

Howard County Compensation Review Commission

Public Meeting

MINUTES (DRAFT)

Date: Tuesday, November 10, 2021

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Place: Webex teleconference. A recording of the teleconference is available on the Commission's website <https://cc.howardcountymd.gov/About-Us/Commissions-Task-Forces-and-Special-Reports/Compensation-Review-Commission-2021>

Commission Members in attendance:

Natasha H. Booms
Michael Butera
Ainy Haider-Shah
Eric Kelly
Kathryn Valentine

Staff present:

Michael Martin, County Auditor's office
Amanda Mihill, Office of Law
Jeff Meyers, County Council staff

Call to Order at 6:30

- The Commission approved the minutes from November 2, 2021, (motion by Mr. Kelly, second by Ms. Haider-Shah, unanimous vote in favor).
- The Commission sent written questions to the County Executive and invited him to this meeting. The Commission understands the Executive's scheduling difficulties and that he was not be able to attend in person.
- The Commission discussed proposals for compensation of Council Members and the County Executive. The following motions were made:
 - Moved by Ms. Valentine, seconded by Mr. Kelly:
I move that the base salary for a member of the County Council be \$73,663 for the first year of the term that begins December 2022 and that the salary be increased annually in equal dollar amounts so that in the fourth year of the term the salary is \$83,256.
Voting in favor: Ms. Booms, Mr. Butera, Mr. Kelly, and Ms. Valentine.
Voting against: Ms. Haider-Shah
 - Ms. Haider-Shah sought to amend the motion to increase the amounts for years 3 and 4 of the term, however that amendment failed for a lack of a second.

- Moved by Ms. Valentine seconded by Ms. Haider-Shah:
I move that the Chairperson of the Council should be paid a differential of \$3,500 over the base salary. The motion passed unanimously.
- Moved by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Ms. Valentine:
I move that each Council Member be allocated a total of \$ 1,500 for the four year term that the Council Member may use to reimburse the costs of technology and electronic devices that are not provided by the County but are helpful in performing his or her duties. The unused portion should be re-appropriated from year to year until the next election. The motion passed unanimously.
- Moved by Ms. Haider-Shah, seconded by Ms. Valentine:
I move that each Council Member be provide with a stipend of \$200 per month for communications services. Voting in favor: Ms. Booms, Mr. Butera, Ms. Haider-Shah, and Ms. Valentine. Voting against: Mr. Kelly.
- The Commission deferred discussion of the County Executive’s compensation as staff were asked to provide additional information about the Executive’s perquisites and benefits. Once that information is provided, Commissioners will send their initial recommendations to staff for compilation and forwarding to the full Commission.
- Staff will provide draft language for the final report in advance of the next meeting so that Commissions will be prepared with their edits allowing for adoption at that meeting.
- The meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.