

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING
APRIL 17, 1975

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The meeting was called to order at 8:00 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 William J. Raggio
Senator Clifton Young
Senator Warren L. Monroe
Senator Lee E. Walker

OTHERS: Assembly Ways and Means Committee
(All Members)

SB 352

See the minutes of meeting for April 16, 1975, at 7:00 p.m.

AB 211

Senator Young said that he advocated a 12% and 4% increase for each year of the Biennium, with a trigger mechanism, as he thought that the 15% and 7% increase will make the State employees and the school teachers in an unequal position.

Senator Gibson said that the Senate Committee is responsible for supporting the Governor's budget, and they can't increase the operating costs unless there is money to do so, because if this means is exceeded, this will develop into an increased tax.

Mr. Howard Barrett said that the money is already in the budget for the 17% and 7% increase proposal. Assemblyman Robert Weise said that the 17% and 7% would actually mean a pay raise of 5% and 7%.

Assemblyman Wittenberg said that the City of Sparks pays 19% higher than the State for the same positions. Assemblyman Robinson said that teachers have an advantage over State employees in that they have sabattical. Assemblyman Wittenberg said that North Las Vegas just settled for another 10% increase in salaries, and are already 16% over the State average. Assemblyman Wittenberg said that the 15% and 0% increase will not pass the Assembly. Senator Gibson asked how many employees Sparks has. Assemblyman Wittenberg said that he did not know. Senator Gibson said that in earlier meetings, the State Personnel Director sited a comparison with Henderson who has 80 employees, and this is not equitable with the States 7,200 employees. Assemblyman Wittenberg said that a better comparison might be with Washoe County which has an increase of 11.3% over the State, and Sparks with 19.9%, and Reno with 12.0%. Assemblyman Glover said that he had received letters from teachers that said they were not against the 15% and 7% increase for State employees.

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Chairman Mello asked what the average will be for the Sales Tax. Mr. Howard Barrett said that the projection is for an average of 5%, and it now stands at 8%.

Senator Brown noted that Southern Nevada residents are concerned with the 14% unemployment in some of these areas. Assemblyman Brookman asked where the Senator came up with 14%. Senator Gibson said that this came from the Employment Security Department, and he also said that there is 40% unemployment in construction contracting on a statewide basis. Assemblyman Robinson said that he couldn't see a relationship between the employed and the unemployed; he said that if 10% are unemployed, ignoring the other 90% will not solve the problem. Senator Gibson said that a depression is defined as 10% unemployment, and to him this makes a relationship.

Assemblyman Wittenberg said that the average salary for the State is \$901.00 per month, and the average for the private sector is \$924.00 per month, and the unemployment percentages are high because there is a constant influx of people moving into this State. Senator Young said that to him an increase could mean facing an income tax down the road.

EXECUTIVE BUDGET

Advisory Council on Children and Youth:

Senator Brown - Approve the Governor's recommendation
Senator Young - 2nd
Senator Gibson - "NO"
Motion Carried.

Commission on Status of Woman:

Senator Young - Approve the Governor's recommendation
Senator Walker - 2nd
Senator Brown - Absent
Senators Lamb, Gibson, Monroe - "NO"
Motion did not carry.

Comprehensive Statewide Planning:

Senator Gibson - Motion to concur with the Assembly
Senator Raggio - 2nd
Senator Brown - Absent
Motion Carried.

Secretary of State Archives:

Assemblyman Bremner said the Committee toured the archives and then arrived at their recommendations.

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Secretary of State Archives (Cont.):

Senator Young - Motion to concur with the
Assembly
Senator Raggio - 2nd
Senator Brown - Absent
Senators Monroe, Gibson, Lamb - "NO"
Motion did not carry.

Economic Development:

Assemblyman Robinson - Motion to concur with
the Senate
Assemblyman Howard - 2nd
Assemblymen Brookman and Glover - "NO"
Motion Carried.

Equal Rights Commission:

Assemblyman Robinson said he felt the hearing officer could be
justified. Senator Lamb said the Senate Committee feels that new
positions should not be added. Assemblyman Weise asked who has
previously performed the services. Mr. Barrett said the Commission
hired this under contract. Assemblyman Robinson said an outside
hearing officer would provide objectivity.

Senator Young - Motion to concur with the Assembly
Senator Raggio - 2nd
Senator Brown - Absent
Senators Gibson , Lamb - "NO"
Motion Carried.

District Judges Travel:

Senator Gibson said the judges also get travel from the counties.

Senator Gibson - Motion to concur with the Assembly
Senator Monroe - 2nd
Senator Brown - Absent
Senators Young, Raggio - "NO"
Motion Carried.

Education Commission of the States:

Chairman Mello said this is one area where there is a genuine concern
about education, and informs the members of programs in other states.

University Budgets:

Chairman Mello asked that this be held until the Committees have a
fiscal report.

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Nevada State Museum:

Senator Monroe explained that an exhibit curator is needed to set up artifacts which are now in storage. Senator Raggio said that a convincing case was made for the two half-time positions. Assemblyman Bremner said the Ways and Means Committee recommended a monitoring system to aid in security. Assemblyman Wittenberg said this was in lieu of the Museum's request for security personnel. Assemblyman Weise said that additional exhibit technicians wouldn't change anything, as additions to the staff in this area before didn't change anything.

Senator Gibson - Motion to adopt the curator and the two half-time positions; plus, the Security Monitoring system.

Senator Young - 2nd
Senator Brown - Absent
Motion Carried.

Assemblyman Weise - Motion to concur with the Senate's adoption

Assemblyman Bremner - 2nd
Motion Carried.

Nevada State Library:

Assemblyman Howard - Motion to concur with the Senate

Assemblyman Dreyer - 2nd
Motion Carried.

Aging Services:

Assemblyman Glover said that hiring new positions was necessary for the Federal "Outreach" program which is a Federal mandate. Mr. Barrett said this service is required by the Federal government. Senator Gibson was opposed to this program, and felt that more involvement of the aging themselves was needed.

No motion was made by the Senate on this budget.

Child Care Services:

Senator Gibson - Motion to concur with the Assembly

Senator Raggio - 2nd
Motion Carried.

Family Planning Project:

Assemblyman Howard - Motion to concur with the Senate

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Assemblyman Wittenberg - 2nd
Motion Carried.

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Division of Mental Hygiene and Mental Retardation:

Assemblyman Weise - Motion to concur with the
Senate
Assemblyman Dreyer - 2nd
Assemblymen Wittenberg, Glover, Brookman - "NO"
Motion Carried.

Rural Clinics:

Chairman Mello asked that this be held until a later date.

Henderson Mental Health Center:

Senator Gibson said if the Senior Account Clerk position is added,
the recoveries would more than fund this position's salary.

Assemblyman Weise - Motion to concur with the
Senate
Assemblyman Glover - 2nd
Motion Carried.

Rehabilitation Division Administration:

Assemblyman Weise - Motion to concur with the
Senate, and maintain the recommendations of the
Assembly.
Assemblyman Dreyer - 2nd
Motion Carried.

Senator Gibson - Motion to concur with the Assembly's
motion.
Senator Monroe - 2nd
Motion Carried.

Identification and Communications (Crime Commission):

Senator Lamb felt that the counties had a great deal of input into this
area, and the program was running away. Mr. Barrett said that the auditors
are needed to handle the growing program due to the influx of Federal
monies. Senator Gibson said that he also would like to see this slow
down. Chairman Mello felt that this was a bad place to delete positions,
when so much money was involved.

Senator Young - Motion to concur with the Assembly
Senator Gibson - 2nd
Motion Carried.

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Investigations and Narcotics Division:

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Assemblyman Dreyer and Weise felt that it was important that this Division have the manpower to gain a hold on the increasing abuse of narcotics. Senator Raggio asked why did the Governor recommend four now, and four at a later date. Mr. Barrett said that this was done in order to give them slower growth.

Senator Monroe - Motion to concur with the
Assembly.
Senator Raggio - 2nd
Senators Lamb and Gibson - "NO"
Motion Carried.

Gaming Control Board:

Senator Gibson - Motion to concur with the Assembly
Senator Raggio - 2nd
Motion Carried.

Banking/Savings and Loan Division:

Senator Young - Motion to concur with the Assembly
Senator Raggio - 2nd
Motion Carried.

Real Estate Division:

Senator Gibson said that the 'pitch' that the revenues wouldn't cover the costs, may not be true, Chairman Mello said he would like a sub-committee to look into this. Assemblyman Weise asked if the Real Estate Division was aware of these deletions. Mr. Barrett said yes.

Assemblyman Robinson - Motion to concur with the
Senate
Assemblyman Howard - 2nd
Motion Carried.

Athletic Commission:

Senator Gibson - Motion to concur with the Assembly
Senator Walker - 2nd
Motion Carried.

State Environmental Commission Division:

Senator Gibson - Motion to concur with the Assembly
Senator Monroe - 2nd
Motion Carried.

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Division of State Lands:

Assemblyman Weise questioned the State getting into the Land Planning business. Senator Young said that land planning was a neglected area, and if the State doesn't provide the input, the Federal government will.

Senator Young - Motion to remain with the Senate's recommendations

Senator Raggio - 2nd

Senators Lamb, Gibson, Brown, Monroe - "NO"

Motion did not carry.

Senator Monroe - Motion to concur with the Assembly

Senator Gibson - 2nd

Senators Raggio and Young - "NO"

Motion Carried.

Division of Forestry:

Senator Gibson - Motion to concur with the Assembly

Senator Monroe - 2nd

Motion Carried.

Forest Nurseries:

Senator Brown - Motion to concur with the Assembly

Senator Walker - 2nd

Senators Young, Raggio, Lamb - "NO"

Motion Carried.

Highway Safety Program:

Senator Monroe - Motion to concur with the Assembly

Senator Gibson - 2nd

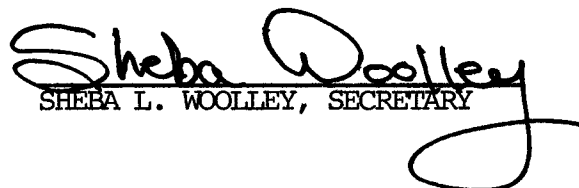
Senators Brown, Lamb - "NO"

Motion Carried.

Chairman Mello said the Assembly would only pass the salary raise amounting to a 15% and 5% increase for the Biennium.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:


SHEBA L. WOOLLEY, SECRETARY

APPROVED:


FLOYD R. LAMB, CHAIRMAN