

# **Collaborative Governance Council**

Office of the State Auditor

525 Park Street, St. Paul

Wednesday, February 29

1 p.m. – 3 p.m.

## **Members Present**

Lena Gould, League of Minnesota Cities (for Mayor Mary Hamann-Roland)

Kyle Harnett, Minnesota Association of Townships

Tom Hesse, Minnesota Chamber of Commerce

Valerie Rolstad, SEIU

Gary Westorff, Education Minnesota

Commissioner Jack Swanson, Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) (via phone)

Rebecca Otto, State Auditor, Chair

## **Members Absent**

Grace Keliher, Minnesota School Board Association

Ken Loeffler-Kemp, AFSCME

## **I. Call to Order**

- a. Chair Auditor Rebecca Otto called the meeting to order.

## **II. Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes**

- a. Gary Westorff moved to approve the meeting minutes. Tom Hesse seconded; motion carried.

## **III. Next Steps in Council's Work**

- a. Chair Otto updated the committee on reports given to legislative committees. Chair Otto briefed the House Redesign Caucus on the workings of the CGC. Chair Otto presented the 2011 CGC report to the House State Government Finance Committee. A lawmaker from the Redesign Caucus requested that the CGC issue a report on the meeting topics discussed since the last CGC report was issued. The CGC agreed that all meeting agendas, minutes, and documents are available for viewing by anyone interested in the CGC's work on the OSA website. Tom Hesse moved that the Council not write a 2012 report summarizing the CGC's work. Valerie Rolstad seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
- b. Chair Otto provided copies of "Best Practices Review: Collaboration Part I: Initiating, Building, and Maintaining Governmental Relationships".
- c. Commissioner Swanson suggested the Council meet on fixed dates during our meeting season. Wednesdays from 1:00 to 3:00 seem to work best. An e-mail will be sent out identifying future meeting dates. If members of the CGC cannot attend the meetings they need to commit to getting a sub.
- d. Commissioner Jack Swanson brought forward 3 topics for future meeting topics: consolidation, statewide health insurance for public employees, and appointed vs. elected officials (Auditor, Recorder, and Treasurer). The Council decided that the next meeting will focus on statewide health insurance and, if time permits, consolidation. Gary

Westorff will bring supporting information for the discussion. Tom Hesse will look into inviting insurance industry reps for the discussion. Commissioner Swanson is willing to lead the discussion on consolidation.

#### **IV. Presentation on Facilitation**

- a.** Mary Ann Hennen, Area Program Leader, Leadership & Civic Engagement, University of Minnesota presented on the programs that the U of M Extension Service has to offer. The Leadership and Civic Engagement programs help communities strengthen social capital, make informed decisions, encourage local leadership and create productive public forums. A brief discussion followed the presentation on facilitation of meetings between local governments who want to explore working together. The CGC was interested in the resources and people available throughout the state who can assist these efforts. Mary Ann is happy to assist with connecting the entities with people who are trained in facilitating meetings.

#### **V. Adjournment**

- a.** The Chair adjourned the meeting.