

**DRAFT MINUTES**  
**INDEPENDENT CITIZENS COMMISSION**

February 2, 2015

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The Independent Citizens Commission met Monday, February 2, 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.

**Commissioner James made a motion to approve the Action Sheet for January 30<sup>th</sup>. Commissioner Graves seconded and the motion carried without objection.**

**Consideration of Initial Review and Recommendations:**

**Before the Initial Review and Recommendations were approved the commission had some minor changes, those corrections were given to Brandon Robinson. Vice Chairman Banks made the motion to accept the Independent Citizens Commission Initial Review and Recommendation (as corrected) dated February 2, 2015 to the Arkansas General Assembly. Commissioner James seconded. The motion carried without objection.**

Brandon Robinson asked the commission to approve the Notice for placement in the paper to run for 3 days to start the 30 day public comment period.

**Commissioner Berry made a motion to accept the Notice and place in the paper. Commissioner Tipton seconded. Motion carried without objection.**

Mr. Robinson also asked the commission to change the follow up meeting to the week of March 9<sup>th</sup>. The Commissioner's agreed and after some discussion:

**Commissioner Hill made a motion to move the meeting for final review to March 13, 2015 at 8:30am. Commissioner James seconded. Motion carried without objection.**

Mr. Robinson gave the commission Senate Bill 177 which would be an Amendment to the current Amendment. This would add Prosecuting Attorney's to the Commission's list of Salaries to review.

Chairman Ross closing statement "Thank you for being here today as the Independent Citizens Commission makes its "Initial Report" to the people of Arkansas. No newly formed commission charged with such an awesome, high and unique responsibility would say that it has been easy. We debated the issues and reached common ground. Thanks to each of the esteemed commissioners. Commissioners Banks, Berry, Graves, Hill, James, and Tipton, it has been my privilege to serve as your Chairman. Furthermore, I commend you for your professionalism, your dignified behavior, your

commitment to the process, your respect for one another and your dedication. There has been the development of new friendships and respect forged as a means to accomplish our initial goals. Is this a big change? Yes! However, I am convinced that we did have “vision, courage, and faith to trust” each other to achieve our objective. Thus, the Initial Report is a pragmatic, realistic and sensible start. Permit me on behalf of the Commission, to thank those individuals who came before the commission to present pertinent data, to express their ideas, and their concerns, and those who gave the commission relevant facts regarding our monumental task. Finally, on behalf of the Commission, our deep appreciation and thanks to Attorney Brandon Robinson, Assistant Attorney General for his indispensable counsel as we sometimes moved with difficulty to do our work, and stay within the law. And thanks to Melanie Jenkins who has been very patient through this entire process, and she has done a stupendous job of coordinating all facets of our meetings and meeting preparations inside and outside the Capitol. Also, thanks to Auditor Andrea Lea and her office personnel. We found a way to be united for a common cause. May God bless each of you.”

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Upcoming meeting dates are as follows:

Monday, March 2, 2015- U of A System Administration Cammack Village  
Friday, March 13, 2015- U of A System Administration Cammack Village