COMMISSION ON SALARIES FOR ELECTIVE STATE OFFICERS

Minutes of the Meeting
Tuesday, July 3, 2012
1:30 p.m., Senate Hearing Room 109

Members Present:
Lisa Atkins, Chairman (via telephone)
Bill Feldmeier (via telephone)
Joe Kanefield
Dennis Mitchem

Staff:
Travis Butchart, Senior Compensation Analyst, Arizona Department of Administration

Chairman Atkins called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. and attendance was noted.

Introduction of Commission Members

Bill Feldmeier - appointed by Senate President Steve Pierce
Joe Kanefield - appointed by Chief Justice Rebecca White Berch, Arizona Supreme Court
Dennis Mitchem - appointed by Governor Jan Brewer
Lisa Atkins - appointed by Governor Jan Brewer

Discussion and Possible Action on Legislative Salary Recommendation

Travis Butchart, Senior Compensation Analyst, Arizona Department of Administration, gave an overview of a report entitled “2012 Commission on Salaries for Elected State Officers" (Attachment A). Mr. Butchart informed the Commission that July 9, 2012 was the deadline for the legislative salary proposition to be submitted to the Secretary of State’s Office for the November ballot and July 11, 2012 was the deadline for submittal to the Secretary of State’s Office of pro and con statements regarding the legislative salary proposition.

In response to Mr. Mitchem regarding salary recommendations from 2010, Mr. Butchart stated that a 2010 salary commission did not convene.

Mr. Butchart reviewed the statutory language regarding the Commission and discussion was held on the options available for submittal of the recommendations.

Mr. Butchart gave information on the options available to the Governor regarding the executive and judicial salary recommendations.

In response to Mr. Mitchem, Mr. Butchart said that June 1, 2012 was the submittal deadline to the Governor for the executive and judicial salary recommendations and although the deadline had passed, a recommendation could still be made.

Mr. Kanefield stated that the item on their current agenda was for the legislative salary recommendation and requested that the Commission schedule another meeting to discuss the salary recommendations for the remaining elected officers.

Discussion was held on the timeliness of the recommendations and the course of action to be followed.

Public Testimony

Jennifer Sweeney, Government Affairs Director, Arizona Association of Counties, testified that the legislators will continue their service with the current salary if a salary recommendation is not submitted to the ballot. Ms. Sweeney answered questions posed by the Commission.

Pete Dunn, Counsel for the Arizona Judges Association, discussed the deadlines and urged the Commission to schedule another meeting to consider the salary recommendations for the remaining elected officers.

Motion for Legislative Salary Recommendation

> **Mr. Mitchem stated that recognizing that the last Commission to make a recommendation recommended that the salary be increased for legislators from $24,000 a year to $30,000, he moved that the Commission take the action to have an increase from $24,000 to $30,000 put on the ballot.**
>
> **Mr. Kanefield seconded the motion.**

Discussion was held on the motion.

Mr. Feldmeier and Ms. Atkins explained their votes.

> **The motion FAILED by a voice vote.**

Discussion was held on the next meeting date. Travis Butchart informed the members that he would contact them regarding the date of the next meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:23 p.m.