Subcommittee will report back to the Commission at the next Commission meeting.

Adjournment