

MINUTES

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

NEVADA STATE LEGISLATURE - 60th SESSION

January 19, 1979

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mello at 7:30 a.m.

PRESENT: Chairman Mello, Vice-Chairman Bremner, Mr. Barengo, Mrs. Cavnar, Mr. Glover, Mr. Hickey, Mr. Mann, Mr. Rhoads, Mr. Vergiels, Mrs. Wagner, and Mr. Webb.

ALSO PRESENT: Bill Bible, Fiscal Analyst; Ms. Judy Matteucci, Deputy Fiscal Analyst; Mr. William Hancock; Mr. E. H. Fitz, Chairman of the Public Works Board (PWB); Mr. William G. Flangas, Vice-Chairman, PWB; Mr. Caine, PWB; Professor Sandorf, PWB; and Mike Alastuey, Deputy Budget Director.

Mr. Fitz introduced PWB members and staff to the committee.

Mr. Fitz explained that program priorities were developed in accordance with the Board's usual approval, with one exception which is the recommended Ely medium-security prison. First priority items are those necessary to keep existing facilities in operation, such as new roofs, repair work, and things necessary for the health and safety of the occupants of the buildings; next priority is the expansion of existing facilities required for existing programs; and lastly, any new buildings that are required for new programs.

Mr. Hancock explained the following changes to the committee:

79-4 - IMPROVE SEWAGE SYSTEM, YOUTH TRAINING CENTER, ELKO - \$277,000: The cost has been reduced to \$215,000 because the City of Elko plans on running a trunk line out to that area and the State will be able to hook onto it at less cost.

79-11 - IMPROVEMENTS, NATIONAL GUARD ARMORIES, RENO AND LAS VEGAS - \$66,700: The Board is now recommending \$79,122. The increased funds would add additional facilities required by the Guard Bureau and that would generate, along with The Adjutant General's fund of \$18,000, \$597,576 in Federal funds.

79-25 - MACKAY SCHOOL OF MINES BUILDING, UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA RENO - \$7,532,000: To adjust for cash flow in the H.E.C.C. fund, the Board is now recommending that the General Fund provide \$5,642,000 instead of \$4,642,000, and H.E.C.C. funds be reduced by \$1,000,000 to \$1,890,000.

79-34 ADDITION TO HISTORICAL SOCIETY BUILDING - \$577,000: The Society has obtained \$57,000 in donated funds, reducing the General Fund recommendation from \$577,000 to \$520,000.

79-38A TWO IN-PATIENT RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS, MENTAL HEALTH INSTITUTE, SPARKS - \$1,169,000: This was formerly Project 56. The Board heard testimony at the December 1 meeting about the severe need for a secure adolescent facility for the Mental Health Institute and raised the project priority to 38A. It is not included in the Governor's recommendations.

79-42 HUMANITIES ADDITION TO THE BUSINESS COLLEGE BUILDING, UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA RENO - \$3,100,000: The cost remains the same, but the Board is recommending that \$2,100,000, instead of \$3,100,000, come from the General Fund and the other \$1,000,000 be provided

from H.E.C.C. funds. This uses the \$1,000,000 that was reduced in project 79-25 as mentioned above.

79-7 MEDIUM-SECURITY PRISON, ELY - \$25,599,000: Chairman Mello asked Mr. Fitz about the Board's recommendation to locate the new prison in Ely. Mr. Fitz indicated that the State Public Works Board had recommended, on a 4-2 vote, the Ely location primarily because White Pine residents want the penitentiary located there in order to help the depressed economy. Board member Professor K. J. Sandorf told the Assembly Committee it would cost an extra \$5-\$7 million in construction costs and an extra \$500,000 in yearly operating costs to run the prison in Eastern Nevada. He said it would be isolated, restricting visits from the families of inmates who would mostly come from Las Vegas. He further indicated his feeling that the purpose of a prison was not to help the local economy. He said that the Legislature has other ways to aid the depressed economy of White Pine County.

Board Chairman Bert Fitz said he doubted it would cost that much more to build or operate a prison in Ely. He also said that a major factor in recommending Ely was the "public acceptance" by residents. He thought that by building it in Carson City, the State capital would be ringed by prisons. Also, locating one prison close to another had disadvantages as unrest in one unit spreads to another.

Mr. Flangas, Vice-Chairman of the Public Works Board, said Ely was the only place where the prison could be started immediately without running into local opposition and the facility would be necessary by 1982 to meet rising inmate populations.

Chairman Mello indicated that the committee would have other meetings on the location subject. He then asked Mr. Hill, State Planning Coordinator, what location the Governor is recommending. Mr. Hill answered that the Governor was recommending a new prison, but was not recommending the site.

Chairman Mello introduced two members from the community, Senator Blakemore and Assemblyman Polish and asked them if they would like to make some comments.

Senator Blakemore said that obviously the people in White Pine County want this prison and that he had yet to find any other place that does want it. He indicated that the operating costs of a prison facility in Ely should not be significantly higher than one in Carson City and that the Jean facility had demonstrated this. By choosing Ely, the State will be locating a prison where the people want it overwhelmingly.

Assemblyman Polish also spoke in support of the prison. He said that White Pine county would go as far as they could in helping the Ways and Means Committee, or its subcommittees, in getting all the information possible. He said that White Pine County wanted to present their side of the operating cost controversy.

Chairman Mello named the Capital Improvements Committee: Chairman, Mr. Glover, Mr. Mann, and Mr. Rhoads. He then asked that Mr. Hancock proceed with the Capital Improvement presentation.

Mr. Hancock told the committee that the last session had authorized the preliminary work to be done on four university projects out of H.E.C.C. money, but had not given construction approval. He said the Board was requesting approval for construction on these projects. He also said the Board had worked with the Arts Council to develop recommendations for art work in public buildings. This money would have to be separately appropriated, as would \$10,000 for archaeological surveys.

All project numbers refer to the project numbers as detailed on Pages 801-810 of the Executive Budget.

79-1 MISCELLANEOUS IMPROVEMENTS, NORTHERN NEVADA CORRECTIONAL CENTER AND WOMENS' CORRECTIONAL CENTER - \$427,300: This is a recommendation for \$427,300 for miscellaneous improvements at the Northern Nevada Correctional Center, the State's medium-security prison, and at the Womens' Correctional Center. The project would consist of fire alarm systems to meet code requirements, an alternate fuel system for the womens' prison for stand-by in case the gas gets cut off, expansion of a walk-in freezer, and the expansion of closed-circuit television systems. The closed-circuit television systems are a security system within the compound and within the prison buildings.

79-2 SECURITY IMPROVEMENTS, LAKE CROSSING MENTAL HEALTH INSTITUTE, SPARKS - \$519,000: This project includes outside lighting along Kietzke, enlargement of the recreation courtyard, and roofing of one of the courtyards.

Chairman Mello asked what Lake Crossing cost to build in 1973. Mr. Hancock replied about \$1,600,000, with an additional \$600,000 from Interim Finance. Chairman Mello then asked why these things were not taken care of originally. Mr. Hancock answered that at the time of construction, it was thought that these people could be handled without major security provisions. Chairman Mello said that the committee was told in 1973 that because of the type of individuals to be housed in the facility, the criminally insane, there would be tremendous security. He indicated that this tremendous security has not proven to be true.

Mr. Webb asked Mr. Hancock for the capacity of the facility. Mr. Hancock replied that it was designed for 32. Mr. Mann commented that this was a great deal of money to spend for such a small number of inmates.

79-3 REPAIR STEAM MANHOLES AND LINES, MENTAL HEALTH INSTITUTE, SPARKS - \$109,000: This would rehabilitate existing steam manholes and replace deteriorated steam lines after thirty years' use. Mr. Bermner asked about the cost of professional services of \$12,300, and Mr. Hancock explained that these were not simply manholes, but were structural, main distribution manholes.

79-4 IMPROVE SEWAGE SYSTEM, YOUTH TRAINING CENTER, ELKO - (The amount requested is now \$215,000 instead of \$277,000): This will provide, through an interceptor provided under the railroad rehabilitation project, a connection to the City system.

79-5 REHABILITATION ELECTRICAL SYSTEM, MINT BASEMENT, STATE MUSEUM, CARSON CITY - \$27,500: This project will provide for replacement of the existing deteriorated wiring system in the basement of the old Mint Building.

79-6 SITE IMPROVEMENT, WESTERN NEVADA COMMUNITY COLLEGE, NORTH CAMPUS, AND DESERT RESEARCH INSTITUTE, RENO - \$301,000: This project would extend Sullivan Lane to Highway 395.

79-7 MEDIUM-SECURITY PRISON - \$25,599,000: This project was discussed at the start of the meeting.

79-8 ACTIVITY BUILDING, WOMENS' CORRECTIONAL CENTER, CARSON CITY - \$1,767,000: The project will provide dining, craft, and activity facilities for 200 women inmates.

79-9 EMERGENCY POWER SYSTEMS, NEVADA STATE PRISON, CARSON CITY - \$292,000: This project will provide emergency power for the prison.

Mr. Rhoads asked if they had problems in the past with the lights going out. Mr. Hancock replied that escapes had not been a problem, but there had been problems with food spoilage.

79-10 MISCELLANEOUS MAINTENANCE PROJECTS, CAPITOL COMPLEX, CARSON CITY - \$107,600: This would provide for replacement of deteriorated sidewalks, landscaping, and building repair in the capitol complex.

79-11 IMPROVEMENTS, NATIONAL GUARD ARMORIES, RENO AND LAS VEGAS - \$79,122 (General Fund): This project would provide a new boiler in the Reno Armory, the repair of the roof on the Las Vegas Armory, and the expansion of the Aviation Armory and Flight Facility that is programmed for Stead. The increased General Fund is caused by the military's request for flight surgeon facilities at the Stead Armory. About \$ .5 million of Federal funds for the project is available.

79-12 PSYCHIATRIC UNIT, NORTHERN NEVADA CORRECTIONAL CENTER, CARSON CITY - \$1,352,000: This is for a security and treatment facility for inmates requiring psychiatric care. This project would remove the psychiatric unit from the old maximum prison.

Mr. Mann asked what was wrong with the facility at maximum. Mr. Hancock replied it was basically a confinement and not a treatment facility. The areas freed up would become vocational shop facilities.

79-13 REHABILITATE FIRE ALARM SYSTEM AND HYDRANTS, MENTAL HEALTH INSTITUTE, SPARKS - \$144,800: The project would rehabilitate the existing fire alarm system and replace obsolete fire hydrants. The Institute's fire alarm system was originally keyed into the Sparks Fire Department. Now, the Department no longer wants this and it has to be keyed into a private alarm facility.

Mrs. Cavnar asked why the Sparks Fire Department wants the alarm changed. Mr. Hancock said that Sparks wanted out of the private business of detecting alarms, and that there had been problems with patients pulling the handles and turning in false alarms.

79-14 EXPAND EDUCATION BUILDING, NORTHERN NEVADA CORRECTIONAL CENTER, CARSON CITY - \$692,000: The present educational building at medium was designed to serve a population of 344. Current population is about 700.

Mr. Mann asked why the capacity for education had to be doubled because on his tours he saw so many vacant seats and sufficient classroom space. Mr. Hancock replied that this was at the request of the prison, and he had gone there and reviewed their class load and they are doubled and cannot conduct planned classes.

79-15 VOCATIONAL BUILDING, WOMENS' CORRECTIONAL CENTER, CARSON CITY - \$705,000: This project would provide multi-purpose classrooms and shop facilities for occupational training. The project will be designed for a 200-person inmate capability.

79-16 INDEPENDENT LIVING TRAINING BUILDING, SIERRA DEVELOPMENT CENTER, SPARKS - \$403,500: This would provide an in-patient living facility for twelve retarded persons and would complete the Sierra Development as currently planned.

79-17 TREATMENT FACILITIES FOR ADOLESCENTS, LAS VEGAS MENTAL HEALTH CENTER - \$2,959,000: This project consists of two new buildings and the remodeling of an existing building. Mr. Hancock indicated that the adolescent mental health problem is, from testimony of the mental health people, one of the major aspects that mental health and retardation is looking into at this time.

79-18 FOURTH VOCATIONAL BUILDING, NORTHERN NEVADA CORRECTIONAL CENTER, CARSON CITY - \$696,000: This project would provide additional shop capabilities to accommodate increased inmate populations.

79-19 CAMPUS IMPROVEMENTS, UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA RENO - \$3,778,000: This project includes a primary power system, an addition to the heating plant, roof repair on six buildings, exhaust system for the anatomy lab at the medical school, and the addition of handicap facilities as mandated by Federal programs. The addition of handicap facilities includes the addition of twelve elevators at \$1,306,000; remodeling forty toilets at a cost of \$3,000 each; handicapped telephones; Braille signs; and the modification of walks, ramps, and curbs.

Mrs. Wagner asked if Federal funds are available for some of this work. Mr. Hancock replied that the university had requested a grant from EDA a year ago for similar work, but that no Federal funds are available at this time.

79-20 ADDITION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES BUILDING, CARSON CITY - \$5,299,000: The existing building was built in the early 1960s and is extremely crowded. This project would allow for conversion of the existing building into a facility for the Highway Patrol and the computer operations of the Motor Vehicles Department. The new building would be for all public activity: the administration of drivers' licenses, vehicle registration, truck licensing, and other public functions.

79-21 CAMPUS IMPROVEMENTS, NORTHERN NEVADA COMMUNITY COLLEGE, ELKO - \$210,000: The original building was designed as an open-partition building, and the program has now changed. The project would provide separate classrooms.

79-22 REHABILITATE STATE OFFICE BUILDING, BONANZA ROAD, LAS VEGAS - \$483,000: This building was built in 1955 and is still a sound structure. This project would rehabilitate the entire building and add an elevator so that the building can function properly.

79-23 MISCELLANEOUS IMPROVEMENTS, NEVADA YOUTH TRAINING CENTER, ELKO - \$549,000: This project would provide outdoor athletic facilities, and repairs to the existing buildings, roads, walks, and utility systems. The underground utility repairs are the major repair item.

79-24 BUSINESS AND HOTEL ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA LAS VEGAS - \$11,786,000: This project would provide classrooms and offices for these two major programs at the university.

79-25 MACKAY SCHOOL OF MINES BUILDING, UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA RENO - \$7,532,000: This proposed facility would relocate the School of Mines.

Mr. Bremner asked if the old building could be renovated. Mr. Hancock replied that this would not provide the type of program facilities needed by the school.

79-26 FACILITY FOR ABUSED AND NEGLECTED CHILDREN, LAS VEGAS - \$1,017,000: This facility is not recommended in the Executive Budget. Mr. Hancock said that apparently the Governor desires to continue having this program handled by the county.

79-27 RURAL CLINIC FACILITY, MENTAL HYGIENE, ELKO - \$688,600: This would provide a 6,890 square foot facility for out-patients in the northeastern Nevada area. The project calls for partial financing by the Fleischmann funds, but that funding application has not gone through the Interim Finance Committee. If not approved by Interim

Finance, it may require more State funds.

79-28 RESIDENTIAL BUILDING FOR NON-AMBULATORY, MULTI-HANDICAPPED, DESERT DEVELOPMENT CENTER, LAS VEGAS - \$425,000: This project would duplicate an existing building at the center and would add more capability for existing patients.

Mrs. Wagner asked about the population of the building. Mr. Hancock responded that it would house twelve children.

79-29 WESTERN NEVADA COMMUNITY COLLEGE, FALLON CENTER - \$851,000: Fallon has provided a site and will bring utilities to that site. This project would provide a 10,000 square foot facility -- 5000 for classrooms and 5000 for vocational shops. The existing program is operating in school district facilities, and the school district wants them back because of enrollment increases.

Mr. Hickey asked Mr. Hancock which study the Public Works Board used -- the Tadlock Study or the Regent's Study. Mr. Hancock replied that the Regent's approved study by Tadlock recommending renting facilities whenever possible and that the Board generally agreed with this recommendation.

79-30 ADDITION TO PURCHASING WAREHOUSE, RENO - \$934,000: This project would provide an addition of approximately 26,000 square feet of space and also insulate the existing building so that it complies with conservation standards.

79-31 FINE ARTS COMPLEX, PHASE III, UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA LAS VEGAS - \$10,910,000: This project would provide approximately 120,000 square feet of academic and administrative facilities for the art, dance, and theater arts. This would provide the academic facilities to go along with Judy Bailey Theater and the Hamm Concert Hall.

Mr. Vergiels asked if this was all state money and the reply was "yes."

79-32 IMPROVEMENTS, COMPUTER FACILITY, CARSON CITY - \$257,000: This would provide high frequency motor-generators and additional air conditioning equipment required by the new computer.

79-33 CAMPUS IMPROVEMENTS, CLARK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE, NORTH LAS VEGAS - \$244,000: This would provide acoustic treatment in the community college's broadcasting and meeting facilities, a sound system, and graphics.

79-34 ADDITION TO HISTORICAL SOCIETY BUILDING, RENO - \$577,000 (\$520,000 in State money and \$57,000 from the Historical Society from grant money): This would provide a 10,000 square foot storage and work space environmentally controlled for long preservation of historic documents. At the present time, the Historical Society is using old buildings at Stead for storage.

79-35 CAMPUS IMPROVEMENTS, UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA LAS VEGAS - \$1,350,000: This is similar to the recommended improvements on the Reno campus. The project would provide for elevators, curbs, parking, restroom facilities, and alarm systems for the deaf as well as the blind. The parkway entrance would be revised; and storage for the building and grounds division, building repairs, refurbishing and remodeling, landscaping around the tennis courts, a fireproof wall at the registrar's office, resurfacing the handball courts, and a service yard for the museum would be provided.

79-38 REHABILITATE THE HEATING, VENTILATING, AND AIR CONDITIONING SYSTEMS, MENTAL HEALTH INSTITUTE, SPARKS - \$381,500: This would rehabilitate the mechanical systems in Buildings 3, 4, and 8.

79-39 MEDICAL-DENTAL BUILDING, WOMENS' CORRECTIONAL CENTER, CARSON CITY - \$138,000: This project would provide an infirmary for examination and treatment of 200 inmates.

79-40 MISCELLANEOUS IMPROVEMENTS, SOUTHERN NEVADA CHILDRENS' HOME, BOULDER CITY - \$154,000: This project would enclose a drainage ditch, remodel and repair certain buildings, patch pavement, and provide landscaping.

79-41 STORAGE WAREHOUSE AND WELL, STATE MUSEUM EDUCATIONAL/CULTURAL COMPLEX, CARSON CITY AREA - \$509,700: This projection, a 300-acre site just south of Carson City, would solve the museum's storage problem.

79-42 HUMANITIES ADDITION TO THE BUSINESS COLLEGE BUILDING, UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA RENO - \$3,100,000: This proposal would add two additional floors to the building that was funded by the last session and would forestall the need for a Humanities Building. The recommendation is for \$2,100,000 General Fund money and \$1 million in Higher Education and Capital Construction funds.

79-42 SOUTHERN NEVADA MUSEUM, LAS VEGAS - \$2,744,000: The recommendation is for 39,700 square feet of museum space, on a proposed site in the west end of Lorenzi Park.

Mr. Webb inquired what the thinking of the Board is regarding new campus buildings when both the southern campus and northern campus have a declining population in our college system. He pointed out that the Board is requesting about \$11 million for new buildings, not counting all the rehabilitation and restoration of old buildings. Mr. Hancock replied that the one major project was the Mines Building as the existing building was just simply worn out and inadequate for program use at the present time. The Humanities are housed in the old part of the campus and those facilities are inadequate for their programs. The Business and Hotel building for Las Vegas is for one of the most rapidly growing programs on campus. Mr. Flangas added that the outdated facilities of the School of Mines are jeopardizing their accreditation.

Mr. Mann and Mr. Webb expressed the opinion that it did not make sense to build these multi-million dollar facilities when enrollment is dropping off substantially.

Mr. Hancock said that the Board had suggested 62 projects.

77-49 CLARK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE, HENDERSON - \$2,297,000: Mr. Hancock told the committee that the Governor had added this 1977 recommended project, and it was not currently recommended by the Board. Mr. Mann asked Mr. Alastuey why the Governor had added the project. Mr. Alastuey replied because of community support.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.