

MINUTES

SENATE AND HOUSE COMMITTEES ON CITY, COUNTY, AND LOCAL AFFAIRS

Wednesday, June 14, 2023

2:30 PM

Statehouse Convention Center, Governor's Hall IV, 3 Statehouse Plaza
Little Rock, Arkansas

Committee members present: Senators Scott Flippo, Chair; Joshua Bryant, Matt McKee, Jim Petty, Gary Stubblefield, and Dan Sullivan; Representatives Lanny Fite, Chair; Wade Andrews, Stan Berry, Rebecca Burkes, Andrew Collins, Carol Dalby, Mike Holcomb, Wayne Long, Mindy McAlindon, Richard McGrew, R. Scott Richardson, Johnny Rye, and Bart Schulz

Other members present: Representatives Cameron Cooper and Delia J. Haak

Senator Scott Flippo called the meeting to order.

Approval of a Motion to Ratify Special Expenses Incurred in Conjunction with the June 14, 2023, House and Senate City, County, and Local Affairs Committees Meeting

Senator Stubblefield made a motion to ratify special expenses incurred by the committee in conjunction with the June 14, 2023, House and Senate City, County, and Local Affairs Committee meeting, seconded by Senator Bryant, without objection, the special expenses were approved.

Approval of a Motion to Authorize Chairs to Approve Special Expenses Incurred by the Committee

Senator Stubblefield made a motion to authorize committee Chairs to approve special expenses incurred by the committee, seconded by Senator Bryant, without objection, the expenses were approved.

Approval of the Minutes for the October 31, 2022 meeting [Exhibit E]

Senator Stubblefield made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Senator Bryant, without objection, the minutes were approved.

Presentation Regarding Mental Health of First Responders

Katie Bodenhamer, General Manager and Benefits Counsel, Arkansas Municipal League (AML), and John Wilkerson, General Counsel, AML, discussed the mental health of first responders.

Presentation of the Most Dynamic Metros 2023 Report and Broadband Needs of Arkansas

Solomon Graves, Director of Public Policy, Heartland Forward, and Dave Schielder, PhD, Chief Research Officer, Heartland Forward, presented the Most Dynamic Metros 2023 Report and discussed broadband needs of Arkansas.

Discussion of Issues Affecting the Cities and Towns of Arkansas

Mark Hayes, Executive Director, AML; John Wilkerson, General Counsel, AML; Jack Critcher, Legislative Liaison, AML; and Blake Gary, Legal Counsel, AML; discussed the issues affecting the cities and towns of Arkansas.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.