

Assembly

MINUTES

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE - NEVADA STATE LEGISLATURE - 58th SESSION

March 21, 1975

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mello at 8:00 A.M. in the Ways and Means Committee Room.

PRESENT: Chairman Mello, Mr. Bremner, Mrs. Brookman, Mr. Dreyer, Mr. Glover, Mr. Howard, Mr. Weise, Mr. Wittenberg. Mr. Robinson was excused.

ALSO PRESENT: John Dolan, Bill Bible, John Peevers, Carrol Nevin, Ron Stroup and Vern Calhoun.

Motion was made to approve the minutes of the meeting of March 18, 1975 by Mrs. Brookman. Seconded by Mr. Wittenberg. Motion passed.

John Peevers explained the Commission on Crime Delinquency and Corrections. He stated that they provide an identification system for persons arrested for crime and have 50,000 fingerprint cards. They have also assisted in the collection of evidence in 79 cases. The State will have a micro-wave system which will be federally funded. 80% of the cases in the Division of Narcotics have been in sales. He stated that the P.O.S.T. program revenue was transferred from Other Government Services.

He stated that under New Positions, the positions not recommended by the Governor are in the P.O.S.T. area in training officers and clerical help. They are trying to train 2500 officers with only one-half position. He felt that the Training Officer II and the Steno would be used in the training area and are needed for the program. Bill Bible stated that these were not recommended due to the existing level of revenue. The Federal revenue is decreasing and the State revenue is increasing. The General Fund cannot bear the strain. Mr. Peevers stated that there has been no real decrease in major grants, only the supplemental funds used in the grants is decreasing.

The Contractual Services is for copy work, Xerox costs and quick print.

The Dues and Registrations are professional organizations that the staff belongs to and also for periodicals.

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Mr. Peevers explained the P.O.S.T. program. These funds are used to operate the program. It pays for instructors, per diem and part of the salaries in offices from counties with less than 5 men, particularly the smaller counties. Mr. Bible felt that the Contractural Services could be cut to help support the positions not recommended by the Governor if approved. Mr. Peevers stated that the instructor's salaries come out of these Contractural Services.

The Small County and Indian Justice Planner is provided for indians and small counties. This is a totally federally funded program.

The Crime Commission Federal Grants was explained. Mr. Peevers stated that the grants are used for planning and training. Also, part of this goes to counties for Action grants used to implement the programs. There are Discretionary grants to innovate law enforcement projects and Buy-In local Government from which the state pays to match federal dollars. He stated that AB 423 states that the Buy-In funds would be appropriated for two year periods to coincide with federal funds. Mr. Bible stated that this could be put in the appropriation rather than a bill. Mr. Dolan stated that several of the budgets were given this language through appropriation

Ron Stroup explained the Crime Commission Indentification and Commission Division.. Chairman Mello asked if the existing positions of Assistant Commission Specialist and the Senior Account Clerk would be transferred to the budget on 439. Mr. Stroup stated that all the positions with the exception of an accountant, would be transferred to this budget. The budgets were split into two groups to reflect Federal money. 80% of this program is Federally funded. The State money is used for the Commission system and support positions, also travel and operating expenses. The

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Federal money on 439 is used for Uniform Crime Reports, State analysis center, management analysis statistics and technical assistance.

The Computerized Criminal History/Offender Based Transaction system uses State money to match Federal funds. They already have money for the next two years put aside and the budgets for 1976 and 1977 are assured funds for these two years. As long as the program is successful, they feel they have no problems.

The Contractual Services pay for the full salary for a chemist in Clark County as they do not charge small counties for services. He only does drug analyses, and might charge for homicide or burglary.

Under Special Equipment, they purchase lab equipment such as: floral meter, comparison microscope and accessories, hood and sink installation, a recorder, constant temperature bath, the accountant's office furniture and a typewriter for the lab.

The State Data Pak is the teletype system in the Police Department and Sheriff offices.

Vern Calhoun explained the Crime Commission and Narcotics Division. The major change is in the New Positions where they are requesting four Narcotic Agent III. With the present positions, they can work about one out of every ten bits of information that come in and do it correctly. They are also asking for a 1/2 senior account clerk, 1 senior clerk steno, 2 compliance agents, and the 2 key punch operators should be changed to clerk typists for the compliance agents which would be the same rate of salary.

He stated that three-fourths of the people they arrest have been arrested before and one-half of the people they arrest for selling have been previously arrested.

The Overtime request of \$35,000 was due to a misinterpretation of the Fair Labor Standards Act, Mr. Bible stated. The Governor is recommending \$7500 the first year of the biennium and \$8000 for the second. Mr. Bible stated that this division thought the overtime would be mandatory, but it is not.

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The Out of State travel is case work which might take them to California, Utah or another state. The In-state travel is used between Las Vegas, Reno and outlying areas. They do not attend conferences any more, but do attend a two week training course.

Mr. Dreyer stated that this division is asking for eight Narcotics Agents and are only being recommended four, but are also being recommended four in the next year. He stated he could not understand why all eight were not being recommended this year as there is a great need for investigations especially in Clark County. Mr. Bible stated that if any of the positions not recommended are placed in the budget, a reduction would have to be somewhere. The positions throughout the entire budgets are on a priority basis.

Mrs. Brookman asked Mr. Calhoun about the phony drivers' licenses ^{S.} AB 63 for investigators. Mr. Calhoun stated that these are very critical items to have and might even save an investigator's life. They are used strictly for protection. They already use phony driver's license and about 30-50 would be using the undercover licenses.

Mrs. Brookman also asked if they were ever involved in cases where innocent people are arrested. Mr. Calhoun stated that the only cases they get involved in are cases that they thoroughly investigate. The Division has been in existence for five years and presently have one civil suit that was brought against them.

The Meeting adjourned at 10:00 A.M.