

Assembly

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

NEVADA STATE LEGISLATURE, 54TH SESSION

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Norman Glaser at 2:07 P.M. February 1, 1967 in Ways and Means Committee Room.

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

Absent: Tyson, Young - meeting with State, City and County Affairs - will be in later.

Others present - John Dolan of the Budget Office; Howard Barrett of Budget Office; Gene Phelps of Budget Office; G. L. Harding, Central Data Processing; members of the press; Robert Bruce.

Page 28 of Budget - Central Data Processing. Mr. Barrett explained this is another division of the Department of Administration which Mr. Harding heads. Discussion of Central Data Processing by Mr. Harding and Mr. Phelps. Mr. Harding explained that two years ago there were 7 separate data processing units and the system must be looked at in light of consolidation. He said a group calling themselves the Nevada Statewide Information System had studied Central Data Processing and reached unanimity of opinion on a survey. They feel one large computer could be used, shared by departments, charge for service.

Mrs. Tyson in at 2:14, Mr. Young, 2:15.

Cost was discussed. Mr. Harding said in the past, rental for computers in all the agencies was \$340,000 - for this same figure, or near, the large size computer could be obtained.

Administrator, Colorado River Commission, came in at 2:25. Pat Head. Mr. Newton of Taxpayers Association came at 2:39, Mr. Close at 2:30 as interested observers. Computer system discussion continued by Mr. Harding, including discussion on personnel to operate. Mr. Barrett asked him to discuss what has been done in last 1 1/2 years with \$17,000 legislature appropriated. Total cost of the computer would be shared by all the agencies. Mr. Harding left at 2:47.

Pat Head of the Colorado River Commission appeared at 2:47 to discuss his salary, Page 390 - \$26,400. He gave a brief rundown on Commission, saying it was composed of five laymen appointed by the Governor. He told of his previous experience, said he came to Commission in 1962 under contract. He has been asked to stay until 1969. He is not a state employee, no benefits of retirement, etc. He was asked to take over administration of the Commission. This is the first time his position has been listed other than under Contract Services. Chairman Glaser asked about funds. Mr. Head said charges were made on power and water. They are sole contractors. He said money had been borrowed and would be paid back when Fort Mjoave and El Dorado Valley properties are sold, also money borrowed from General Fund. Mr. Howard asked if Elmo De Ricco received a salary and was told no, inasmuch as he receives salary from State.

Ken Buck of Retirement Board in at 2:57.

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Discussion of Bob Jones, legal counsel. Mr. Head said he is paid as Deputy Attorney General. It is paid by the Commission through the Attorney General's office. Mr. Head left at 3:30.

Mr. Wittenberg of the Personnel Office presented his budget. Discussed training responsibility. Discussion of advertising costs, which consist of ads placed in newspapers, etc. when recruiting.

Mrs. Avis Hicks of the Purchasing Department appeared at 3:13. Discussion of their budget, page 33. Explanation of fact that presently all state agencies with the exception of the Desert Research Institute go through Purchasing Department for equipment and they also operate a warehouse in Reno. Material from warehouse is sold, service agency concept. Discussion of new positions, Page 34. Mr. Jacobsen asked why all agencies want to get out from under Purchasing Division. Mr. Barrett said any time there is a centralized agency with control there are problems. He said they are going to give the University freedom from some of the practices, there has been a bill introduced by Frank Young, not, at the University's request, but now that it has been introduced they are interested in seeing it go through. Mrs. Hicks explained the setup...University. Discussion of 10% commission rate, markup at warehouse. Discussion on purchase of meat from out of state, state inspected rather than federal? Mr. Harris said they have to bring it in from out of the state and lose money, because it says "federal" and has to be federally inspected.

Surplus property discussion at 3:35. People have to go out of state to look for surplus property, money for out of state travel. Discussion of screening of out of state property. Mr. Jacobsen classed much of the material at the Reno warehouse as "junk." He also said if someone wanted something, there was so much red tape they sometimes gave up the whole idea. State gets property for nothing.

Senator Lamb came in at 3:47 and told Mr. Glaser they were ready to meet on unclassified salaries, meeting set for 8:00 A.M. next day without press if possible.

Mrs. Hicks left at 3:51. Buildings and Grounds man came in but was informed his hearing was for the next day - Marlette Lake, etc.

Ken Buck of Retirement Board came, said he thought they were going to discuss salaries. He then spoke on his own behalf, saying he felt his salary should be as recommended by the Retirement Board. Page 439 of Budget, salary \$16,000. He said he is an appointive employee. Discussion of practice of salary being set by appointing authority, which has not been followed.

Mr. Buck left at 4:07. Chairman Glaser said they would have him back. Meeting adjourned at 4:10.

Norman D. Glaser, Chairman

Agnes M. Nelson, Committee Stenographer