

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
FEBRUARY 3, 1975

40

The meeting was called to order 8:35 a.m.

Senator Floyd R. Lamb was in the Chair.

PRESENT: Senator Floyd R. Lamb, Chairman  
Senator Warren L. Monroe  
Senator B. Mahlon Brown  
Senator William J. Raggio  
Senator James I. Gibson  
Senator Clifton Young  
Senator Lee E. Walker

OTHERS: Howard Barrett, Budget Director  
Bill Bible, Budget Department  
Jean Ford, Assemblywoman  
Cy Ryan, UPI  
Joe Anderson, State Library  
Rae Chemison, State Library  
Oscar W. Ford, State Library  
Jim Deere, Council on the Arts  
Earl Snyder, Council on the Arts  
Sid Robinson, Citizen for the Arts  
Jack Lemen, Education Communication Comm.  
Larry Smith, T.V. Satellite  
Arthur Etheridge, Commission for Veterans Affairs  
Bill Hatfield, VFW  
Ron Sparks, Fiscal Analyst

STATE LIBRARY

Joe Anderson, accompanied by Rae Chemison and Oscar W. Ford, began his presentation.

Mr. Anderson stated that his Department's top priority is the level of the staff. He stated that his Department was still functioning under the 1968 level staff. Mr. Anderson said fifteen new positions are needed, although there is no Governor's recommendation for such.

Senator Lamb asked about the Capital Improvement recommendation and "Non-Structural Alteration". Mr. Anderson answered, the "Non-Structural Alteration" will be used to complete the fourth floor of the library building. The Capital Improvement money could be the only fund used and the \$2,000 for "Non-Structural Alteration" eliminated.

Senator Raggio asked about the Federal funding. Mr. Anderson answered that as of January 30th, Fiscal 1975, there will be \$236,431 available to Nevada under the "Library Services and Construction Act", Title I. Mr. Barrett added that Federal funding is allocated for statewide use and is not to individual libraries. Mr. Anderson said that if Federal funds do not

PAGE TWO

STATE LIBRARY (Cont.)

materialize, then \$83,030 of the "Library Development" allocation will be used for the State Library operations. (See, Page 22 of, The Executive Budget)

Assemblywoman, Jean Ford, then gave a presentation for Library Project on Biennial reports. Assemblywoman Ford stated that existing Biennial reports aren't functional as they are inconsistent and varied in compilation. Senator Lamb asked about the specific need of the volumes. Assemblywoman Ford answered that annual booklets on legislative statistics and legislative materials; and the Biennial Report (which is published every two years) provide State agency research volumes. Mr. Anderson added that this type of uniform publication would cause a reduction of work load that was currently detrimental to the State Library. Senator Young asked how much money the proposed project would involve. Assemblywoman Ford said that in time the new method would save money, but the savings wouldn't be seen in this Biennium because of the necessary increase in new employees to implement the program. Assemblywoman Ford remarked that perhaps the 3,340 sets of appendixes bound by the old method, now stored in the Legislative Building basement might be eliminated, and the material would be considered worthwhile.

Rae Chemison said that the Library Cooperation Allocation is increased only in "Service Charges" (\$35,000) due to inflation costs.

Senator Raggio asked what is the difference between monies for aid to local libraries and the "Library Development" fund. Bill Bible responded, the purpose of the funding is identical.

Mr. Anderson stated that the \$83,030, "Library Development" appropriation is not a correct administrative cost. The real costs of administration never exceed \$10,000. Senator Lamb asked what the remaining \$73,030 is used for. Mr. Anderson answered, the \$73,030 goes to local grants for local libraries.

Senator Gibson asked if the State Library has undergone a Federal Audit to check the use of Federal Funding and matching funds. Mr. Anderson said that from 1963 to 1967, they had a partial audit on library construction, only.

COUNCIL ON THE ARTS

Mr. Meryl Snyder said that the Council operated six years without state funding.

PAGE THREE

COUNCIL ON THE ARTS (Cont.)

Mr. Jim Deer said that the priority new position is that of a "Program Director".

Senator Lamb asked about the Arts Grant (45.007), and the Special Grants (45.001-12). Mr. Deer answered that the \$200,000 for the Arts Grant depends on annual allocation by Congress. The \$100,000 1975-76, for "Special Grants" is reasonable, but the 1976-77, \$200,000 is excessive.

Senator Lamb asked for specifics on the requested new positions. Mr. Deer described the need of the Program Director. The New Director would be used to make rural contacts and help in organizing the small town culture programs.

Mr. Sid Robinson, Citizens for the Arts, said the Finance Committee should consider a budget increase for the Council of \$27,000 by 1976-77. Mr. Robinson felt that adequate funding was needed to maintain and improve the Council's school programs.

Senator Lamb asked how many members the Council had. Mr. Snyder said there were twenty-one members with a \$25.00 per diem. Mr. Snyder felt that this membership number could be reduced to thirteen or fifteen.

Senator Lamb inquired as to what were the Council's accomplishments. Mr. Snyder said the Council supported the "Young Audience Program"; detention school programs; and statewide programs, i.e., Opera Guild, Jazz festivals, and University department programs.

Senator Raggio asked why there weren't more gifts and donations, Mr. Snyder said that since the Council isn't a specific representative for the State groups, the Council doesn't feel comfortable advocating volunteer donations.

Mr. Robinson closed by suggesting the Council have a statewide survey on cultural needs. Mr. Robinson said that funding is needed for surveys for prospective projects.

EDUCATION COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Mr. Jack Lemen, Executive Director, introduced his colleagues, Mr. Larry Smith of T.V. Satellite; and Marilee Schaeffer of the Commission.

PAGE FOUR

EDUCATION COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION (Cont.)

Senator Brown mentioned that Clark County has Channel 10 as an education network. Senators Brown and Gibson concurred that the Clark County network is funded Federally and by public subscription.

Senator Young asked about the courses offered. Mr. Lemen said a varied program of music to math was from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. From 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., the program is similar to that of the Community College. And from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. is public broadcasting.

Senator Young asked if the program improves literacy. Mr. Lemen said that it is generally felt that illiteracy is negated, but no percentages could be proved.

Senator Monroe asked about equipment that had been donated to the Commission. Mr. Lemen answered that the RCA Transmitter had been salvaged for parts as it was too old.

Mr. Lemen described the T.V. Satellite program as originating out of Denver, which is broadcast daily by reception through disc receivers; and radio communications allow rapport from classroom to instructor. Senator Brown asked how often the program was broadcast. Mr. Smith answered that it is received one-half hour throughout the school year.

Senator Brown asked why can't the satellite program substitute for a network in the Northern part of the State. Mr. Lemen said that satellite development is not evolving fast enough, and that at this time, subscription time is shared throughout the nation, so the satellite needs to be used as a supplemental program.

COMMISSION FOR VETERAN'S AFFAIRS

Mr. Arthur Etheridge asked for funding to meet inflation demands to move the Las Vegas office from its State Street location back to the State buildings, and funding for the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW).

Senator Lamb asked if a file was kept on people helped. Mr. Etheridge gave statistics of 11,576 interviews in the North and South of the State (8,200 in Reno, and 3,300 in Carson City).

Senator Brown asked why the VFW office can't be supported by Federal funding. Mr. Etheridge said that surplus funds are needed as the VFW have an extreme workload.

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
FEBRUARY 3, 1975

PAGE FIVE

44

COMMISSION FOR VETERAN'S AFFAIRS (Cont.)

Mr. Bill Hatfield, VFW, gave his office's budget and stated that his workload is now dependant on volunteers and that the office services the entire State.

BUDGET DIVISION

Mr. Howard Barrett said that generally salaries have a 20% increase, expecting four positions asking more than this percentage. Mr. Barrett remarked that salaries need to be competitive in order to retain employees, so the Division can benefit from experienced hires.

Senator Young asked about the \$23,880 for the Deputy Budget Administrator. Mr. Barrett responded that they are asking that the salary level for this position be equal to the salary paid the Chief Deputy Fiscal Analysts in the Legislative Counsel Bureau.

There was a discussion among the Senators and Mr. Barrett concerning private wages compared to government salaries. Senators Young and Lamb suggested that perhaps a Commission should be appointed to give the Finance Committee a viable comparison.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Sheba L. Woolley, Secretary

APPROVED:

Floyd R. Lamb, Chairman