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Post Convention Committee Meeting Minutes August 17, 1995 Second Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Center

- 1. Call to Order -- Chair H.T. Guerrero called the meeting to order at 10 am.
- 2. Ascertain Quorum -- Quorum was ascertained with all members present.
- 3. Approval of 8/7/95 Minutes -- members browsed through the previous meeting's minutes, and thereafter, adopted it unanimously.
- 4. Reports -- with this meeting only being the second one, there was really no reports to discuss.
- 5. Old Business -- as this is only the second meeting, there was no old business left from the previous meeting to discuss.
- 6. New Business
 - I. Attachments (see attached)
 - a. Transmittal of Draft Constitution and Analysis pursuant to P.L. 9 18, members were distributed copies of 8/10/95 letters from President H.T. Guerrero and Secretary J.O.DLR. Gonzales transmitting copies of the Draft Constitution and Analysis to the Governor, Lt. Governor, Senate President, House Speaker, Board of Election's Executive Director and Acting Attorney General.
 - b. Translation Assistance from the Language Policy Commission -- members were also given copies of a letter from President H.T. Guerrero requesting the Chamorro and Carolinian Language Policy Commission's assistance in proofreading the unofficial translated Chamorro version of the Constitution and the Carolinian version (when done).
 - c. House Bill 9 408, S.D.2, H.S.1 -- members were given copies of H.B. 9 408, which essentially provides for a special election for the public's approval of the proposed constitutional amendments. Apparently, it had been passed by the House and is awaiting action from the Senate.
 - d. House Joint Resolution 9 25 -- members were given copies of H.J.R. 9 25 to recall House Legislative Initiative 9 1 (to increase the budget ceiling

of the Legislature to the tone of between \$8 to \$10 million a year). Also awaiting Senate's action.

- e. Georgetown Law Journal article -- a copy of Chair H.T. Guerrero's 8/8/95 letter to the Georgetown Law Journal requesting assistance for a possible article about the proceedings of the Third Northern Mariana Islands Constitutional Convention to be included in its subsequent edition was provided to the members.
- f. CD-ROM project of entire Third Con Con proceedings -- members were provided a copy of Counsels Willens and Siemers' 8/16/95 memorandum regarding the CD-ROM project of programming the entire Third Con Con's proceedings.
- g. Articles 11 and 14 press releases -- members also had copies of the 8/14/95 press releases of Articles 11, "Commonwealth Lands" dealing with public lands and 14 on "Natural Resources."
- h. Article 19 press release -- members were provided a copy of the 8/15/95 press release of Article 19 on "Commonwealth Unity."
- i. Article 17 press release -- members were provided a copy of the 8/16/95 press release on Article 17 about "Ethical Standards" of public officials.
- II. Discussion on Election for Proposed Amendments -- after much deliberation, members decided that should lobbying efforts to have the legislature pass legislation authorizing for a special election fail, a workable and practical deadline of the last week of August must be set so as to prepare ourselves to aggressively educate the public in due time for the upcoming November mid-year elections.
- III. Discussion on Presentation of Proposed Amendments to the public via the media -- discussion also ensued on how to best present the proposed amendments to the public without unnecessarily confusing them. Members agreed that in educating the public, the "only" goal is to **simplify** our public education efforts to ensure unnecessary confusion, while facilitating public support. After much brainstorming with respect to print media, majority of the members decided to try presenting the proposed amendments within the entire text, along with the analysis. Members would want to see how this would go and will re-strategize if deemed necessary. Members tabled discussion on strategies with respect to television and radio media until tentative proposals are provided to the committee at the next meeting.

- 7. Announcements -- none.
- 8. Adjournment -- there being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 11:45 am.

Respectfully submitted by:

Sec. John Oliver DLR. Gonzales

(8/18/95)

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Respectfully submitted by:

Sec. John Oliver DLR. Gonzales (8/18/95)



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Tower Dase, p. G. Dax 1720 Supan, MP 96950

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