

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE - NEVADA STATE LEGISLATURE - 57th SESSION

March 6, 1973

Meeting called to order by Chairman Mello at 8:10 AM in the Ways and Means Committee Room.

Present: Chairman Mello, Vice-Chairman Schofield, Messrs. Dreyer, Robinson, Howard, Smith, Prince and Hafen. Mr. Capurro had an excused absence.

Also Present: John Dolan, Randy Webb, Ron Sparks and Bill Bible.

Motion to accept the Minutes of the meeting of March 2, 1973, was made by Mr. Schofield. Second by Mr. Robinson. Motion passed.

Introduction of Mr. Carroll Nevin of the Crime Commission. See attached for opening remarks.

Page 375, new positions: Senior Account Clerk, to establish two full time positions where there is presently 1-1/2 positions.

Auditor Trainee: Would work as a trainee with Jack Richards, the present auditor. This is needed because of the large amount of money for each program, which must be audited.

Contractual Services: \$5,000 of that \$8,742 set aside for an audit to be conducted every year by the Legislative Council Bureau. The remainder is in the development of a Grant Management Information System (data processing).

Building Rent: Due to raise in the rental amount by the Buildings & Grounds Department.

Special Reports: Reports made to the Commission.

P.O.S.T.: Peach Officers Standards and Training program. Preparing and conducting schools for local law enforcement officers. Increasing the amount of schooling to 92 hours to approach the National level.

Crime Commission Identification & Communications Div. Existing positions transferred from other divisions. (See Exhibit A, attached)

New positions: Chemist, present chemist overworked not only in testing but in Court testifying work. Clerk Typist to assist the chemists with paperwork. Fingerprint Technician, to classify the prints that are coming in from every department in the State. The FBI requested that each State attempt to create a state agency that would collect and conform file cards of prints from various agencies into one agency.

Contractual Services: Salary paid to a chemist in the Clark County Sheriff's office, who has assisted in preparing reports for Lincoln,

Nye and Esmeralda counties.

Specialized Equipment: Identification & Communications Division must maintain files on microfilm. This budget request is for the equipment necessary to do the microfilming.

Communications: Cost to support the teletype system in the State and be able to pay part of the cost of the small users.

Page 380, new positions: Two of these are men that are now educators in the Department that will be transferred to agents. The education function of the department should be transferred to the Department of Education. The purpose of educating children and parents should be in the school department and not in the enforcement department. Two additional people are now on the payroll on the EEA which will go out on July 1. These two have been picked up in the new positions. There will actually be three new agents. The Governor feels that we have a definite narcotics problem in the State and felt that the addition of these agents would help the problem.

One-Shot Appropriation of \$15,101 on page A19 is to help pay for motor pool interstate travel costs: The appropriation is needed because (1) the motor pool fees were raised from 7¢ to 11¢ per mile; (2) increase in mileage for the division functions; and (3) cost of additional vehicles for the EEAF personnel. (S.B. 207 Subsection 4).

One-Shot Appropriation of \$16,000 on page A18. Since the Division has been in operation, nearly four years, all of the specialized equipment we have had to utilize has been obtained from Federal grants. So the Division has not had to ask the State for this equipment. At the present time the agents are operating without two-way radios. We feel in this type of unit we badly need this type of equipment. The \$9,600 is to purchase two-way radios and related equipment for the agents. The other part of the requested appropriation is to buy more specialized equipment to give the Las Vegas office the same capabilities for presenting good quality presentations in Court.

Purchase of Drugs - Information, page 381. Based upon the first three years of operation it takes approximately \$5,000 per agent for paying informants, buying drugs, etc. This request has been increased from previous years due to the increase in the number of agents.

Advertising-Public Relations: Purchase and distribution of information materials for groups and organizations.

Crime Commission - Federal Grants: A new Federal law requires that the State provide an appropriation to support the federal funds granted to local units of government.

Crime & Social Services Grants - State Match: A back-up of general

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fund appropriations to meet requirements if Federal matching standards change or Federal funds become unavailable. Fund to be used only by the Governor to provide additional State match or to replace the Federal funds.

Noel Clarke, Chairman, Public Service Commission, page 416.

One-shot appropriation on page A22, Airport Study, for \$20,000.

The \$20,000 for the airport study is a portion of the State's contribution of the state-wide airport study required by the FAA in order to continue function of airport development after 1974. The study totalled some \$125,000. The State's portion would be \$40,000. We have asked for \$20,000 and hope to use other supplemental assistance the same as if it were cash. We are working towards the goal of \$20,000. Will put one full time employee on the program and it will last about one year, the study. If we cannot get by on \$20,000, under the provisions of the act we will probably have to come back to the Governor for funds from the revolving fund. The fund will have in it about \$136,000 at the close of the fiscal period. Revolving fund derived from regulatory assessments from the utilities.

New positions: Staff Counsel: We think this is an extremely critical position. Presently represented by the Attorney General, both in the presentation of the staff's presentation for the Commission on rate cases and other matters and then the Deputy Attorney General turns around and has the position of defending us in Court. In the event that the Commission doesn't see fit to accept the recommendation or go along in total with the staff on its presentation of a rate case, for example, the Attorney General finds himself putting on another hat, turning around 180 degrees and possibly fighting a case in court, 180 degrees from what his presentation was before the Commission. This is an untenable position. It is a conflict of interest, we believe.

The staff counsel at no time would appear before any Court or do anything outside of the Commission. Should be under the control of the Commission and not the Attorney General. The Attorney General position would continue to represent us in Court proceedings. At the present time the Deputy Attorney General does not have time to represent us at a number of meetings, informal conferences, and other matters; and, at times we have asked that he not be present at some proceedings because of the conflict of interest. We do not think there is any other agency that has the same posture as the Public Service Commission; we are a quasi-judicial agency.

Administrative Assistant: Were funded one two years ago, has been doing writing material, in-house research, assisting Commissioners. It is the intent of the Commission eventually to have three Administrative Assistants for each of the three Commissioners. With workloads which are increasing a Commissioner and an Administrative Assistant will do a much better job of conducting a hearing than a single Commissioner. Would allow the Commissioners to split up

to hold as many as three hearings at any one time, which would expedite the hearings. This position is unclassified because they will be working with the individual Commissioners who should be able to be at liberty to pick who they want to work with.

Electrical Engineer to be stationed in Las Vegas. Presently have one electrical engineer to cover the entire state. We believe that the public requires us to carry a greater consumer interest and more activity on the part of the Commission in developing in-house investigations of all electrical appliances, telephone appliances, CATV appliances throughout the State.

The remaining new positions are backup to the present positions or needed because of increased caseload.

Legal & Court Expenses: Involves a number of items, Attorney General salary, the additions thereto, costs for transcripts of hearings, etc.

Sub Account #10: Used for out-of-state travel to audit books and records of utilities. A bill will be introduced which will require a utility that elects to maintain its books and records outside of the State, that it will be assessed an assessment equal to that amount of the difference between in-state and out-of-state travel.

Paying 16¢ per square foot for building use and maintenance; approximately 7,000 square feet.

State Printing Office Continuing Fund, page 57: Self-supporting budget. Overtime figured for Legislative session only - unallocated salaries are for additional employees during the legislature.

Communication Expense: for telephone tolls, rental, freight and postage. During legislative session the telephone and postage go up. Actually spent last session around \$18,000.

Operating Supplies: Includes subscriptions, manuals, etc.

Contract Services: Cuts, negatives, binding books, etc.

Other Contract Services: Paid to Honeywell for air filters and maintenance of building, office supplies and printing equipment.

Raw Materials: Paper and supplies for new reproduction department. The actual figures are based on only three months for 71-72.

Total Operating figures about \$20,000 short last time, which we have to pay this year and have augmented for the next two years.

Equipment request is for a Heidelberg off-set press and an automated Challenge electric proof press.

Other furniture and equipment to repay State for printing press.

Chairman Mello requested the Committee to take action on the following budgets:

Extradition Clerk, page 4: Move do pass Governor's Recommendation by Mr. Smith. Second by Mr. Schofield. MOTION PASSED.

Special Fund, page 23: Move do pass Governor's Recommendation by Mr. Howard. Second by Mr. Hafen. MOTION PASSED.

Private Detective, page 24: Move do pass Governor's Recommendation by Mr. Howard. Second by Mr. Smith. MOTION PASSED.

Secretary of State Archives, page 27: Move do pass Governor's Recommendation with amendment increasing out-of-state travel to \$500.00 for each year of the biennium by Mr. Robinson. Second by Mr. Prince. MOTION PASSED.

Tax Commission, page 90: Move do pass Governor's Recommendation by Mr. Prince. Second by Mr. Hafen. MOTION PASSED.

Museum, page 165: Move do pass Governor's Recommendation by Mr. Smith. Second by Mr. Howard. MOTION PASSED.

Mining Cooperative Fund, page 499, Dr. Baker and Dr. Bigler. Increase over previous budgets is for topographic and geological work for urban and environmental application in metropolitan areas. 20% allocated to topographic mapping and 80% to geological mapping.

Mining Cooperative Fund, page 499: Move do pass Governor's Recommendation by Mr. Howard. Second by Mr. Smith. MOTION PASSED.

Microwave Construction, page 64: Move to indefinitely postpone by Mr. Howard. Second by Mr. Prince. MOTION PASSED.

State Communications Division, page 65: Move indefinite postponement by Mr. Dreyer. Second by Mr. Smith. MOTION PASSED.

State Printing Office Continuing Fund, page 57: Move do pass Governor's Recommendation by Mr. Schofield. Second by Mr. Prince. MOTION PASSED.

Central Data Processing, page 77: Move do pass Governor's Recommendation by Mr. Dreyer. Second by Mr. Schofield. MOTION PASSED.

Motor Pool, page 50: Motion do pass Governor's Recommendation by Mr. Prince. Second by Mr. Smith. MOTION PASSED.

General Services Working Capital Fund, page 53: Move do pass Governor's Recommendation by Mr. Schofield. Second by Mr. Robinson. MOTION PASSED.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30.

The Commission on Crime Delinquency and Correction is a relatively new agency going into its fifth year of operation.

The Dept. of L.E.A. will complete its second year in July. In July 1968 as result of facts supplied by a Presidential Crime Commission which indicated an unusually high crime rate, Congress passed the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act in an effort to assist states and local units of government upgrade their C.J.S.

This Act allocated to the various States funds to be used in preparing a Comprehensive Plan for Law Enforcement. In compliance with the Act the Commission on Crime Delinquency and Corrections was created in December 1968 and in early 1969 the first plan for law enforcement in Nevada was prepared. Each year plans have been prepared and that for 1973 has just been completed in draft form.

This was, and is the main function of the Crime Commission. Creation of the Plan and the equitable distribution of federal funds allocated to improve the Criminal Justice System.

You have undoubtedly heard that the Crime Commission awards funds to equip large and small police departments with radios and other items to allow them to do a better job. This is only a small part of the job. What you may not have heard is that the Crime Commission funded the initial steps of the Court Administrator, the Public Defender and assists Special Schools for the Justices of the Peace, the District Judges, the District Attorneys, the Probation Subsidy program for Juvenile Delinquency, special program at the State Prison and in the Department of Parole and Probation, all designed to improve the entire C.J.S. and reduce the crime rate.

In the Legislature of 1971 the Dept. of Law Enforcement Assistance was created and placed under the Crime Commission. This Dept. has three Divisions, the Planning and Training Division under Mr. John Peevers which develops the Comprehensive Statewide Plan for Law Enforcement, disburses the federal funds in accordance with the plan which has been prepared from input from all segments of the Justice System and accounts for every dollar disbursed.

All accounts are audited by a staff independent of the Division. This Division in the coming fiscal year will disburse \$1,387,000.00 in federal funds, all of which must be accounted for and audited. The Peace Officers Standards and Training Unit which conducts training schools throughout the State is a unit of this Division. Problems of Police Courts and correction are additional. The second division is that of Identification and Communications under Mr. Ron Stroup. This Division will set up an identification unit using all available services now operating in Nevada.

No new mass of fingerprint cards will be created. Much data will go into the computer now operating in the Sheriffs Office in Clark County.

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A teletype system has now been improved allowing every department in the State automatic access to the National Crime Information Center in Washington, and to large data banks in California.

Officers on the street by radio and the teletype system are now able to determine whether a car they have stopped is stolen or wanted, and whether a person they are questioning may be wanted.

This Division is also a service organization and will greatly improve the potential of all segments of the system, and will account for at least \$300,000.00 in federal funds to improve the communication system in the State.

The third Division is that of Investigation and Narcotics transferred from the Department of Parole and Probation. This Division under acting Chief Vern Calhoun is assisting Police Departments, Sheriffs Officers, and Federal Agencies in the control of narcotics and by enforcement and a Training Program.

This is a brief history of the Crime Commission composed of 17 members and five advisors under the Chairmanship of William P. Boko, District Attorney of Nye County. I will be pleased to attempt to answer questions you might have concerning the budgets of these Divisions.