

**DRAFT MINUTES**  
**INDEPENDENT CITIZENS COMMISSION**

January 26, 2015

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The Independent Citizens Commission met Monday, January 26, 2015, at 8:30 a.m., U of A Systems Administration Board Room, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Commission members present: Chair-Mr. Larry Ross, Vice Chair-Mr. Chuck Banks, Mr. Mitch Berry, Ms. Barbara Graves, Mr. Stuart Hill, Ms. Brenda James, and Mr. Stephen Tipton.

Chairman Ross, called the meeting to order.

**Consideration of Minutes from the January 14, 2015 and January 16, 2015 meetings:**

**Before the Minutes were approved Vice Chairman Banks made a correction of the January 16<sup>th</sup> minutes and those were given to Ms. Jenkins. A motion was made by Commissioner Tipton to approve the minutes and seconded by Vice Chairman Banks. The motion carried without objection.**

Brandon Robinson Assistant Attorney General gave a brief review of the proposal for discussion on per diem, mileage and expenses for the General Assembly.

**Senator Dismang- President Pro Tempore and Speaker Gilliam-Speaker of the House:**

Gave clarification on the duties/responsibilities of the General Assembly and on mileage, per diem and expenses. Bureau of legislative research gave a handout on the requested information on the per diem payments that were made over the last 3 years to non-first term non-committee members that attended and signed into committee meetings and a report on the freshmen non-committee members who were paid a per diem for going to committee meetings.

**Commission Discussion:**

Commissioners continued discussions of General Assembly mileage, per diem, expenses reimbursements and salaries.

**Vice Chairman Banks made a motion to allow public to come speak to the commission on Wednesday January 28 and Thursday January 29 starting at 11am for 1 hour. Each person will be given 5 minutes to speak. Commissioner Berry seconded and the motion carried without objection. A notice will be placed on the commission website.**

The Commission moved on to discuss Per Diem and decided they would resend the previous recommendation in its entirety and make a new motion that no changes be made to Per Diem.

**Commissioner Berry made a motion that there be no change to Per Diem. Commissioner James seconded and motion carried without objection.**

The Commission discussed recommendation on expenses.

**Commissioner Berry made a motion that no changes be made to expenses except for eliminating payments to spouse's or other family members either directly or indirectly and eliminating reimbursement of home office expenses. Vice Chairman Banks seconded the motion carried without objection.**

The commission moved on to discuss Salary for General Assembly. Commissioner Tipton's suggestion is \$25,000 for and \$30,000 Speaker and Pro Tem. Graves stated that she was in agreement with Commissioner Tipton's suggestions and other commissioners were holding until a later date.

**Commissioner Tipton made a motion to invite the 7 constitutional officers, if they so choose to come and speak to the Commission on Tuesday January 27, 2015 or Wednesday January 28, 2015 in regards to their job responsibilities and the duties of their office. Vice Chairman Banks seconded and the motion carried without objection.**

Upcoming meeting dates are as follows:

Tuesday January 27, 2015- U of A System Administration Cammack Village  
Wednesday January 28, 2015- U of A System Administration Cammack Village  
Thursday, January 29, 2015 - U of A System Administration Cammack Village  
Friday, January 30, 2015- U of A System Administration Cammack Village  
Monday, February 2, 2015 - U of A System Administration Cammack Village

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Complete audio of the meeting can be found on <http://citizenscommission.ar.gov>