

Assembly

MINUTES OF MEETING - COMMITTEE ON STATE, COUNTY AND CITY AFFAIRS
54TH NEVADA ASSEMBLY SESSION, FEBRUARY 28, 1967

Chairman Hilbrecht convened the meeting with a quorum present consisting of himself, Dini, McKissick, Roy Young, Hal Smith. All members of the committee appeared before the meeting adjourned.

Assemblyman Jacobsen was introduced and made his presentation on behalf of AB 277 and AB 286. He stated that AB 277 was introduced to cover the difficulty now experienced specifically in Douglas and Ormsby Counties where of the three county commissioners one is a short-term (two-year) member. This short term has proved detrimental in not allowing the elective member a long enough time to master the problems with which the commission is faced. The intent would be to make all members elected to 4-year terms.

The purpose of AB 286, Mr. Jacobsen explained, was to set an accounting year for the newly created sewer district that conforms with the other established accounting periods to facilitate and establish uniformity in their recording functions. He stated that Russell McDonald of the Legislative Counsel represented the sewer district and that any further information the committee needed could be obtained from him.

Mr. Jacobsen was then excused from the committee. Former Senator Ray Knisley of Pershing County was introduced to the committee by member Bryan Hafen. Mr. Knisley then addressed himself to Chairman Hilbrecht as an interested party to AB 300. He stated that he had been active in the formulation of much of the present water resource legislation and was interested in this bill. Chairman Hilbrecht then outlined the intent of the Las Vegas Valley Water District and others in requesting this bill. Mr. Knisley agreed that legislation covering that district was needed and suggested that the committee consider restricting that district's needs to the bill so that the state-wide provision declaring underground water resources as public waters not subject to appropriation not be violated.

Discussion developed that the committee would consult with the State Engineer and others with regard to AB 300.

Mrs. Tyson reported to the committee on AB 272 which would remove the Director of State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources from membership on the Colorado River Commission. She stated that she had contacted the Director, Elmo DeRicco, and that he felt that his position was such that there was a "conflict of interest" that could not be overcome if he served on the Colorado River Commission.

Mrs. Tyson moved Do Pass AB 272.
Smith seconded.
Motion unanimously passed.

Chairman Hilbrecht called for the committee's action on AB 277 and AB 286. Discussion developed that AB 277 be continued for consideration at a future meeting.

Mr. Roy Young moved Do Pass AB 286.
Mrs. Tyson seconded.
Motion unanimously passed.

Senator Coe Swobe, Mr. Guinan and Mr. Griswold were introduced to the committee for further presentations with regard to the urban renewal legislation.

Senator Swobe said he had conferred with the Reno City Council with regard to AB 229 and SB 259. He said the City did not object to submitting urban renewal to a vote of the people but objection was expressed to a project-by-project vote. He stated that the Senate had referred their legislation to the Senate Judiciary Committee and that inasmuch as the Assembly had taken the initiative in holding the public hearing that the Senate would consider any amendments the Assembly Committee wished to submit in accordance with the course they deemed best to pursue.

Mr. Guinan and Mr. Griswold called the attention of the committee to the effect a project-by-project voter approval would have unless a flexibility were incorporated in the plan submitted to the voters. Senator Swobe suggested that the effect of voter approval requirement would be to demand more thorough planning and development research prior to submittal to the voters.

As an example of the need for flexibility, Mr. Griswold cited the urban renewal project development in the City of Reno and the unforeseen approval of the Wells Street overpass involving some of the affected property.

The committee discussed submission of an amendment to SB 259 that would set a maximum limitation to any urban development project submitted for approval but would allow the flexibility of decreasing the project areawise or costwise. This would follow the same policy that applies to bond issue proposals.

Mr. Blyth of the Nevada Municipal Association submitted the objection to project-by-project voter approval in that each time an issue involving urban renewal project (or change in project) were submitted for vote the entire concept would become an issue entailing large cost and duplication of argument.

Senator Swobe, Mr. Guinan and Mr. Griswold were excused and Senator Hug was introduced to advise the committee on SB-6.

Senator Hug explained the initial intent he had was to afford school districts an improved market for supporting bond issues. The legislation however was extended to include all bond issues inasmuch as it had been found that interest and time limitations had hindered the sale of issues. The bill would increase the interest on bonds to six percent from five percent and would extend the time for consummation from three to six years.

Senator Hug said the Legislative Counsel had advised these terms and that Russell McDonald had indicated a willingness to explain any other matters concerning the bill to the committee. Senator Hug was then excused and thanked for his presentation.

Chairman Hilbrecht then read the amendment that had been drawn by introducer, Assemblyman Paul May, to AB 141. The amendment would exclude from the bill all projects under urban renewal that had been effected longer than 90 days prior to the effective date of passage of the bill. Following discussion of the amendment and the presentations that had been made in the public hearing action was taken as follows:

Mr. Roy Young moved AB 141 and the amendment for indefinite postponement.
Mrs. Tyson seconded.
Motion unanimously passed.

Russell McDonald was summoned before the committee for further elaboration on SB-6.

Mr. McDonald explained the value of increasing the limit on bond issues from 5 to 6 percent in the tight market. After questions on the extended time period, he said that value of extended time from three to six years lay in precluding the necessity of returning to the legislature for time extensions when unforeseen complications developed. He urged retention of that feature in the legislation. He was then excused.

Mr. Bryan Hafen moved Do Pas SB-6.
Mr. Garfinkle seconded.
Motion unanimously passed.

Assemblyman Roy Torvinen was introduced to submit AB 282 to the committee. The bill, he explained, would amend the statutes to include public automobile parking facilities in exemption from taxation of exempt real estate subject to taxation when leased to, used in business conducted for profit. He explained the City of Reno had leased city property for public parking development and under the present law the City must pay taxes on this property. The intent of the bill was to make this situation void. Chairman Hilbrecht inquired whether he had a presentation to make on AB 310.

Assemblyman Torvinen explained that AB 310 had been introduced by the Washoe-Storey delegation at the request of the county commissioners and that he did not have a presentation to make.

Secretary of State John Koontz and the Assistant State Archivist Frederick Gale was introduced to the committee to comment on AB 271. Mr. Koontz explained that there had been in the past a conflict between the Nevada Historical Society and his office regarding determination of what records be retained in the Archives. The Board of Examiners determines what records must be destroyed and the historical society could prevent destruction of obsolete records by applying to the board. The intent of the bill is to make the Archives Division the recipient of

obsolete public records and thereby resolve the conflict with the Nevada Historical Society.

Mr. Koontz' presentation was enlarged upon by Mr. Gale who stated that the bill would clarify priority for the Archives Division and that after the determination was made the historical society could have whatever they wanted. Both were then excused.

Chairman Hilbrecht reviewed the presentation that had been made by ex-Senator Knisley and announced that a public hearing on AB 300 would be held Wednesday, March 8.

The committee discussed AB 229 and SB 259 as to which course should be adopted.

Mr. Tyson moved AB 229 be postponed indefinitely.
Mr. Dini seconded.
Motion unanimously passed.

Mrs. Tyson moved that the Chairman appoint a subcommittee to work out an amendment to SB 259 to be submitted to the Senate.
Mr. Smith seconded.
Motion unanimously passed.

Chairman Hilbrecht appointed Mr. Smith, Mr. Wooster and himself to the subcommittee.

It was agreed that AB 271 and AB 282 be continued for consideration at a future meeting.

Mr. Roy Young advised the Chairman that discussion had developed that A.J.R. 11 as amended was objected to on the ground that it excluded the Governor from any determination of matters to be considered in the proposed annual session of the legislature. Mr. Bryan Hafen was asked if he would object to adding to the amendment "the Governor" as well as the Legislative Commission.

Mr. Hafen said he would prepare a new amendment.

Mr. Young moved A.J.R. 11 Do Pass with the new amendment.
Mr. Wooster seconded.
Motion unanimously passed.

Chairman Hilbrecht asked the committee to study all the new referrals to the committee.

Meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.