



**COALITION of LARGE OHIO URBAN TOWNSHIPS**  
**Executive Committee Meeting**  
**Wednesday, July 18, 2018**

**10:30 a.m.**

**MINUTES**

- I. Welcome - Chair Matacic called the meeting to order at 10:37 a.m. The following members were in attendance: Tom Costello (East), John Crandall (Northwest), John Eisel (Central), Jeff Ferrell (Northwest), Tracy Hatmaker (Central), Helen Humphrys (East), Jeff Markley (East), Christine Matacic (Southwest), Karl Schultz (Southwest), Barry Tiffany (Southwest), Mike Vaccaro (East) and Paul Wise (Central). OTA staff members present include Matthew J. DeTemple and Heidi M. Fought.
- II. Old Business
- A. Approval of March 26, 2018 Minutes - **Vaccaro moved, seconded by Crandall, to approve the minutes from the March 26, 2018 meeting.** Without objection, **motion carried.** Hatmaker abstained.
- A. Review of Legislation Pending 132<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly - Fought provided the Committee with a legislative status sheet of bills pending before the General Assembly that have an impact on townships. Specifically, she reviewed the following bills: HB 168 (Cemetery Regulations); HB 312 (Credit Card Policies); HB 415 (Road Infrastructure Fund); HB 500 (Township Omnibus); HB 571 (Hotel Lodging Taxes); HB 602 (Fair Water Pricing Act); SB 13 Law Enforcement Recordings); SB 43 (Building Codes); and SB 239 (Regional Government Councils).
- B. Amicus Briefs Update - DeTemple reported that in the case of *Pelletier v. Campbell*, the Ohio Supreme Court ruled in favor of the City. The Court held that foliage arguably obscuring a stop sign does not render the sign in bad repair and such foliage does not constitute an obstruction in the road. Consequently, the City was immune.
- C. Cox Report Update - Fought reported that Cox is still working on the update to the 2012 report. He is struggling to find data sets that show the importance of economic development in townships. Fought encouraged Committee members to share data with her to pass along to Cox.
- D. Exit Sign Proposal Update - Fought updated the Committee on the work that Rep. Becker is doing on the issue. She noted that the federal highway sign requirements may determine if changes are possible and the funding Ohio receives from the federal government could be impacted should Ohio signage requirements differ from federal guidelines. Schultz shared with Committee members that they are looking at placing a "Welcome to..." sign on the top of existing ODOT directional signs. The Committee then discussed the challenges faced regarding signage in each of their respective ODOT districts.
- E. Proposal to Amend Bylaws - **Wise moved, seconded by Eisel, to accept the proposed change to the CLOUT Bylaws and present the change to the full membership at the 2019 annual meeting during the OTA Winter Conference.** Without objection, **motion carried.**
- III. New Business
- A. CLOUT Legislative Priorities for 133<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly - Chair Matacic requested that each Committee member review CLOUT's 132<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly priorities and

suggest additions or changes to the platform via email correspondence. She stated that the platform will be finalized at the October meeting to allow time for printing of booklets to be distributed at the annual meeting and Legislative Breakfast Reception in January.

- B. Legislative Event for 2019 Winter Conference - The Committee discussed alternatives to hold a bi-annual Legislative Breakfast Reception on Wednesday of the 2019 OTA Winter Conference. It was noted that many township officials cannot make a morning event due to cost, time, and location. It was also discussed that over 50 legislators or staff attended the event in 2017, which is a great legislative turnout. **Tiffany moved, seconded by Vaccaro, to keep the Legislative Breakfast Reception for 2019 and to hold it on Wednesday, January 30.** Without objection, **motion carried.** The Committee discussed changing the price to attend but no decision was made. Chair Maticic stated that she will write a letter to include with 2019 membership information explaining the decision by the Executive Committee to continue holding an early morning event and encouraging attendance.
- C. Wage & Benefit Survey - Crandall shared that his township is interested in data regarding wage and benefits. He explained that he has looked in different places but cannot find any current data. Due to that, he has put together some questions to ask and would like CLOUT to consider participating. Fought stated that the OTA office could put together a survey via Survey Monkey for distribution to CLOUT townships and townships with administrators. It was agreed that Fought will create a draft survey and send out to Committee members for review and feedback prior to sending out to the membership for completion.

#### IV. Items for the Good of the Coalition

- A. Tiffany asked for consideration of a change in state law that would allow a township to place a levy on the ballot for a township to educate, train and retain a school resource officer. Discussion was had on that topic. Tiffany also inquired about the status of the fire chief language that was included in the As Introduced version of HB 500. Fought stated that the sponsor of HB 500 has agreed to help facilitate a meeting of the Fire Chiefs Association and the OTA in hopes of striking a compromise on the issue.

- V. Adjournment - **Tiffany moved, seconded by Schultz, to adjourn** the meeting at 1:24 p.m.