

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING
FEBRUARY 5, 1975

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

Senator Floyd R. Lamb was in the Chair.

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

OTHERS: Wilson McGowan-State Controller
Bob Bruce-State Controller's Office
Sally Davis-Employee Management Relations Bd.
Jesse Scott-Equal Rights Commission
Marie A. Montag-Equal Rights Commission
Henry Hooks-Equal Rights Commission
Benson Gibson-Indian Affairs
Linda Brown-Indian Affairs
Howard Barrett-Budget Director
Ron Sparks-Fiscal Analyst
Senator Hilbrecht
Cy Ryan-UPI

STATE CONTROLLER

Wilson McGowan, State Controller, presented a budget booklet to the Finance Committee for analysis. Mr. McGowan explained the layout of the booklet, and what it encompassed. Senator Raggio asked if such a breakdown could be done for all budgets. Mr. Bob Bruce, State Controller's Office, stated that the Controller's office can handle the input, but that some of the State agencies do not have all the necessary information collected. Mr. McGowan added that the service was a permissive one. Mr. Bruce said that it takes a great deal of time to prepare such a "Management Spending Plan."

Mr. McGowan explained the exhibits of the booklet (Pages 31-10 and 31-11) and stated that in the last five years in dollar volume, the State has grown 90%. Mr. McGowan added that most people in the State and even some State employees are not aware of the magnitude of state business.

Senator Lamb asked the Controller to justify their new personnel. Mr. Bruce answered that the Data Processing Manager III and three data entry employees were necessary in order to improve the security of programming, by lessening the chance of errors. Senator Lamb asked if there would be a personnel cutback if the funds were not received. Mr. Bruce answered that as far as

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STATE CONTROLLER (Cont.)

he knew there would be. Senator Lamb asked if the employees had much overtime. Mr. Bruce answered that in closing the past year's budget, and in beginning the new year, quite a bit of overtime was involved.

Senator Brown said that testimonies from other State agencies suggested that there might be a considerable savings if the hardware of the Data Processing Program were unified. Mr. McGowan answered that the hardware is centralized for the using agencies of Highway Department, NIC, and ESD; although the terminal access is varied. The smaller agencies, Mr. McGowan continued, use the Central Data Processing Agency, with whom they contract for their jobs. Mr. Bruce said that we tried for four years to attempt systems and programming consolidation, however we found that the agency must have the responsibility for this function.

Senator Lamb inquired about the possibility of CDP doing their own work as well as outside business as does the Data Processing for First National Bank. Mr. McGowan answered that this could be done, but at great expense to the State. Senators Young and Monroe stated their confusion on the costs and development of the Data Processing program. Mr. McGowan explained to the Senators that the agencies don't use their own crews to actually operate the computer, the crews only prepare material for programming.

Senator Lamb stopped the discussion by saying that the Committee needed more education on the subject.

Senator Young asked if the machine makes any errors. Mr. Bruce answered that people cause the errors. However, Mr. Bruce added if a check is released that is an incorrect amount, when it is sent to the Treasurer's office it is scanned, and analyzed in accord with individual data entry and vendor number.

Senator Gibson asked who the new Data Proces Manager III would have under him. Mr. Bruce said that he manages eight people. Mr. Bruce added that the manager is currently on contract, and has saved the State around \$2,300 with his efficiency.

Senator Lamb asked about the "Contract Services". Mr. Bruce said this is funding for the system documentation.

Senator Gibson questioned if the original intent of the Legislature in 1969 for the Data Processing has ever been realized, and have State agencies developed a trust for the system. Mr. Bruce said that some modernization is needed, and that some agencies

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STATE CONTROLLER (Cont.)

still do their own accounting. Mr. Bruce further stated that the Controller's office has released a manual that is to be used for Data Processing orientation, and that the agencies are to call if they do not understand the process.

Senator Gibson asked what is the last fiscal period that the books are closed on State finances. Mr. Bruce answered that the last fiscal period closed was June 30, 1973; and, that they are currently working on June 30, 1974. Senator Gibson asked if the Controller's office is set up to close the fiscal year in September. Mr. McGowan said that it takes twelve months.

Senator Lamb asked about the "Refunds" of \$72,500. Mr. McGowan said that this was the rebate from Ernst and Ernst for services not performed.

Senator Young, in reference to the lack of cooperation from the agencies, asked how much it would cost to get the system where it was supposed to be going in 1969. Mr. McGowan said that at the time the system was supposed to include personnel and payroll, but now it is found that it can only handle State finance information. Mr. McGowan further remarked that it will take the next two to four years, to get agency compliance and the expense will only be operating costs. However, Mr. McGowan added, it will cost a great deal more if personnel and payroll is to be included. Senator Gibson asked why personnel and payroll were cut out of the development. Mr. Howard Barrett answered that his Department felt there was enough resources in the Controller's budget to handle this in the first place.

EMPLOYMENT MANAGEMENT RELATIONS BOARD

Sally Davis, Commissioner, said that the Board has not chosen to pay the maximum salary available to her position, and that she received \$18,500 instead of \$24,000.

Senator Raggio asked why the budget position is not the actual salary paid in unclassified. Senator Gibson said that the maximum is set by the Legislature, but they can pay lower. Mr. Barrett said that what is generally in the budget is what is paid.

Senator Monroe asked what it was that Mrs. Davis did. Mrs. Davis answered that her main responsibility is to enforce the Dodge Act. (See, Page 105 of "The Executive Budget") Mrs. Davis felt that her biggest obligation is in educating the public.

Senator Gibson asked if her background included any labor relations. Mrs. Davis answered that she was a lawyer, and worked for four years in the Supreme Court.

Senator Raggio asked what the time frame was for a formal decision

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EMPLOYMENT MANAGEMENT RELATIONS BOARD (Cont.)

by the Board. Mrs. Davis said that with the lawyers cooperation, the average is six to nine months. Senator Raggio asked if an effort had been made to shorten the period. Mrs. Davis answered yes, but they have to stay with in the regulations of Due Process.

Senator Raggio asked how many decisions have been made. Mrs. Davis answered ten for the last year. Senator Brown asked if Mrs. Davis had any outside practice. She answered that she did not.

Senator Gibson asked about the legality of the Board's negotiating, and asked for a resume of decisions made by the Board.

Senator Gibson also asked if Mrs. Davis' full time was involved in the twenty-two hearings received during 1973-74. Mrs. Davis answered that the hearings did not occupy her full time, and that the remainder of her schedule was devoted to answering public inquiries, making speeches, and helping to investigate the cases.

EQUAL RIGHTS COMMISSION

Mr. Jesse Scott began by stating that his Commission would like to have jurisdiction for all physical, visual, sexual and age discrimination in the State.

Senator Lamb asked about the budget increase of \$170,462 to \$256,249. Mr. Scott answered that the Commission's workload has increased by 176%.

Marie A. Montag of the Commission, added that the Commission is working on 283 cases going into the new Fiscal year.

Senator Brown asked about the cases concerning housing problems. Mrs. Montag answered that there is a new awareness of the law, and this is a lessening problem.

Mr. Scott said that they requested a Deputy Attorney General, but the request was denied by the Governor. Mr. Barrett said that they now have a half-time Deputy.

Senator Raggio asked about the Hearing Officer. Mr. Barrett said that the Hearing Officer would be part of the expense for Contractual Services. Senator Gibson asked why this Officer was listed in the budget as a new position when the funds were to come under Contractual Services. Mrs. Montag said that it was believed that such a classified position wouldn't be qualified for that money, so it was contracted.

Senator Raggio asked if there were any CETA positions in the Commission. Mrs. Montag said that there was one clerical position.

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INDIAN AFFAIRS COMMISSION

Senator Lamb asked Benson Gibson what he did. Mr. Gibson said that as a representative of the Commission, he works as a liaison for county, state and federal tribes. Mr. Gibson also stated that his time is divided into visiting the two agencies in Stewart and Owyhee, as well as the twenty-six (26) tribal locations. Mr. Gibson said that he also provides interpretation of local hearings, and investigates water rights.

Senator Lamb asked about travel. Mr. Gibson said that he is the only staff, so he has to travel to all functions in-state, or out-of-state.

Senator Lamb asked about the "Contractual Services". Mr. Gibson said that the Commission hires experts in various fields for explanation of certain tribal problems.

Senator Lamb asked about the "Building Rent". Mr. Gibson said they now have 644 square feet at \$400/month, at the Capital Plaza Building in Carson City.

Senator Walker asked if the Commission duplicated the functions of the Inter-Tribal Council (ITC). Mr. Gibson said that his Commission works with them, but the ITC is only a statewide council that works on Human Resources, and deals with Federal funding. Senator Raggio asked about the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Mr. Gibson answered that the Bureau was the trustee for individual Indians.

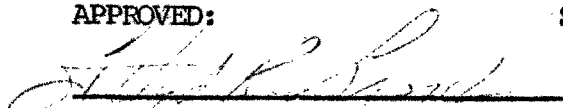
Senator Lamb asked about the "Host Expenses". Mr. Gibson said that this is an annual meeting with the Governor for tribal leaders. The expense involved is for the banquet and travel.

Mr. Gibson said that his Commission had requested a vehicle, but the request had been denied. Mr. Barrett said that the request was not recommended as it was felt that the Commission should use the motor pool.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

APPROVED:


Floyd R. Lamb, Chairman


Sheba L. Woolley, Secretary