

Assembly  
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
MARCH 11, 1971

2- 107

ALL MEMBERS PRESENT EXCEPT ASSEMBLYMAN DINI.

ALSO PRESENT: DONALD ANDERSON, STATE RETIREMENT BOARD  
GARY PRESNELL, STATE RETIREMENT BOARD  
R. GUILD GRAY, CLARK COUNTY  
KEN BUCK, STATE OF NEVADA EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION  
ROSS CULBERTSON, CCCTA  
CARL SULLIVAN, NEVADA STATE SCHOOL EMPLOYEES  
LEN ROBINSON, NSEA  
BOB KERN, FIREFIGHTERS AND PEACE OFFICERS  
W.E. ADAMS, CITY OF LAS VEGAS  
KEITH HENRIKSON, FIREFIGHTERS AND PEACH OFFICERS  
VINCE SAVACORE, CCCTA  
LONNIE SHIELDS, WCTA - NSEA  
ED PSALTIS, WCTA

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Smith.

AB 333 - Authorizes Clard County Sanitation District No. 1 to improve, equip its sanitary sewer system and to issue general obligation bonds, other general obligation securities for such project not exceeding \$6,500,000.00.

Dr. Gray spoke in favor of this legislation explaining that the situation of the Clark County Sanitation District was critical and that the current state of the bond market very bad. He stated that he could not at the present time recommend to the officials of the CCSD that they hold an election, and if the bond issue were approved sell the bonds at a discount. He recommended that the CCSD be allowed to sell 6½ million dollars worth of general obligation bonds without the vote of the people. One reason for this suggestion was that if the bond issue were turned down there would be no solution for the problem that exists in Clark County. Dr. Gray stated that the CCSD had an important effect on the economy of all of Clark County. If no more primary and secondary treatment plants are not built, all building along the Strip and in Paradise Valley might have to be stopped.

AB 631 - Proposes various amendments to General Improvement District Law.

Dr. Gray would do the following:

1. Remove the Public Service Commission as the rate setting authority for general improvement districts.
2. Allow the county commissions as ex-officio members of the boards of trustees of such districts.
3. Allow the meeting of the officials to take place in the regular meeting place of the county commissioners instead of within the boundries of the district.
4. Add water to the districts.

Dr. Gray strongly urged passage of this bill.

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Dr. Gray explained that this bill would allow the CCSD to handle on a contract basis all the sewer treatment in Clark County, which would result in better and cheaper treatment for all.

Dr. Gray also explained that he favored SB 348, a "housekeeping" bill, which would allow for the sale of bonds when no bids were received. At present the law states that all bids can be rejected and the bonds sold, but has no provision for selling bonds when no bids are received.

SB 290 - This bill was also favored by Dr. Gray and the Clark County Commissioners as it would apply only to Boulder City. It would allow them to form a utility district to provide for underground utilities and would not effect private public utilities. Assemblyman Bryan asked if the bills had been approved by the bonding attorneys.

Dr. Gray answered yes and they also had been examined by Mr. MacDonald. Assemblyman Bryan voiced his concern that an over-all plan for Clark County had not been worked out.

Chairman Smith suggested that Mr. Gray and the officials of the CCSD and the officials of North Las Vegas, who have some unused sewer bond money try to work out a co-operative agreement.

Assemblyman Branch stated that it was his opinion that the North Las Vegas money could only be used in North Las Vegas, and only a small portion of North Las Vegas was within the CCSD boundaries. Assemblyman Getto asked if there was a president for a bond issue without the vote of the people.

Dr. Gray replied that the Las Vegas Convention Center had been built this way.

The subject of the retirement bill was taken up next.

Mr. Hendrikson and Mr. Kern presented a written statement to the committee concerning the state of the retirement fund, which had been prepared by their group and showed the fund was in excellent shape and more benefits could be added without harming the system.

Mr. Ken Buck spoke in regard to the fund and stated that there need be no fear that the fund was in bad shape, however he stated that the committee should remember that the fund was established to reward long-time career employees and that the policy that the State of Nevada Employees Association had taken was that no bills be passed this year and a two year study of the bill and the fund be made.

His personal opinion was that SB 74 and AB 443 could be passed this session without harming the system.

He suggested that if a study were made the possibility of a

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seperate fund for police and firemen be considered. He also pointed out that if a study were made it should be based upon the system being a pay as you go system.

Assemblyman Branch stated that such a study had been requested two years ago and had not yet been made. He suggested that before any action requesting such a study be taken, all employees should have a chance to have a meeting and present one package to the committee for consideration this session.

Assemblyman Lauri stated that a study could be made this next two years and strongly recommended that the committee consider it.

Mr. Anderson sointed out to the committee the following things in AB 443 that should be changed before any action is taken on this bill.

1. Page 2, line 24 should be deleted.
2. Page 4, line 14 should be 8% instead of 6%.
3. Page 7, line 28 makes the bill retroactive and should be deleted thru line 36.

Chairman Smith said he felt that AB 94 and AB 305 were both bill that had merit and should be consider d.

Mr. Buck replied that he objected to AB 94 because it would allow retirement benefits to be based on an actual 45 months of the highest salary instead of 36 as the law for most other employees is now based upon.

Mr. Buck also stated that he felt AB 305 which would give a full year of service to school district employees who can only work for nine months would open a new avenue of benefits and other employees who also can only work part of the year would want the same benefits.

Chairman Smith suggested to all employee groups that they present to the committee a package of legislation for consideration.

Chairman Smith read the amendments to AB 284 and the committee approved them.