

MINUTES OF LEGISLATIVE FUNCTIONS COMMITTEE - 56TH ASSEMBLY SESSION
February 1, 1971

PRESENT: N. Lauri, D. Mello, Roy Young, J. Schofield, R. Torvinen
N. Glaser and W. Wilson

OTHERS:

PRESENT: Lawrence Jacobsen, Speaker of the Assembly

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Nick Lauri, at 11:15 A.M. in the Assembly Lounge.

A resolution was read by Lauri appointing Senator Bill Dial as Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms. Motion made by N. Glaser that this appointment be approved and seconded by D. Mello. Motion carried.

The letter from Mr. Hancock regarding the installation of microphones at each desk was read again and discussion followed. Mr. Young felt that, if an assemblyman wanted his remarks recorded on a resolution or bill, he should move to the microphone on the floor, since it is difficult to hear some of the assemblymen. Mr. Mello stated that if someone could not hear, he should immediately stand and let the speaker know and ask them to use the microphones on the floor. Mr. Young thought the matter should be left out this session and let the Legislative Commission handle it in the interim. Mr. Jacobsen stated that it would be wise to have a joint meeting with the Senate Functions Committee to see what their plans are in regards to this microphone system and several matters. It was so decided.

A letter from Mr. George Westenhoefer, President of the Carson Chapter of the Society of Professional Engineers, was read, requesting permission for this organization to display material in the lobby of the Legislative Building during Engineers Week, February 21 through February 27. This was approved.

A resolution proposed by C. W. Lingenfelter was presented; however, it was decided that this resolution and other like studies should be introduced by the appropriate committees.

Mr. Torvinen asked about the bulletin boards which were to be installed in the hallway of the Assembly side and the lobby. Mr. Jacobsen said he was planning to take care of this item.

Mr. Wilson brought up the matter of Health and Welfare representation on the committee which would handle Institutions since he felt they should start cooperating with the Senate Institutions Committee on these matters. Mr. Young stated that two members of the Assembly Ways and Means Committee were meeting with the Senate Institutions Committee but that three people from the Health and Welfare Committee should also be included to take care of the social aspects of anything coming up in regard to the State Institutions.

Assembly

Page 2
Legislative Functions Committee
February 1, 1971

29

Mr. Lauri brought up the matter about office space requested by some of the Assemblymen. Mr. Jacobsen stated that there were six rooms available upstairs - keys could be picked up from Bud Miller and returned to him. It is possible to request the same room.

The problem of clearing the "Log Jam" from the Bill Drafting office was discussed with several viewpoints on the possibility of co-sponsoring similar bills. Mr. Young said that he had been informed that there were 1,300 requests for bills. It was thought that the leadership of both houses could initiate procedure wherein the bill drafters could notify the first request on a bill that a second or third had come in and the original person would be charged with the duty to seek out the others and see if it could be co-sponsored. This would not apply to confidential bills. It was also thought that a set of procedures could be worked out with the Legislative Commission in coordinating the duplicate bill drafting requests.

Mr. Lauri stated that he had had some complaints about the coffee machine in the lounge area and that there were some that believed a cold drink machine should be installed since there is also a coffee urn. Mr. Lauri will have Bud Miller take care of replacing the coffee machine with a cold drink machine.

The meeting was adjourned to a Joint Meeting with the Legislative Functions Committee of the Senate being held in Room 327 at 11:57 A.M.

The Senate Committee was discussing the matter of bulletin boards in the lobby for the public's use - one showing all information regarding bills, committee meetings and hearings. Mr. Jacobsen said he had planned on taking care of this matter for both houses.

The Chairman, John Foley, of the Senate Committee stated that they had decided to install acoustical treatment in Rooms 327, 335 and 345, and forego the carpeting at this time. Mr. Lauri stated that the Assembly Functions Committee had decided to go ahead with carpeting in Rooms 316, 320, 328 and 336. The Senate felt that, since so many of these rooms were considered temporary with knock-out walls, they should forego this expense. The costs of the carpeting versus the tile treatment only were outlined. Motion was made by Roy Young, seconded by Don Mello, that they go for Acoustical Tile only in three rooms of the Assembly side and two rooms on the Senate side. (The room that this meeting was being held in was omitted from the approval since it was felt that the acoustics in it were adequate for the time being).

Mr. Lauri brought up the matter of the individual microphones but, since the Senate felt they were getting enough criticism about the costs of the building, the matter of the microphone system was set aside.

Mr. Jacobsen brought up the difficulty the Assembly was having with its loudspeaker system, and that the clerks were having trouble picking up all the conversation by shorthand. Further experimentation will be done by utilizing the present system. Mr. Jacobsen will also look into the costs of some type of buzzer system which the Assembly believes would be helpful when a call to order is made.

A brochure showing the various types of permanent directories available for use in the lobby was passed around. Since it takes six weeks for delivery on these items, the temporary bulletin board as previously discussed will be used at this session.

Mr. Jacobsen announced that the Bill Room will be opened from 8:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. daily and from 8:00 or 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturdays as a service being offered to the public.

Mr. Lauri brought up the matter of S.R. 1, the Bill Analysis requirement approved by the Senate. He stated that he was encountering strong opposition to this Bill Analysis. Mr. Brown stated that Senate had met with little opposition to the provision and they felt it would be a time-saving measure. Mr. Torvinen observed that Russell McDonald was reluctant to do any of these unless both houses concurred. Although the members of the Assembly may not approve this Bill Analysis, the Senate bills will include this and perhaps those from the Assembly will not.

The meeting adjourned at 12:41 P.M.

B.Sullivan