

**FINAL**  
**Minutes of Open Session**  
**Legislative Council Meeting**  
Wednesday, October 4, 2023 • 9:30 a.m.  
Committee Room 403 • State Capitol Building  
100 S. Capitol Avenue • Lansing, Michigan

**ATTENDANCE**

**Present:**

Senate Majority Leader Winnie Brinks, Chair  
Speaker of the House Joe Tate, Alternate Chair  
Representative Abraham Aiyash  
Republican Leader Matt Hall  
Senator Edward McBroom  
Senator Sean McCann  
Senator Jeremy Moss  
Representative Laurie Pohutsky  
Senator Sam Singh  
Representative Angela Witwer

**Absent/Excused:**

Representative Bryan Posthumus  
Senator Roger Victory

**ITEMS I and II. Call to Order and Roll Call**

Pursuant to Legislative Council Rule Chapter 1, Rule 2, Senate Majority Leader Brinks called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m. and asked the clerk to call the roll. A quorum was present. **Senate Majority Leader Brinks moved to excuse absent members. There was no objection. The motion prevailed by unanimous consent.**

**ITEM III. Election of Officers**

a. Chair

**Speaker Tate nominated Senate Majority Leader Brinks be Chair of the Legislative Council for 2023.** Senate Majority Leader Brinks asked if there were any other nominations. There were no other nominations. **Senate Majority Leader Brinks declared that, pursuant to Legislative Council Rule, Chapter 1, Rule 4, she will be Chair of the Legislative Council for 2023.**

b. Alternate Chair

**Chair Brinks nominated Speaker Tate to be Alternate Chair of the Legislative Council for 2023.** The Chair asked if there were any other nominations. There were no other nominations. **Chair Brinks declared that, pursuant to Legislative Council Rule, Chapter 1, Rule 4, Speaker Tate will be Alternate Chair of the Legislative Council for 2023.**

**ITEM IV. Approval of the Proposed Minutes of the September 29, 2021 Legislative Council Meeting**

The Chair directed the members' attention to the proposed minutes of the September 29, 2021 Legislative Council meeting included in the members' information packet. **Senator McBroom moved to adopt the minutes of the September 29, 2021 Legislative Council meeting as proposed. There was no further discussion. The motion prevailed by unanimous consent.**

**ITEM V. Approval of Appointment to Michigan Law Revision Commission – Lucius Vassar**

The Chair reported that Mr. Lucius Vassar has expressed an interest in serving on the Commission as Vice Chair to succeed Mr. Anthony Derezinski. The Chair noted that Mr. Vassar's resume and background information is in the meeting documents. **Senator Moss moved to appoint Lucius Vassar to the Michigan Law Revision Commission for a 4-year term that expires on October 31, 2027. There was no further discussion. The motion prevailed by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the Council, voting as follows:**

**Yeas—10**

**Senate Majority Leader Brinks  
Senator Edward McBroom  
Senator Sean McCann  
Senator Jeremy Moss  
Senator Sam Singh**

**Speaker Tate**

**Representative Abraham Aiyash  
Republican Leader Matt Hall  
Representative Laurie Pohutsky  
Representative Angela Witwer**

**Nays—0**

**Approval of Appointment to Michigan Law Revision Commission – Trent Collier**

The Chair reported that Mr. Trent Collier has expressed an interest in serving on the Commission. The Chair noted that Mr. Collier’s resume and background information is in the meeting documents. **Senator Aiyash moved to appoint Trent Collier to the Michigan Law Revision Commission for a 4-year term that expires on October 31, 2027. There was no further discussion. The motion prevailed by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the Council, voting as follows:**

<b>Yeas—10</b>	<b>Senate Majority Leader Brinks</b>	<b>Speaker Tate</b>
	<b>Senator Edward McBroom</b>	<b>Representative Abraham Aiyash</b>
	<b>Senator Sean McCann</b>	<b>Republican Leader Matt Hall</b>
	<b>Senator Jeremy Moss</b>	<b>Representative Laurie Pohutsky</b>
	<b>Senator Sam Singh</b>	<b>Representative Angela Witwer</b>

**Nays—0**

**ITEM VI. Selection of a Legislative Representative on the Michigan State Council for Interstate Juvenile Supervision**

The Chair reported the selection of Senator Jeff Irwin to serve as the legislative representative on the Michigan State Council for Interstate Juvenile Supervision to serve the remainder term ending on December 31, 2024. **Senator McBroom moved that State Senator Jeff Irwin be selected to serve as the legislative representative on the Michigan State Council for Interstate Juvenile Supervision for the remainder term ending December 31, 2024. There was no further discussion. The motion prevailed by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the Council, voting as follows:**

<b>Yeas—10</b>	<b>Senate Majority Leader Brinks</b>	<b>Speaker Tate</b>
	<b>Senator Edward McBroom</b>	<b>Representative Abraham Aiyash</b>
	<b>Senator Sean McCann</b>	<b>Republican Leader Matt Hall</b>
	<b>Senator Jeremy Moss</b>	<b>Representative Laurie Pohutsky</b>
	<b>Senator Sam Singh</b>	<b>Representative Angela Witwer</b>

**Nays—0**

**ITEM VII. Selection of a Legislative Representative on the Michigan State Council for Interstate Adult Offender Supervision**

The Chair reported the selection of Representative Amos O’Neal Irwin to serve as the legislative representative on the Michigan State Council for Interstate Juvenile Supervision to serve the remainder term ending on December 31, 2024. **Representative Pohutsky moved that State Representative Amos O’Neal be selected to serve as the legislative representative on the Michigan State Council for Interstate Adult Offender Supervision for the remainder term ending December 31, 2024. There was no further discussion. The motion prevailed by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the Council, voting as follows:**

<b>Yeas—10</b>	<b>Senate Majority Leader Brinks</b>	<b>Speaker Tate</b>
	<b>Senator Edward McBroom</b>	<b>Representative Abraham Aiyash</b>
	<b>Senator Sean McCann</b>	<b>Republican Leader Matt Hall</b>
	<b>Senator Jeremy Moss</b>	<b>Representative Laurie Pohutsky</b>
	<b>Senator Sam Singh</b>	<b>Representative Angela Witwer</b>

**Nays—0**

**ITEM VIII. Proposed Legislative Council Rule Change: Chapter 1, Rule 21**

The Chair reported that one change has been proposed to the Legislative Council rules to allow the Legislative Council Administrator to make changes to personnel policies for all agencies at the approval of the Chair and Alternate Chair. The Chair noted the legislative council rules highlighting the section in Chapter 1, Rule 21 can be found in the meeting documents. General Counsel for the Legislative Council Administrator’s office, Shanda Greco was present to respond to questions. Leader Hall inquired on the reason for this rule change. Ms. Greco responded current Council Rules require approval of the entire Council for policy updates noting the last time completed was in 2014 noting the House and Senate have updated their policies recently, this change will allow us to align those changes for council agencies in an expedited manner. Ms. Greco noted there have been

temporary policy changes approved by the Chair and Alternate Chair in recent years given the emergency changes needed during those times but policies being temporary creates uncertainty for current and future Council agency employees. Leader Hall inquired on an example of a personnel policy change. Ms. Greco responded in this instance the Employee Handbook citing harassment investigation procedures as well as areas the House and Senate have recently updated to include work from home policy, leave policy, and maternity leave policy as main examples. Senator McBroom expressed concerned on the justification for this change if temporary powers are available. **Representative McCann moved to adopt the proposed Legislative Council rule change to amend Legislative Council Rule, Chapter 1, Rule 21 to allow the Council Administrator to make changes to personnel policies for all agencies at the approval of the Chair and Alternate Chair effective immediately. There was no further discussion. The motion prevailed by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the Council, voting as follows:**

<b>Yeas—8</b>	<b>Senate Majority Leader Brinks</b> <b>Senator Sean McCann</b> <b>Senator Jeremy Moss</b> <b>Senator Sam Singh</b>	<b>Speaker Tate</b> <b>Representative Abraham Aiyash</b> <b>Representative Laurie Pohutsky</b> <b>Representative Angela Witwer</b>
<b>Nays— 2</b>	<b>Senator Edward McBroom</b>	<b>Republican Leader Hall</b>

**Proposed Rule Change: Chapter 1, Rule 21**

<b>Approval of policies</b>	21. The Council <i>Administrator</i> shall <del>receive approve</del> <i>approval from Chair and Alternate Chair on</i> personnel policies for all agencies.
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**ITEM IX. Public Participation**

The Chair reported a number of individuals wishing to address the Council and due to time restrictions asked for public comments to be limited to three minutes per person.

The Chair recognized Mr. James Gallant joining by Zoom. Mr. Gallant with the Marquette County Suicide Prevention Coalition requested the Council hold a special meeting to investigate the Legislative Council's oversight functions for the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission. During Mr. Gallant's comments the Chair noted the Council was unable to hear Mr. Gallant. The Chair thanked Mr. Gallant and asked that he submit his public comment in writing citing the Council would take his comments under advisement.

The Chair recognized Ms. Shannon Tanis joining by Zoom noting Ms. Tanis provided a document as part of her testimony and Legislative Council members had received a copy. Ms. Tanis filed a point or order because the September 29, 2021, meeting minutes for the Michigan Law Revision Commission public comment section was left blank citing this was not accurate. Ms. Tanis noted that truth in accuracy for record keepers, clerks, secretaries, and others in the field is vital. Ms. Tanis noted after conducting research this is something that has been left to dissipate over time and has not been documented accurately. Ms. Tanis expressed concern this inaccuracy makes her look like a liar when engaged with the body and given notice. Ms. Tanis expressed concern that she is a witness in a murder trial and this may be used as evidence against her. Ms. Tanis noted she will be engaging the standing committee on judiciary on probate issues noting we the people engaged a FOIA to the City of Greenfield and uncovered they are withholding evidence on hiding a sex offender in a nursing home because this person is related to an attorney that works for the City. Ms. Tanis noted she afforded the body every opportunity to deal with this in private and they did not. Ms. Tanis is giving legislators notice citing the people have suffered weaponization of every mechanism to harm the people. Ms. Tanis noted people are calling for a state convention to address all these issues. The Chair thanked Ms. Tanis for her comments and citing her comments will be taken under advisement.

The Chair recognized Senator McBroom. Senator McBroom noted Council Rule Chapter 1 Rule 16 under the Duties of the Administrator subsection (l) cites meeting notices to be sent to the appropriate personnel listing various locations including the Farnum and Roosevelt Building excluding the Cora Anderson and the Binsfeld Building. Senator McBroom noted the locations should be updated. The Chair acknowledged and noted for

item to be taken up at a later time. Senator McBroom expressed interest for the Council engaging in discussion about items the Corrections Ombudsman can be doing to enhance our understanding on what is going at the Department of Corrections. The Chair acknowledged and expressed appreciation to Senator McBroom on his comments.

**ITEM IX. Adjournment**

**The Council having no further business, the Chair asked for a motion to adjourn. Senator McBroom moved to adjourn the meeting. Without objection, the motion prevailed by unanimous consent. The meeting was adjourned at 9:51 a.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Dettloff, Secretary

*(Minutes approved at the December 18, 2024 Legislative Council meeting.)*