

Compensation Council
Wednesday, February 1, 2017
1:00 p.m.

MEETING MINUTES

Members Present:

David Asp
Thomas Berg
MaryLynn Dahlquist
Annie Deckert
Thomas Evenson
Dr. James Fox
Sarah Janecek
Anna Lima
Steven Ludwig
Jessica Macias
Robert Meyerson
Gail Olson
James Robins
Aalok Sharma
Keith Swanson

Excused:

Joseph E. Brown, Sr.

Convener, Gail Olson, called the Compensation Council meeting to order at 1:03 p.m. in Room 2308 of the Minnesota Senate Building. A quorum was present.

Introduction of members

Members and staff introduced themselves.

Administrative matters

Sally Olson, Legislative Coordinating Commission, reviewed administrative matters regarding reimbursement forms for council members.

Open Meeting Law & Data Practices Act

Laurie Beyer-Kropuenske, Information Policy and Analysis Division, Department of Administration, presented an overview of the Government Data Practices Act speaking to what is considered government data, the classification of government data and the application of data practices. Additionally, she addressed the Open Meeting law; when the law applies, types of meetings covered by the law, types of meetings not covered by the law, special considerations including e-mail and serial meetings, and closed meetings.

Duties of the Compensation Council

Stephanie James, Senate Counsel and Research, presented an overview of the statutory duties of the Compensation Council, including what is expected of them and what deadlines exist.

Salaries for Constitutional Officers and Judges

Stephanie James, presented information related to the total compensation packages for constitutional officers and judges.

Additionally, Greg Hubinger, Legislative Coordinating Commission presented a spreadsheet containing historical data related to salaries of constitutional officers.

Agency head salary ranges

Ben Weeks, House Research, presented an overview on agency head salaries within the council's jurisdiction.

Greg Hubinger presented a historical overview of salaries for 2000 through 2015 in the document titled "Agency Head Salaries".

Election of chair

Gail Olson opened up nominations for the positions of council chair and vice chair.

Sarah Janacek nominated Tom Berg for the position of council chair. Seconded. THE MOTION PREVAILED.

James Robins nominated James Fox for the position of vice chair. Seconded. THE MOTION PREVAILED.

Testimony

The following person provided testimony:

Nancy Haas, Attorney, Messerli & Kramer

Council Discussion

Members agreed that Greg Hubinger should be responsible for compliant data practices for the Legislative Compensation Council, with a policy to be adopted at the next meeting.

Next Steps

Resources, speakers, or topics which may be considered for future meetings include:

- National Center for State Courts
- Minnesota Management and Budget (MMB)
 - Information on turnover
 - Benefit package figures
 - Average tenure
 - District judges associations
- Judicial and county attorneys
- Other states that are comparable to MN
- Supreme court – judicial salaries: Economist report (send out prior to next meeting)
- Difficulty in attracting judges to rural parts of the state

Next Meetings

Monday, February 13, 2017 ~ 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Room 300 N, State Office Building

Monday, February 27, 2017 ~ 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Room 300 S, State Office Building

Adjourn 3:08 p.m.