

MINUTES OF MEETING - WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE - NEVADA STATE LEGISLATURE
1968 SPECIAL SESSION - FEBRUARY 23, 1968

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Glaser at 9:15 AM in the Ways and Means Room.

Present: Glaser, Mello, Bowler, Ashworth, Webb, Young, Tyson
Howard, Jacobsen

Absent: None

S. B. 20: Creates unclassified position of state park construction engineer, establishes annual salary and makes appropriation therefor

Mr. Bill Hancock was present to discuss this bill with the committee.

Mr. Glaser asked if they are staffed sufficiently at the present time to handle this type of planning and designing program with the expanded responsibility. Mr. Hancock said their program doesn't sound too large (program of Parks Division). However, the problem they foresee would be that of programing. We could handle this very well with sufficient advance notice of their work.

Mr. Glaser asked his opinion of putting the proposed engineer in his department of State Planning Board. Mr. Hancock said they wanted an engineer who would be a jack of all trades and this would not be possible, especially for \$9500. However, with him working with the engineers we have in Planning, it could work very well. He expressed his concern in favor of having all one type of work such as designing in one agency.

Discussion on the three categories of programs in Parks. The federal conservation money goes to the counties. Our involvement is simply to check them. Mr. DeRicco's office sets up a priority list from the applications from the counties. Each county submits its plans to Mr. DeRicco and then they are checked out by us. It involves \$250,000 a year. He thought part of the million dollars mentioned yesterday was for land acquisition.

Discussion on putting a man in State Planning for the \$9500 and relieving one of engineers already there for the work with Parks. Mr. Hancock said, with the Planning Board, they would get full time work out of the extra man. Their idea would be to hire a man to do the production work which takes longer than the actual engineering which would allow one of their well qualified engineers to work with Parks. Then, if the work slowed up in Parks, he could utilize his time in the Planning Board.

Mrs. Tyson spoke of the parks and recreation program just being the beginning of an extensive system throughout the state. Her interest in this is because of her feeling that this program will become the stable base for economy in this state. She doesn't care where the engineer is placed as long as he does not become "log jammed".

It was the feeling of the committee that this man definitely should be under classified rather than unclassified.

Mr. Howard pointed out that the problem is no supervision when the facilities are being constructed. If this man was put in the Planning Department, could you put a man in the field? Mr. Hancock said not full time. They will have 2 men in Las Vegas and 3 or 4 in the north for spot checking, but if we do inspecting full time would have to dock capital funds.

Mr. Jacobsen mentioned his concern over this man having 2 bosses if put in the Planning Department and then assigned to Parks. Mr. Hancock said this is a problem. The advantage, however, is that we have several men in our office for backup for him.

Mr. Ashworth suggested if we go ahead with this we should have it definitely understood that the Parks Division and Planning will have to cooperate in utilizing the services of the architects and engineers. Mr. Hancock stressed this cooperation in the area of programing. Mr. Jacobsen suggested calling Mr. Cronkhite in to explain the problem in order to get it started right. Even with the passage of this bill, they would have some involvement between the departments.

Mr. Hancock felt that it could be handled operational-wise through the Planning Board with the salary costs put in as of July 1.

Discussion on need for "registered" engineer. Mr. Hancock said it was not necessary as they have them in their office now.

Discussion on travel. Mr. Cronkhite came up with the figure of \$800, so Mr. Hancock felt it was probably a correct estimate of his needs. The travel money cannot come out of capital funds. In view of this, Mr. Hancock said it would have to be additional funds then.

Discussion on placing the money in Parks for the hiring of this man's services from the Planning Board being analagous to the situation of deputies in the Attorney General's Office. Mr. Bowler asked if this would create a bad situation in regard to relations between the two departments in view of the tense situation revealed. Mrs. Tyson and Mr. Jacobsen felt that it would not.

Mr. Ashworth and Mr. Young felt that it has been our idea to have the State Planning Board plan and serve all state agencies. With a little advance notice by Parks, this would work. It would also force Parks to do a little better planning than at Pyramid.

Mr. Barrett questioned whether you could make an appropriation to the Planning Board since they are not on the Governor's agenda for the Special Session. Discussion on the man's grade and salary a result of agreement with Personnel as to his job description. The money appropriated with limit this range and the kind of man you get. Mr. Barrett agreed, however, that under the call you could put this man in Planning and put the funds in Parks.

Mr. Mello felt perhaps Parks could not get a man when they needed him if he were placed in Planning.

Mr. Barrett explained that Parks is involved in planning for parks.

The Planning Board does not do the planning for Parks Division. What the State Planning Board does is to review Parks' plans in order to get federal funds. It was Parks' idea to get a man with practical experience so when the plans are drawn, they can be drawn with the practical construction feasibility in mind. This accounts for the recommendation that the man be put in the Park Division rather than the Planning Board. He is the man who will review and inspect the construction after he has taken the original plans and drawn the construction plans.

Discussion on the different types of engineers and need for Parks to have a supervisor of construction to keep it in line with specifications.

Meeting adjourned at 10 AM.