

Assembly

4- 1376

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

May 1, 1975

MEMBERS PRESENT: CHAIRMAN DINI
VICE-CHAIRMAN MURPHY
ASSEMBLYMAN CRADDOCK
ASSEMBLYMAN HARMON
ASSEMBLYMAN MAY
ASSEMBLYMAN MOODY
ASSEMBLYMAN SCHOFIELD
ASSEMBLYMAN FORD
ASSEMBLYMAN YOUNG

ALSO PRESENT: Russ MacDonald, Washoe County
Carl A. Soderblom, Nevada Railroad Association

(The following bills were discussed: S.B. 472, S.B. 478, S.B. 479, S.B. 482, S.B. 476, S.B. 477, S.B. 354).

Chairman Dini called the meeting to order at 8:00 A.M.

The first bill on the agenda to be discussed was S.B. 472, which designates governing bodies of county fire prevention districts created by county commissioners as board of fire commissioners; authorizes payment of district property tax in four equal installments; provides for collection of expenses for extinguishment of fires within districts.

Mr. Russ McDonald testified. He stated that this bill refers to the fire board. More important, there is a provision that allows the tax levy on a quarterly basis. There are different opinions where districts exist. Washoe County was created about three years ago. In Washoe County it would be 50¢ per \$100. It allows some method of paying fire tax as an ad velorum.

Mr. Soderblom testified with respect to the collection of expenses with regard to fires. He has no objection to striking that section. The essential thing is to allow the taxpayer to pay on a quarterly basis. He stated that Southern Pacific crosses the state from east to west. Under the provision of this particular section they could be liable for any fire that occurs within the right of way regardless of whether or not they started it. He would like to see the amendment strike this portion.

The next bill to be discussed was S.B. 478, which authorizes county commissioners to vote on contract lease franchise which extends beyond his term of office.

Mr. McDonald stated the law says that no commission may vote on a strike. This bill was passed in 1895. Washoe County has five commissioners. Three were elected at the last election and two were holdovers. There are three months in which you can sign a contract of any nature. The bill was amended to give notice to the people. As long as it is made public and there is legal notice of hearing the city council is not emasculated with regard to its power. This works well in Sparks.

Mr. Young asked if the bill gave any length of time in which to sign a contract. Mr. McDonald stated that it has no time limit. The City of Reno charter does not contain the limitation. Franchises are exempt. He has no objection to public hearings.

S.B. 479, which authorizes appointment of county comptrollers in counties under 100,000; provides for appointing authority in all counties, was heard next. Mr. McDonald testified. This bill started out as a suggestion on his part. Several years ago when the county controller idea was advocated it was because of difficulties in Clark County. The law applies only to Washoe County and to Clark County. This officer should first answer to the administrator and then the commissioners. There are no difficulties in Clark. It is still optional.

Mr. Dini asked what the comptroller did that the auditor did not.

Mr. McDonald stated this was to leave small counties with an auditor.

S.B. 482 was discussed next. This bill increases dollar limitation on advances from county general fund for purpose of making public improvements by special assessments without issuance of bonds.

Mr. McDonald testified. He stated that the legislature took care of this by increasing it to \$50,000. He recommended that it be increased from \$50,000 to \$150,000. Counties are allowed to make improvements by special assessments without issuing bonds, but not to exceed \$50,000. It generally takes from 12 to 18 months to create a special assessment district. This is a good device for counties to utilize some special assessment procedures. When you issue the bonds you either borrow from yourself or from the bank for a short term. It is generally a five year program.

S.B. 476, which requires amendment of certain subdivisions, plats, records of survey, reversionary maps by registered land surveyor, county surveyor.

Mr. McDonald testified. At the 1973 session he stated that sections 278 and 491 were added. When he brought this up before the Senate, Senator Dodge stated that that was never their intention. He does not think that it was their intention to make this go back to 1906.

S.B. 477, requires governing body of city annexing contiguous territory to give prior notice to board of county commissioners.

Mr. McDonald testified. He stated that there were some deaths regarding the Mayberry Railroad Crossing. The City of Reno asked the railroad to file a petition with the city to annex a finger on either side of the right of way. This was only for Washoe county. All this bill does is to give them notice.

The next bill to be discussed was A.B. 613. Mrs. Ford indicated that this bill was represented to the committee to alleviate the problem of streets that have become half streets. It would allow them to assess property owners the same way for whole streets. He stated (McDonald) that he has not been able to come up with an answer and out like to check it out.

The committee took the following action:

S.B. 472. Do pass by Mr. Young. Mr. May then moved for section 10 to be deleted. Mr. May moved for an amend and do pass which was seconded by Mrs. Ford. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Schofield was not present at the time of the vote.

S.B. 476. Mr. Young moved for a do pass which was seconded by Mr. Craddock. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Schofield was not present at the time of the vote.

S.B. 477. Mrs. Ford moved a do pass which was seconded by Mr. Craddock. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Schofield was not present at the time of the vote.

S.B. 478. Mr. Moody moved a do pass which was seconded by Mrs. Ford. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Schofield was not present at the time of the vote.

S.B. 479. Mr. Young moved for indefinite postponement, which was seconded by Mr. Moody. A Miss Pat Stanley stated that she represents the Recorders Association for the State of Nevada. She stated that they objected to the fact that it can be done just by a vote of the county commissioners. She stated that if the bill were to pass, it would be better for a vote of the people.

Mrs. Ford amended the motion to remove page 2 and leave the language in in Section 1. Mr. Young withdrew his motion. Mrs. Ford moved for an amend and do pass which was seconded by Mr. Murphy. The motion carried unanimously.

S.B. 482. Mr. Schofield moved for a do pass, which was seconded by Mr. Craddock. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Dini did not vote on this bill.

S.B. 354. Mr. Craddock moved for a do pass, which was seconded by Mr. Murphy. The following was the vote on this bill: Mr. Schofield, yes; Mr. Craddock, yes; Mr. Harmon, yes; Mr. May, no vote; Mr. Dini, yes; Mr. Murphy, no vote, Mrs. Ford, no; Mr. Young, no; Mr. Moody, yes. The vote was 5 votes yes, 2 votes no, 2 not voting.

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There being no further business to come before the meeting,
the meeting adjourned.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Barbara Gomez
Barbara Gomez
Committee Secretary

ASSEMBLY

AGENDA FOR COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS
 THURSDAY,
 Date MAY 1, 1975 Time 8:00 AM Room 214

4- 1375

Bills or Resolutions to be considered	Subject	Counsel requested*
S.B. 472	Designates governing bodies of county fire prevention districts created by county commissioners as boards of fire commissioners; authorizes payment of district property tax in four equal installments; provides for collection of expenses for extinguishment of fires within districts. Notify: Mr. Broadbent, 	
S.B. 476	Requires amendment of certain subdivisions, plats, records of survey, reversionary maps by registered land surveyor, county surveyor. Notify: Senator Gibson	
S.B. 477	Requires governing body of city annexing contiguous territory to give prior notice to board of county commissioners. Notify: Mr. Broadbent, Mr. Adams, Mr. Warren	
S.B. 479	Authorizes appointment of county comptrollers in counties under 100,000; provides for appointing authority in all counties. NOTIFY: Mr. Broadbent	
S.B. 482	Increases dollar limitation on advances from county general fund for purpose of making public improvements by special assessments without issuance of bonds. NOTIFY: Mr. Broadbent	

