**The Center for Local Government Board of Directors Meeting**

**July 5, 2023**

1:30pm – 3:00pm

CLG Offices (4015 Executive Park Dr. Suite 226, Cincinnati, OH 45241) or Virtual

In attendance: Jack Cameron, Amanda Zimmerlin, Jim Lukas, Mike Rahall (Board); T.J. White, Cody Smith (Staff)

Absent: Vicky Earhart (Board)

* The meeting was called to order at 1:27pm
* May 3, 2023 board meeting minutes
  + MOTION to approve the meeting minutes by J. Lukas. Seconded by M. Rahall. Motion passed 4-0
* W.D. Heisel Memorial Scholarship
  + T. White provided all eligible Heisel Scholarship applications prior to the Board meeting.
  + Amy Martin received 3 first-place votes. Justta Campbell received 1 first-place vote. Adrienne Draper, Justta Campbell, and Amy Martin received second-place votes.
  + Between her 3 first place votes and 1 second place vote, Amy Martin was the consensus candidate for this year’s scholarship.
  + MOTON by J. Cameron, seconded by A. Zimmerlin to award to 2023 W.D. Heisel Memorial Scholarship to Amy Martin.
* CLG Strategic Plan Discussion
  + C. Smith stated that CLG staff have completed a SWOT analysis and discussion on the Customer Satisfaction Survey of CLG’s members. C. Smith asked the Board to decide whether or not to have a full discussion on their priorities and recommendations for the strategic plan during the board meeting, or whether to have a separate discussion later.
  + M. Rahall stated that it would probably be best to have a separate discussion at a later date when the full board can be present. All concurred.
  + J. Cameron suggested that the SWOT analysis that was presented to the board may need to be drilled down further to pinpoint the root causes of CLG’s strengths and weaknesses.
  + J. Cameron stated that getting involved with DAMA is a good idea to continue to support our Dayton-area governments, but posed the question what impact growing too large would have on the grass-roots nature of the organization and on service-delivery to current members. C. Smith and T. White stated that this is something that is being closely looked at as the organization has grown rapidly from 57 to 63 and potentially 64 or 65 members. J. Cameron also stated that CLG may want to work with a marketing firm to ensure its branding and messaging are up to date.
  + M. Rahall suggested that getting closer with Northern Kentucky governments may be an opportunity, T. White stated that CLG collaborates with the Northern Kentucky Area Development District (NKADD) on data sharing. That said, the differences in state law make direct collaboration with Kentucky difficult. Additionally, only Ohio governments are eligible for membership in CLG.
  + M. Rahall also discussed the implementation of a range rider program as an opportunity for CLG. There are some governments that could immediately benefit from a program like that with retired managers.
  + J. Cameron also stated that a threat for CLG is the retirement of long-time managers in member communities who may be replaced with managers who are not familiar with CLG and do not see value in the organization.
  + There will be another meeting of the board on July 26th at 1:30pm to continue discussion with the board to allow board members to more fully discuss their visions for the next CLG strategic plan with CLG staff.
* CLG Annual Meeting discussion
  + T. White stated that staff are preparing for the CLG Annual Meeting. They are looking at Sharon Center Auditorium in Sharon Woods, Kings Island, or Montgomery Quarter. Lori Stuckey (CLG Program and Data Coordinator) is getting pricing from Sharon Woods and Kings Island. T. White is following up on Montgomery Quarter.
  + J. Lukas stated that if Kings Island was chosen, CLG should find a good caterer.
  + T. White stated that speakers may be contingent on venue. For example, if Kings Island is chosen, he would like to get a speaker from Kings Island. Other speaker ideas are the Cincinnati Museum Center Director, the Cincinnati State President, or the heads of the metroparks in Southwest Ohio. Another idea was the Executive Director of the Reds Hall of Fame. T. White may also have a connection to actor Emilio Estevez, but that he would be unlikely to be the speaker.
  + T. White stated that 2 CLG Board seats are up for election- A. Zimmerlin (to be elected to a full term after taking over Kristen Bitonte’s seat), and M. Rahall. M. Rahall stated that he would have a decision on whether to run for re-election by August.
  + The Board recommended T. White put out a message to eligible Board members to assess interest, in the event a seat was open. T. White stated he would do so.
  + J. Lukas asked if there was a way to spruce up the Leadership Academy graduation component of the Annual Meeting. T. White stated that he would speak to L. Stuckey and C. Smith.
* Student Outreach Initiative
  + T. White stated that he has a meeting on July 7th with marketing professionals from the CLG membership in order to develop talking points.
* Small Government Grant Assistance- CLG Involvement Complete
  + T. White stated that CLG had connected Hamilton County with the UC and NKU MPA programs, and had developed an application for small governments to work with the MPA program and the County on grant research and application. CLG’s work on this project is complete, with the exception of an end of semester meeting to see how the project went.
  + T. White stated that Elmwood Place, Cleves, Addyston, and others were considering the program.
* Membership Renewal / Prospective Members
  + T. White stated that 5 members had not paid their dues yet for 2023. He has followed up with those governments, and their payments are being processed.
  + T. White stated that the Village of Cleves applied for membership. This stems from the Hamilton County Shared Services Summit. T. White is meeting with their City Council on July 18th.

* The meeting adjourned at 2:27pm