



**MEMBERS:**

SEN. ARLAN MEEKHOF, VICE CHAIRMAN  
SEN. JACK BRANDENBURG  
SEN. COLEMAN YOUNG II, MINORITY VICE CHAIR

**THE SENATE**  
**COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND**  
**ELECTIONS**  
**SENATOR DAVE ROBERTSON**  
**CHAIRMAN**

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**MINUTES**

A meeting of the Senate Committee on Local Government and Elections was held on Thursday, November 8, 2012 at 2:30 p.m. in Room 100 of the Farnum Building.

The meeting was called to order at 2:39 p.m.

Members present: Senators Robertson, Meekhof, Brandenburg, Young  
Members absent: None  
Members excused: None

Senator Robertson announced the agenda for the day:

- Adoption of September 12, 2012 minutes
- SB 810 Sen. Hansen Elections; local; village elections to be held in November; require, and permit cities to hold elections in even years.
- SB 811 Sen. Hansen Villages; general law; references to September primary election; remove.
- SB 1299 Sen. Meekhof Counties; financing; retention of certain recording fees, otherwise deposited in state survey and remonumentation fund; allow for certain counties as reimbursement for cost of expediting survey and remonumentation plan.
- SB 1300 Sen. Meekhof State financing and management; funds; eligibility for grants from state survey and remonumentation fund; eliminate for counties retaining certain recording fees as reimbursement for costs of expediting survey and remonumentation plan.
- HB 4115 Rep. Jenkins Townships; employees and officers; administering oath of office; allow township supervisor to perform.
- HB 4838 Rep. Tyler State; interstate compacts and agreements; mutual aid agreements for certain emergencies; allow.
- HB 5404 Rep. Zorn Land use; land division; landlocked cemeteries; prohibit in land division and platting processes.

Senator Meekhof moved to adopt the minutes from September 12, 2012 by unanimous consent; being no objection, the minutes were adopted.

Senator Robertson announced the next order of business would be Senate Bills 1299-1300. Senator Meekhof gave members a brief overview.

The following people offered verbal testimony concerning Senate Bills 1299-1300:

- Joseph Kapelczak, representing Oakland County—Oppose
- Mark Powell, representing the Michigan Society of Professional Surveyors (MSPS)—Oppose
- Don Gilchrist, representing the MSPS and Van Buren County—Oppose
- Julie DeBoer, representing the MSPS—Oppose
- Mark Knudson, representing Ottawa County—Support

Senator Young left the committee room at 3:10 p.m.

The following people submitted testimony cards on Senate Bills 1299-1300 but did not wish to speak:

- Patrick Johnson, representing Lake County & the MSPS—Oppose
- Nan Smith, citizen—Oppose
- Beau Koerselman, representing MSPS—Oppose
- David Lohr, citizen—Oppose
- Pat Bentley, representing Manistee County & the MSPS—Oppose
- John Redash, representing Giffels Webster—Oppose
- Christopher Asiala, representing Giffels Webster—Oppose
- Paul Brown, representing MSPS—Oppose
- Stephen Vallier, Muskegon County Surveyor—Oppose
- Carol Barish, representing Geodetic Designs Inc.—Oppose
- Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs—Neutral

Senator Robertson recessed the committee at 3:13 p.m.

Senator Robertson reconvened the committee at 3:14 p.m.

Senator Robertson announced that the committee would vote on Senate Bills 1299 & 1300, but would first read in the cards for Senate Bills 810 & 811 while waiting for Senator Young to return from another committee meeting. He reminded members there was a conflict substitute (S-2) of Senate Bill 810 before them. Testimony had been taken on the bills at the previous meeting.

The following individuals submitted testimony cards indicating their position on Senate Bills 810-11 but did not wish to speak:

- Bill Zaagman, MI Association of Municipal Clerks—Support
- Mike Batterbee, Michigan Secretary of State—Support
- Bill Zaagman, MI Association of County Clerks—Support

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Senator Young entered the committee room at 3:15 p.m.

Being no further testimony, Senator Meekhof made a motion, supported by Senator Brandenburg, to adopt the Meekhof amendment to Senate Bill 1299.

Yeas: Senators Robertson, Meekhof, Brandenburg, Young

Nays: None

Pass: None

The motion prevailed.

Senator Meekhof made a motion to report Senate Bill 1299 as amended with recommendation that it pass.

Yeas: Senators Robertson, Meekhof, Brandenburg

Nays: None

Pass: Young

The motion prevailed.

Senator Robertson made a motion to recommend immediate effect for Senate Bill 1299; being no objection, the motion prevailed.

Senator Robertson requested a clean substitute from the Legislative Service Bureau.

Senator Meekhof made a motion to report Senate Bill 1300 with recommendation that it pass.

Yeas: Senators Robertson, Meekhof, Brandenburg

Nays: None

Pass: Young

The motion prevailed.

Senator Robertson made a motion to recommend immediate effect for Senate Bill 1300; being no objection, the motion prevailed.

Being no further testimony, Senator Brandenburg made a motion to adopt the S-2 version of Senate Bill 810.

Yeas: Senators Robertson, Meekhof, Brandenburg

Nays: Young

Pass: None

The motion prevailed.

Senator Meekhof made a motion to report the (S-2) version of SB 810 with recommendation that the bill pass.

Yeas: Senators Robertson, Meekhof, Brandenburg

Nays: Young

Pass: None

The motion prevailed.

Senator Meekhof made a motion to recommend immediate effect for SB 810; being no objection, the motion prevailed.

Senator Brandenburg made a motion to report Senate Bill 811 with recommendation that it pass.

Yeas: Senators Robertson, Meekhof, Brandenburg, Young

Nays: None

Pass: None

The motion prevailed.

Senator Robertson made a motion to recommend immediate effect for Senate Bill 811; being no objection, the motion prevailed.

Senator Robertson recessed the committee at 3:18 p.m.

Senator Robertson reconvened the committee at 3:18 p.m.

Senator Robertson announced the next order of business would be House Bill 4115. Jeanne Laimon, staff for Representative Jenkins, gave members a brief overview of the bill.

The following people submitted testimony cards on House Bill 4115 but did not wish to speak:

- Bill Anderson, representing the Michigan Townships Association—Support

Senator Robertson advised members they would not be voting on this issue at this time.

Senator Robertson announced the next order of business would be House Bill 4838. Representative Tyler gave members a brief overview of the bill.

Senator Young left the committee room at 3:21 p.m.

The following people offered verbal testimony concerning House Bill 4838:

- Chief Larry Lamb, Niles Fire Department-Support
- Director Timothy Gray, Southwestern Michigan Community Ambulance Service—Support

The following people submitted testimony cards on House Bill 4838 but did not wish to speak:

- Trent Atkins, Assistant Fire Chief, Lansing Fire Department and Michigan MABAS—Support
- Mark Docherty, Michigan Professional Fire Fighters Union—Support
- Jon Ichesco, Ypsilanti Fire Chief, Michigan Society of Fire Inspectors—Support
- Melissa Yutzey, Michigan Fire Services Coalition—Support
- Dave Purchase, Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs—Support
- Don Bigger, Michigan Fire Service Instructors Association—Support
- Les Rodwell, Michigan State Firemen's Association—Support
- Bill Anderson, Michigan Townships Association—Support

Senator Robertson advised members they would not be voting on this issue at this time.

Senator Robertson announced the next order of business would be House Bill 5404. John Manor, staff to Representative Zorn, gave members a brief overview of the bill.

The following people offered verbal testimony concerning House Bill 5404:

- Sue Donovan, Friends of Potter Cemetery—Support

The following people submitted testimony cards on House Bill 5404 but did not wish to speak:

- Rev. Lewis Carlson, Potters Cemetery—Support
- Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs—Neutral
- Bill Anderson, Michigan Townships Association—Support

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Senator Roberson advised members they would not be voting on this issue at this time.

Senator Robertson adjourned the committee meeting without objection at 3:41 p.m.

**Date Approved by Committee: December 5, 2012**

\*\*An audio recording of this committee meeting is available upon request for a minimal fee.