

**MINUTES OF THE  
TWO HUNDRED THIRTY-NINTH MEETING  
OF THE CONSUMERS' COUNSEL GOVERNING BOARD  
July 16, 2003**

Members Present:       Mark Gehri  
                              Rhonda Johnson, Vice Chair  
                              Herman Kohlman  
                              Dorothy Leslie  
                              James Rarey  
                              Jerome Solove, Chair  
                              John Steinberger

Members Absent:       Helen Mac Murray

The meeting was called to order by Chair Solove at approximately 9:03 AM. Chair Solove asked Board members if there were any additions or corrections to the May 7, 2003 meeting minutes. The minutes were approved by consensus.

Correspondence from NOPEC was distributed to the Governing Board members.

Mr. Tongren stated that two matters need to be covered during this meeting. First, is a report to the Board with regard to compensation for employees of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel's (OCC). The second is the Board's consideration of action with respect to its annual evaluation of Mr. Eric Stephens and Mr. Tongren.

Mr. Tongren stated that it was decided to move forward with an average increase for administrative staff salaries of 4 percent, the equivalent increase that members of the collective bargaining unit and classified service received a year ago. The tentative effective date of this increase is the last pay period in FY03.

The Board discussed the statutory authority of the Board and the Consumers' Counsel in fixing compensation for employees.

At approximately 10:05 a.m. on a motion by Ms. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Rarey and by a roll call vote, the Board voted unanimously to meet in executive session for the purpose of considering with the Consumers' Counsel the evaluation and compensation of personnel governed by the Board.

At approximately 11:00 a.m. on a motion by Mr. Steinberger, seconded by Mr. Gehri, the Board voted to return to public session.

On a motion by Mrs. Leslie, seconded by Mr. Steinberger, by a roll call vote, the Board voted unanimously to increase the compensation of Mr. Tongren, Consumers' Counsel and Mr. Stephens, Deputy Consumers' Counsel by 4 percent respectively, for their outstanding work at the OCC. The increase is to be effective the last pay period of FY 03.

Mr. Solove stated that the Board has given exemplary recognition in its evaluations of both Mr. Tongren and Mr. Stephens. You are both very much appreciated by this Board.

At approximately 11:10 a.m. on a motion by Mr. Steinberger, seconded by Mr. Kohlman the Board voted to adjourn the meeting.

I verify that the above meeting minutes have been approved and ratified by the OCC Governing Board on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of November of 2003.

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Jerome G. Solove, Chairman  
Ohio Consumers' Counsel Governing Board

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Donna Mucci, Secretary  
Ohio Consumers' Counsel Governing Board