

ELECTION COMMITTEE 56th ASSEMBLY SESSION

MINUTES OF MEETING ON JANUARY 27, 1971

MEMBERS PRESENT: CHAIRMAN: Mary Frazzini, VICE-CHAIRMAN: Frank Young, Juanita White, Darrell Dreyer, Ross Prince, Margie Foote, Frances Hawkins

GUESTS: Arthur Palmer, Gordon Harding, Fred Dugger and Senator James Gibson.

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman Frank Young at the hour of 3:15 a.m. in room 234. Copies of the letters on reapportionment and redistricting were distributed to each member.

Mr. Young then introduced Mr. A. J. Palmer, Mr. Fred Dugger and Mr. Gordon Harding.

Mr. Palmer made a brief statement regarding computer assistance and he suggested the following steps should be taken in order to successfully accomplish the development of alternate reapportionment plans for review by the Nevada Legislature.

1. Acquire 1970 census programs.
2. Prepare geographic coordinates describing census enumeration districts.
3. Obtain the necessary programs.
4. Retain a knowledgeable consultant experienced in reapportionment to review quality of data and approach.
5. Perform a validation of these programs and data.
6. Develop reapportionment and redistricting alternatives desired by the Legislature.
7. Again review these alternatives for technical accuracy with a consultant.

Mr. Palmer presented a map indicating the townships in Las Vegas, pointing out to the committee that the map indicates enumeration districts or ED's.

Mr. Palmer introduced Mr. Gordon Harding.

Mr. Harding then commented on the effectiveness of the computer system. He also said that a number of states are considering the use of the computer. He related to the committee that the states of Delaware and Iowa had been most successful in the use of the computer. Mr. Harding further stated that computer technicians would be willing to come to Nevada to demonstrate the use of computers on reapportionment and redistricting.

Vice-chairman Young presented a resolution\* authorizing an expenditure from the Legislative fund for the purpose of developing alternative redistricting plans for review by the Legislature, and to set forth a sum not to exceed \$25,000 for the purpose of developing a local capability to utilize the computer in the data processing division of the Department of Administration to assist the Legislature in current reapportionment problems; that such authorized expenditures shall be made for obtaining census information, preparing programs and documentation, collecting geographic data, paying for computer time, employing external consultants and developing systems and programming.

It was suggested that the resolution be referred to Ways and Means because of the time limit.

Open discussion on the subject.

Mr. Dreyer moved to refer the resolution to Ways and Means, seconded by Ross Prince. Motion carried.

The committee agreed the matter should be made an emergency action.

Meeting adjourned at the hour of 8:45 a.m.

b. smithers

\*A.C.R.S (BDR 1002)