DRAFT MINUTES

# INDEPENDENT CITIZENS COMMISSION

# September 11, 2018

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The Independent Citizens Commission met on Tuesday, September 11, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. in room 151 of the State Capitol in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Commission members present: Chairman- Mr. Ross, Vice Chair - Mr. Chuck Banks, Mr. Mitch Berry, Dr Brenda James, Mr. Stuart Hill & Ms. Barbara Graves. Also present: Ms. Nga Nahfouz, Assistant Attorney General and Ms. Melanie Jenkins with the Auditor of State’s office.

**Chairman Ross called the meeting to order**

**Consideration of minutes from the May 15, 2018 conference Call**

A motion was made by Commissioner Barbara Graves to adopt the minutes as written, seconded by Commissioner Brenda James. The motion carried without objection.

**Commission discussion**

Commissioners discussed Per Diem, Mileage and Expense Reimbursements for the Members of the General Assembly. Mr. Ragland Chief of Staff of House of Representatives was asked the current Per Diem rate and Chairman Ross asked staff Melanie Jenkins to call Ann Cornwell to get the per diem rates. The information from Ann Cornwell and Chief of Staff Ragland was $155.00 outside the 50 mile radius of Little Rock and $59.00 inside the 50 mile radius of Little Rock. Mileage is the GSA rate of .545. Commissioner Berry reviewed the previous discussions of the commissioners and the last vote that made no changes to the Per Diem and mileage rate for the House or Senate.

**Consideration of Per Diem, Mileage & Expense Reimbursements for Members of the General Assembly:**  Commissioner Berry made a motion to make no changes to the current per diem, mileage and expenses reimbursement rates. Barbara Graves seconded the motion. Motion passed without objection.

The record will to reflect that the Speaker and Senate Pro Temp were invited to the meeting. (letter can be found on the independent citizens commission website.)

Commissioner Berry asked for an explanation from Attorney Mahfouz regarding when the current commissioner terms would be up. Attorney Mahfouz stated that they are 4-year terms and they are limited to 2 terms. Until a replacement is appointed you are essentially a hold over. If you would like to hand it off to someone else than please get with the official that appointed you to discuss a replacement with them.

Chairman Ross expressed his appreciation to Attorney Mahfouz, Staff Melanie Jenkins and to the Commissioners for their service to this commission.

There being no further business, Barbara Graves made a motion to adjourn, Chuck Banks seconded. Meeting adjourned.

Handouts and complete audio of the meeting can be found at <http://citizenscommission.ar.gov>