

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING
MARCH 17, 1975

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The meeting was called to order at 8:37 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 Clifton Young
Senator William J. Raggio
Senator Lee E. Walker

OTHERS: Ed Pogue, Nevada State Prison
Bill Lattin, Nevada State Prison
Norm Snelgrove, Nevada State Prison
Bill Hancock, Public Works Board
Darrel Dreyer, Assemblyman
Danny Demers, Assemblyman
Harley Harmon, Assemblyman
Jim Stewart, Reverend
Judge Paul Goldman
Dr. Ned Benton
Howard Barrett, Budget Division
Cy Ryan, UPI
Ron Sparks, Fiscal Analyst

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT - PRISON

Mr. Ed Pogue described types of population in the prison as the following:

<u>Population</u>	<u>Maximum</u>	<u>Medium</u>	<u>Total</u>
Violence	221	122	343
Property	149	144	293
Narcotics	63	56	119
Sex Related	31	24	55
	<u>464</u>	<u>546</u>	<u>810</u>

Mr. Bill Lattin gave the presentation on medium security at the prison. Mr. Lattin said that there are 354 inmates at medium to date, with 129 in Unit I (staffed), 125 in Unit II (staffed), and 93 in Unit IV (staffed). Mr. Lattin said that there are 40 inmates on outside assignments, 40 on full-time academic programs, and 80 on part-time academic. Mr. Pogue said that the medium facility is an example of a prison built ten years ago.

Mr. Norm Snelgrove gave the presentation on maximum security. Mr. Snelgrove said that most of the buildings at the prison are over 75 years old. Mr. Snelgrove said that there are 414 inmates to date, and there are 440 cells, and 15 of those 440 were closed by court order. Senator Lamb asked how many of the maximum security inmates

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will be transferred to the new medium facility. Mr. Pogue said that only about 10% to 15% need maximum.

Senator Lamb asked if the ninety-man unit is under construction. Mr. Pogue said yes, this was approved last session.

Senator Lamb asked if the Board had given thought to renovation. Mr. Hancock said that this would incur a major expense, but would be less expensive than a new facility. Senator Brown asked if it was possible to convert the present maximum site to a medium facility, and still meet the federal guidelines. Mr. Pogue felt that this would not be very feasible. Mr. Lattin said that unless the maximum population is reduced to 100, the cost for utility renovation is almost impossible.

Senator Raggio asked if not being able to renovate meant that in approximately eight years a maximum facility would be requested, next to the medium. Mr. Pogue and Mr. Lattin said that the 1977 session could be deciding on such a project.

Senator Brown asked if some of the buildings at maximum could be demolished. Mr. Hancock said that about two-thirds could be replaced.

Senator Young asked how much land there is at maximum. Mr. Hancock said 140 acres. Mr. Pogue said the actual complex acreage is three acres.

Senator Gibson asked how many of the 414 are "youthful offenders". Mr. Pogue said 60% (under 30 years of age).

Senator Lamb said that it appeared that this new correctional center project is a "backdoor" approach to do away with the current maximum facility.

CORRECTIONAL CENTER

Mr. Pogue covered the following areas in discussing the concepts of the new proposed center. Mr. Pogue said that there will be 150 inmates in the General Program, which will have three general categories, i.e., academic, vocational, and drug treatment. Mr. Pogue said that there will be 50 inmates in minimum custody, and 50 in close custody, for a total of 250. Mr. Pogue said that there will also be a reception-diagnostic unit.

Senator Gibson asked if these new design concepts will call for more staff. Mr. Pogue said no, it should be less.

Senator Brown asked if they intermix maximum and medium inmates in California. Mr. Pogue said yes.

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CORRECTIONAL CENTER (Cont.)

Assemblyman Darrell Dreyer stated that there is no guarantee that an inmate at the medium level won't be sent to the maximum facility. Mr. Pogue said we do not intend to send people to maximum who do not belong. Assemblyman Danny Demers asked what the rate of breakouts is at medium. Mr. Pogue said that we have had one person breakout in seven years, and eight inmates walkaway from outside jobs in two years.

Senator Raggio asked how long they will be held for diagnostic treatment. Mr. Pogue said for sixty days.

Senator Raggio asked where would the minimum people be sent at the Carson City location. Mr. Pogue said to honor security at medium.

Senator Young asked if similar institutions with these new concepts have been able to determine on a cost basis if they have been successful. Mr. Pogue said that in Illinois, research does show that intensive programming in the newer facilities have a higher success rate. Senator Young said that he would like proof of this, and cost figures as well.

Mr. Pogue presented the following reasons for having the location of the new center in Clark County:

- a) There are 415 people now committed from Clark County, and 30 are there now waiting to be picked up.
- b) Recruiting the new staff will aid in unemployment in the Clark County area.
- c) A location near the University will give easier access to a professional staff.
- d) Proximity of employment, placement, family and community.

Senator Lamb questioned if the family had any real positive affect on rehabilitation.

Senators Gibson and Raggio did not see prison as being a means of rehabilitation, but rather a means of protecting society, and as an element of punishment. Mr. Pogue said that removal from society is the first step, but an active and productive program is necessary for internal management.

Assemblyman Demers asked what would be the difference in cost if the prison were constructed in Carson City, rather than in Clark County. Mr. Hancock said that it would cost \$200,000 less to expand the medium here, rather than build in Clark County.

Senator Lamb asked if there was any opposition to the site in Clark County. Assemblyman Harley Harmon said that he sent out a poll, and there were a great deal of negative responses to building in Clark County.

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CORRECTIONAL CENTER (Cont.)

Reverend Jim Stewart spoke in favor of building the prison in Clark County. Senator Raggio asked if the Reverend was to make a choice, would he give priority to the Developmental Center, or to the prison. Reverend Stewart said to the prison because for the mentally retarded, Clark County already has the Comprehensive Mental Health facility.

Senator Gibson asked how many of the 415 people from Clark County are actually residents. Mr. Pogue said over 50%.

Judge Paul Goldman said that he now sends some of his minimum and medium offenders to the Clark County jail, however, this will have to be discontinued as the jail is overcrowded, and the situation is extremely explosive, so he is in favor of the Clark County location. Judge Goldman said if Clark County has a grand jury, there will be an average of 50 to 60 indictments per week.

Dr. Ned Benton representing the National Clearinghouse presented the five-part concept study on the proposed Correctional Center. Dr. Benton said that the image is one of a Community College, however, the materials and design are protective and secure.

Senators Raggio and Lamb both felt that this is an attempt to try and close down the maximum facility.


Senator Gibson asked who Dr. Benton worked for. Dr. Benton said that his company was under contract with the Crime Commission in an advisory position. Mr. Pogue said that the Prison Board has input into these studies.

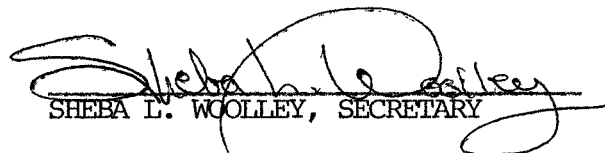
Senator Lamb asked if the Clark County site would cause a duplication in administrative staff. Mr. Pogue said that he could not see any duplication except for himself.

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

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

APPROVED:


FLOYD R. LAMB, CHAIRMAN


SHEBA L. WOOLLEY, SECRETARY