

1 THE CHAIRMAN: I want to introduce to the
2 Committee two very distinguished members who are present
3 and to welcome them; Mr. William S. Ratchford who is the
4 Executive Secretary of the Maryland Association of
5 County Commissioners, and Mr. Daniel R. Thompson,
6 Executive Secretary and General Counsel of the Maryland
7 Municipal League. They are each consultants of the
8 Commission and I feel pleased to have them present here
9 with us today.

10 The Committee will note that we have a
11 reporter present and the purpose of having the reporter
12 present is that, as we discuss various subjects on our
13 agenda, the contents of that discussion will be available
14 for inclusion in the minutes and for the benefit of the
15 members of the Committee who are not present and anyone
16 else who may go into the study of the scope of activity
17 of our Committee and the subjects which are part of our
18 responsibility, and particularly the rewrite of the
19 constitutional provision covering local government and
20 other related matters in the Constitution.

21 I think that we will probably get the best