

**Clinton County Government Study Commission Meeting**  
**April 25, 2007**  
**Minutes**

**Call To Order:**

Chairman Mike Hanna called the Commission to order at 6:41 p.m. at the Clinton County Courthouse. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was participated in by all present.

**Roll Call:**

Ms. Gardner took roll call as follows:

Present were: Ms. Deb Day, Mr. Mike Hanna, Mr. Dan Harger, Dr. Kathleen McQuaid arrived at 7:05 p.m., Mr. Richard Novosel, Mr. Terry O'Connor, Mr. Ernie Renninger and Mr. Les Robinson.

Absent was: Ms. June Houser, Ms. Coreena Meyer, and Dr. Bob Wise.

Pennsylvania Economy League representatives present were Mr. Charles Watters, Mr. Joe Boyle and Mr. Gerald Cross.

**Approve Agenda:**

***Mr. Robinson made a motion to approve the April 25, 2007 agenda as presented. Mr. O'Connor seconded the motion. Ms. Gardner took a roll call vote whereby the motion to approve the April 25, 2007 agenda was approved unanimously.***

**Reports:**

**Invoice Review:**

Treasurer O'Connor presented a PEL invoice of \$2,382.70 for approval:

***Mr. Harger made a motion to approve payment of the invoice for \$2,382.70. Mr. Novosel seconded the motion. Ms. Gardner took a roll call vote whereby the motion to approve payment of the invoices totaling \$2,382.70 was approved unanimously.***

Treasurer O'Connor presented the Statement of Receipts and Expenditures required in the filing of the Home Rule Charter for review. The Commission noted:

- Under donation of Services/Supplies:
  - Change to Representation Hanna
  - Add Renovo Record, Lock Haven Express and Lock Haven University
- Spelling and general streamlining of information was suggested.
- Change plus to including \$8,000.00 estimated to print.

***Mr. Harger made a motion for the PEL to streamline/clean-up the information on the Statement of Receipts and Expenditures before insertion in the Charter report. Mr. O'Connor seconded the motion. Ms. Gardner took a roll call vote whereby the motion for the PEL to streamline/clean-up the information on the Statement of Receipts and Expenditures before insertion in the Charter report was approved unanimously.***

### **New and Continuing Business:**

#### Transmittal Letters:

Some spacing and punctuation issues need to be fixed on the letters before the next meeting.

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#### Report:

Review of items to be fixed before the next meeting:

- Spelling of names.

- Letter to Citizens:
    - Change to the current and future needs.
    - Grammatical and punctuation issues.
    - Change to 17 months.
    - Leave statement at more than 50 meetings and 5 public hearings.
    - Removal - of most.
  - Table of Contents:
    - Needs renumbered.
    - Remove Comparative at Organizational Charts.
  - Recommendations to the Citizens:
    - Add majority of the CCGSC.
    - Change to voters created.
    - Add November 30, 200 and 17 months.
    - Capitalize County.
    - Remove 2 and 4.
    - Remove with.
  - Present Form of Government:
    - Change to day-to day.
    - Change Board to Body.
    - Change minority representation to multi-party representation.
    - Add that will preserve multi-party representation.
    - Add County to Executive.
    - Change legislative to legislature.
    - Capitalize County.
    - Change municipality to municipal.
    - Spelling.
    - Change smaller dollar to tighter dollar.
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- Summary of Major Provisions:
    - Change minority representation to multi-party representation.
    - Font and spelling.

Home Rule Charter:

Review of items to be fixed before the next meeting:

- Change minority representation to multi-party representation.
- Grammatical, spacing and punctuation issues.
- Adding written number in parenthesis where missed.
- Renumber pages.
- Change to the current and future needs.
- Change occurs to occurred.
- Remove q. from Section 2.11.
- Section renumbering.
- Remove 7. from Section 2.14 b.
- Change to his/her where missed.
- Capitalizing County, Controller and Accountability, Conduct, and Ethics Code.
- Change spelling to monies.
- Remove appointed where missed.
- Some pages need right justified.
- Restructure a. in Section 5.08.
- Add Treasurer to list in Section 5.08 c. and e.
- Change approval to authorization in Section 5.10.
- Change District Justices to Magisterial Districts in Section 7.06 a.
- Add in a manner consistent with Charter and applicable law to Section 7.06 c.
- Remove State in Section 10.02 d.
- Remove County in Section 10.05 a.
- Change to President Judge where missed.
- Change spelling to superceded.
- Change to clerical assistants in Section 14.11 b.\

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***Ms. Day made a motion to change in Article IV - Administrative Branch/Appointed County Executive, Section 4.08 c. to read as follows:***

***An appointee shall take office when confirmed by the Legislative Body or if the Legislative Body fails to act within thirty (30) days after the appointment is filed, the appointee shall be rejected.***

***Mr. Robinson seconded the motion. Ms. Gardner took roll call vote whereby the***

***motion as stated above was approved unanimously.***

Minority Report:

***Mr. O'Connor made a motion to approve inclusion of the Minority Report. Dr. McQuaid seconded the motion***

Commission members asked to see a copy of the Minority Report written by Dr. McQuaid and signed by several Commission Members. The Commission felt that they could not vote on inclusion without having had the opportunity to read the report. It was noted that the Commission cannot change the wording but they could discuss points that are in error.

***Mr. O'Connor withdrew his motion since the majority of the Commission has not had an opportunity to review the Minority Report.***

Inclusion of the Minority Report will be decided at the May 2 meeting prior to the Charter vote.

Signing of Charter:

The Commission's Solicitor stated that refusal of a Commission Member to sign the Charter will not have any impact on the process. It was noted that signatures are requested on the financial statement and a certification page. Signing the Certification is not an indication of in favor or against the Charter.

Verification:

At the February 21, 2007 meeting Mr. Dan Harger resigned as Chairman stating he

would be happy to serve as Vice Chairman. Mr. Robinson made a motion to accept the resignation, elect Mr. Mike Hanna as Chairman and Mr. Dan Harger as Vice-Chairman which passed unanimously.

Schedule of Meetings:

***Mr. Renninger a motion that the Study Commission will meet on the last Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Courthouse starting with May 30, 2007. Mr. Harger seconded the motion. Ms. Gardner took roll call vote whereby the motion to meet on the last Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Courthouse starting with May 30, 2007 was approved unanimously.***

Selection of Transitional Committee:

The Commission asked each member as individuals to think about their particular situation and views as to whether they would be able to participate on the Transitional Committee. The Transitional Committee will need to work as smoothly as possible to complete the tasks they will be assigned. Selection of the Transitional Committee will be tabled to the meeting after the May 2 Charter vote.

Meeting Minutes:

***Mr. Novosel made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of April 18, 2007 as presented. Mr. Renninger seconded the motion. Ms. Gardner took roll call vote whereby the motion to approve the April 18, 2007 minutes was approved as follows: Seven Yeas and One Not Participating: Dr. McQuaid.***

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 08:55 p.m.

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Deb Day, Secretary  
Clinton County Government Study Commission

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