

DRAFT MINUTES
INDEPENDENT CITIZENS COMMISSION

January 29, 2015

The Independent Citizens Commission met Thursday January 29, 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 and welcomed the guest of the commission.

Consideration of Action Sheet for January 28, 2015:

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Banks to approve the Action Sheet and seconded by Commissioner James. The motion carried without objection.

Judicial Presentation:

Judge Pate, current president of the Arkansas District Judges Counsel, presented a statement to the commission on what they felt would be an appropriate compensation amount for State District Court Judges. Judge Pate also answered questions about job duties and responsibilities of the State District Judges in Arkansas.

Commission Discussion

Commission began discussions of Judicial Salaries. Starting with the Supreme Court the commission went through each level and each commissioner gave their initial recommendations for raises. That included Supreme Court Judges, Associate Justice, Supreme Court of Appeal Judges, Court of Appeal Judges, Circuit Judges and District Judges. Judge Womack and JD Gingrich were on hand to answer questions by the commission. Commissioner Graves kept record of the recommendations of each commissioner and calculated the average for each group of judges. Commissioner Graves will bring the numbers tomorrow for review by the commission.

Vice Chairman Banks made a motion to adjust the Chief Justice salary to \$191,154.00. Commissioner James Seconded. Motion failed in 3 to 4 vote.

Vice Chairman Banks amended the above motion to raise the Chief Justice salary to \$185,841.00 and that is a 15% increase. Commissioner Berry Seconded. Motion failed in 3 to 4 vote.

Mr. Robinson gave each commissioner a copy of the initial report to review and make any changes they see necessary.

Upcoming meeting dates are as follows:

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>