

Assembly

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WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

NEVADA STATE LEGISLATURE, 54 TH SESSION

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Norman Glaser at 2:01 P.M. January 31, 1967 in Ways and Means Committee Room.

Present: Ashworth, Bowler, Glaser, Harris, Howard, Jacobsen, Tyson, Mello, Young.

Absent: Mello

Also present, Howard Barrett of Budget Office, Robert Bruce of Fiscal Analyst's office, Gene Phelps, Management Analyst, Budget Office; G. L. Harding, Administrator, Central Data Processing. Members of the Press.

Attorney General Harvey Dickerson appeared to present his budget needs.

Chairman Glaser informed the Committee that he was squeezing Governor Laxalt in at 2:30, so get his philosophy on salaries before hearing others.

Attorney General Dickerson said he was satisfied with his budget as presented with few exceptions, one being allowance of \$50.00 to his office to pay part of rent for office in Reno and \$50 in Las Vegas which he said they are paying now out of their own pockets. (Budget on pages 11 & 12 of book). Also needs more for telephone. Discussed investigator-for polygraph work also. Discussion cost of Mark Twain Life Insurance Trial cost - would like supplemental money to carry through.

Mr. Dickerson left at 2:18.

Joint Meeting Recess called at 2:20 until Senate Finance Committee will meet jointly.

Meeting resumed at 2:30 P.M. All present, including Don Mello.

Present also - Senators Fransway, Lamb, Bailey, Brown, Fisher
Norman Terrell of Budget Office, Robert Bruce, Mr. Wittenberg of the Personnel Office; Donald Leahy of the State Personnel Office, members of the press, League of Women Voters, Robert McAdam. Senator Gibson came in at 2:35. Hannah Palludan of Personnel Advisory Board. Ed Allison of Governor's Office.

Governor Laxalt appeared at 2:32, when Chairman Glaser announced the joint meeting of Ways and Means and Senate Finance Committees had come to order for the purpose of hearing Governor Laxalt on classified and unclassified employees' salaries and salaries of employees in his office. Governor Laxalt said it was somewhat unusual for the Governor of the State to appear before any committees in justification of budgets. This is usually delegated to department heads but it was decided that perhaps an explanation of philosophy in their budget approach should come from him as captain of the team. Gave hold the line philosophy. Said he had been very strict with respect to allowance of new positions. He said agency heads and employees like idea of working harder for more money. He gave comparison figures on top positions in state with top positions in industry - Casinos, Savings and Loan Companies, Mining industry, Transportation, etc. He said in government,

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a doctor they wanted in State Government is making more in Las Vegas on the County Level. Discussed salaries in city government, etc. and at the University of Nevada. He said he felt it was up to the people in the state to decide what type of government they want, top money brings top people.

Governor Laxalt concluded his presentation at 3:00 P.M. and left the meeting. Messers. Harding and Phelps left.

Bob Robertson of the Governor's Office read a statement he had reduced to writing, copies of which he said he would file with the Committee the next day. The statement pertained to Governor's Office positions. He himself is Executive Administrator. Senator Gibson said he doubted the necessity for the Department of Commerce, in which he said the director seemed almost a supernumer^{ary}. He wondered if an analysis of the content of the job had been made. Mr. Robertson said considerable research had been done and Mr. Barrett said he felt the salary was commensurate with the task. Highway Engineer job discussed. Discussion of job of department of commerce - supervising banks, loan companies, etc.

Chairman Glaser said he would like to know about the man on the Colorado River Commission, what his job entails, etc.

Senator Lamb said there had never been a meeting of the minds on what the Committees will do - they should get together later. Joint meeting of the Committees was dissolved at 3:05 P.M. Ed Allison of Governor's Office left.

Mike Mirabelli, State Treasurer, entered to present his Budget....later. Mr. McAdam left the meeting at 3:06. Ed Allison left approximately 3:07.

Chairman Glaser asked Mr. Robertson if he had any other aspects to touch on. Mr. Robertson said they were still analyzing incoming bills from last year to see if appropriations given in 1964 can last out the next six months of the biennium. Doesn't know if all bills are in yet. Chairman Glaser asked about Attorney's fee for Governor's office.

Mr. Phelps and Mr. Harding returned at 3:10. Mr. Robertson left at 3:12.

Wilson McGowan, State Controller, appeared at 3:14 to present his budgetary needs. Discussion for need of CPA in his office. Mr. McGowan asked Howard Barrett to discuss his budget. Mr. Barrett did so, saying they worked closely with the Department of Administration. He said a bill was being prepared on change in accounting system - change into double entry system of accounting. Mr. Harding explained data processing.

Mike Mirabelli and Mrs. Glover of the State Treasurer's Office presented their needs. Main problem salary of principal account clerk salary which is higher than the chief clerk's salary and they feel shouldn't be. Explanation of jobs and duties by Mrs. Glover.

Mr. Jacobsen excused at 3:40 P.M. Mr. John Dolan of Personnel came in at 3:42. Mr. Harris out 3:45 - 3:49. Mrs. Glover left at 3:51.

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Howard Barrett presented his budget - 3:52. He said he had a complete turn-over of staff since the last session of the Legislature, all of whom have gone into better paying positions - some in state.

Mr. Mello out from 3:50 - 4:00 P.M. Len Harris out 3:45 - 4:02.

Discussion Page 24 of Budget, record service, microfilm agency, etc. Insurance premium fund, page 27. Explanation of state's waiving Sovereign Immunity and going non-insured.

Meeting adjourned at 4:23 P.M.

Norman D. Glaser, Chairman

Agnes M. Nelson, Committee Stenographer