



**MINUTES OF THE  
THREE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-SEVENTH MEETING  
OF THE OHIO CONSUMERS' COUNSEL GOVERNING BOARD  
January 19, 2016**

Members Present: Mr. Gene Krebs, Chair  
Mr. Jason Clark  
Mr. Frederick Cooke  
Ms. Sally Hughes  
Ms. Kelly Moore  
Mr. Roland Taylor  
Mr. Fred Yoder  
Mr. Stuart Young

Members Absent: Mr. Michael Watkins, Vice-Chair

**CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN:**

Chairman Krebs called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m. Chairman Krebs acknowledged Ms. Halli Watson. Ms. Watson introduced herself and Mr. Brodi Conover as counsel from the Ohio Attorney General's office, for the Governing Board.

Chairman Krebs reminded and encouraged Board Members to be available for the annual agency photo; which is scheduled to be taken on Tuesday, March 15th (before the Governing Board meeting) in the building's first floor lobby.

**RECOGNITION OF STAFF:**

Analytical Director Dan Shields announced Ms. Gina Brigner, Analytical Department Administrative Assistant, as Employee of the Quarter for the third quarter, 2015. Mr. Shields introduced Mr. Bob Fortney to the Board. He shared that Mr. Fortney recently joined the OCC as Rate Design and Cost of Service Analyst, after retiring from the PUCO.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS:**

Chairman Krebs briefed Board Members on bylaws concerning election of Board officers. He then asked the Members to make a nomination for Board Chairman. Mr. Yoder offered a motion to retain Chairman Krebs as Consumers' Counsel Board Chair. The motion was seconded by Mr. Young. Chairman Krebs then opened the floor for other nominations. No further nominations were made. Ms. Edwards called the roll. The motion to re-elect Chairman Krebs as Board Chair passed unanimously. Chairman Krebs thanked the Board for the nomination. Chairman Krebs opened the floor to accept nominations for Vice-Chair. Mr. Young offered a motion to retain Vice-Chair Watkins as Consumers' Counsel Board Vice-Chair. The motion was seconded by Mr. Yoder. Chairman Krebs then opened the floor for other nominations. No further nominations were made. Ms. Edwards called the roll. The motion to re-elect Vice-Chair Watkins as Board Vice-Chair passed unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Chairman Krebs invited a Motion to approve the minutes of the Board meeting on November 17, 2015. Mr. Cooke made a motion to approve November 17, 2015 Board Meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Ms. Moore. Ms. Edwards called the roll. The minutes were approved unanimously.

**BOARD DISCUSSION AND RESOLUTION OF REVIEW OF ELECTRIC CONSUMER ISSUES DURING BOARD MEETINGS OF 2015:**

Chairman Krebs talked briefly about how during the past year the Board meetings covered a variety of presenters that spoke on various topics of interest. He also stated that certain topics led to further review and discussion. Chairman Krebs explained that the focus of today's meeting would be for Members to review and discuss a draft Board Report – entitled “Everyone is Unhappy.” Chairman Krebs asked Members to carefully review the Report. The Members then devoted time to discussing and editing the draft Board Report. After careful review, the Board produced the final version of its Report. Chairman Krebs also noted how the report would be the voice of the Board.

The Board continued with discussions regarding the investor-owned utilities' relationship with technology and how it will impact the future of energy. Consumers' Counsel Weston provided Members with a background on the utilities' roll out of advanced electric grids and meters (so-called smart grids and smart meters). He also shared concerns for consumers, such as the need to use ratemaking consumer protections including the standard of used and useful, with regard to the deployment of higher technology grids and meters. He noted that Duke Energy has the fullest deployment of this technology among Ohio electric utilities. The Members also talked briefly about wind energy and how it impacts the market, but the key, as Mr. Weston stated, is that the market should decide which project should go forward.

The Chairman then called for a brief break in the meeting.

After returning from break, the Members were provided with a final copy of the Board Report. Chairman Krebs gave a scenario of how impactful it would be for the report to be in all major newspapers around Ohio. The Chairman also stated that he would like for Members to talk to the media within their areas – if they are willing. He further expressed the benefits of Members being

available, for the public to reach out to Members, on a personal level. The Chairman noted that members' names would be reflected in the Report as contacts. Chairman Krebs invited a Motion to approve the Report. Mr. Taylor then made a motion to approve the Report by the Board of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel, entitled "Everyone Is Unhappy." The motion was seconded by Mr. Yoder. Ms. Edwards called the roll. The Report by the Board of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel, entitled "Everyone Is Unhappy," was approved unanimously.

Chairman Krebs opened discussions regarding upcoming meetings and what type of topics and speakers would Members like to see in the upcoming meetings. He encouraged Members to think of topics and speakers that were very interesting.

**REPORT OF THE CONSUMERS' COUNSEL – BY BRUCE WESTON:**

Mr. Weston congratulated Chairman Krebs and Vice-Chair Watkins for their re-election as Chair and Vice-Chair for the Ohio Consumers' Counsel Governing Board. Mr. Weston also introduced Ms. Shelly DeCapio, who recently joined the agency as Fiscal Manager, to Board Members.

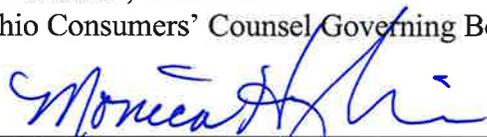
**CLOSING COMMENTS – BY CHAIRMAN KREBS:**

In closing, Chairman Krebs reminded Members of March evaluations, for the Consumers' Counsel and Deputy Consumers' Counsel, for the upcoming meeting. He also noted that the meeting could possibly run longer. Lastly, he remarked that the Board Report and the included data may change the discussions across the street.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

I verify that the above meeting minutes have been approved and ratified by the Consumers' Counsel Governing Board, on this \_\_\_\_\_th day of March, 2016.

  
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Gene Krebs, Chairman  
Ohio Consumers' Counsel Governing Board

  
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Interim Secretary  
Ohio Consumers' Counsel Governing Board