

MINUTES

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

NEVADA STATE LEGISLATURE - 60th SESSION

February 23, 1979

Chairman Mello called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

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

ALSO PRESENT: Bill Bible, Fiscal Analyst; Judy Matteucci, Deputy Fiscal Analyst; Mike Alastuey, Deputy Budget Director; Mr. Bud Campos, Director of Department of Parole and Probation; Mr. de la Torre, Director of the Department of Law Enforcement; Mr. John Compston, Training Coordinator; and Mr. Vern Calhoun, Chief of the Investigations and Narcotics Division. (See attached guest list.)

DEPARTMENT OF PAROLE AND PROBATION

Chairman Mello directed the Committee's attention to the Parole and Probation Departments' budget and introduced Mr. Bud Campos, Director of Parole and Probation, who spoke to the recommended one-shot appropriation for the Department of \$137,844. Mr. Campos said that this appropriation is recommended to allow hiring of agency personnel beginning April 1, 1979 and would help alleviate a manpower shortage brought about by underestimation of the workload of the Department. Mr. Campos furnished the Committee a handout (Exhibit "A") with revised figures on the one-shot totaling \$89,507 and said that this Department wished to do some immediate hiring April 1, 1979 of 19 officers and 3 full-time secretaries and 2 half-time secretaries. He added that 15 of the officers are requested for the Las Vegas office, 3 in Reno, and 1 in Carson City which is based on the work-load.

Chairman Mello inquired as to why the Senior Account Clerk is considered an emergency. Mr. Campos said that this Clerk would primarily be handling restitution account collections. He stated that the Department had collected \$175,000 in 1978 and that these collections are being strongly emphasized.

Mr. Rhoads asked why this appropriation is termed a one-shot when it concerns staff being hired. Mr. Bible explained that this is simply an early hire of the recommended positions in the budget.

Mr. Mann inquired if the Governor's recommendation of consolidation of the prison with parole and probation into a Department of Corrections is carried out, will this alleviate the need for so much clerical help. Mr. Campos said that consolidating will not reduce the amount of work required of the Parole and Probation Department.

Mr. Alastuey added that the benefits of consolidation would come in the form of system wide evaluation and that the flow of inmates and parolees may be facilitated by consolidation.

Mr. Campos said that the dual objectives of the Parole and Probation Department are to provide protection to the community and to provide services to rehabilitate the offender. He said that the clients are received from the District Courts, the Parole Board, and from the movement of parolees and probationers from other states to Nevada. Mr. Campos explained that the primary functions of this Department are to prepare pre-sentence reports for the courts recommending appropriate sentences, provide background on the individuals to be sentenced, and to supervise parolees.

Mr. Campos said that the Department uses a workload measurement called the work unit which figures the average time needed by an officer to complete a task and that this Department utilizes a 65 work unit monthly assignment. Mr. Campos added that on the average, two and a half hours are spent with each client per month.

Mr. Campos spoke of the growth of this Department indicating the growth in the number of convictions from 1443 in fiscal year 1973-74 to 2762 convictions in fiscal year 1977-78. He said there had been a 47% increase in the last two years in the number of convictions. He said the effects of an insufficient number of people in his Department are reflected in increased numbers of people in county jails, increased numbers of outstanding warrants, and increases in the numbers of new crimes. He said recidivism rates are remaining about the same. Mr. Campos referred the Committee to a handout (Exhibit "B") showing all new positions requested. He said that the total number of new bodies requested and shown in the budget on Page 513 is actually 58 instead of 57. Mr. Campos said that all requested positions are based upon the total projected work units which do not take into account such things as vacation time, training, sick time, and open positions.

Mrs. Wagner asked if Mr. Campos felt that the Parole and Probation Department should have more control over the input into their responsibility area such as legislation and the output of the Parole Board and the courts. Mr. Campos replied no but said that there are serious problems with the system. He stated Nevada has the highest crime rate in the country and one of the highest commitment rates in the nation. He suggested that perhaps it is time for a comprehensive study of the criminal justice system.

Mr. Campos said that the most expensive item in his budget is in-state travel because the majority of work is in the field with about 2/3 of the officers requiring automobiles. Mr. Campos stated that the specialized equipment requested (\$5,400) is for five additional two-way radios.

Mrs. Wagner inquired about the increase shown in the cost of communications. Mr. Campos said that most of this item is for telephone expense for verifying information in the variety of reports produced by the Department. He pointed out that 31% of all cases opened in Nevada concern non-residents. He pointed out the only way to get the required information in a timely manner is by telephone.

Chairman Mello commented that the communications request is based on the requested new positions and inquired if it could be reduced since the total agency request was not recommended. Mr. Alastuey said that most of the positions recommended in the Governor's budget are the heaviest users of the telephones, hence the recommended communication amounts.

PAROLE AND PROBATION - CRIME COMMISSION GRANTS

Mr. Campos said that this account was established as a receiving account for Federal grants received by the Department of Parole and Probation and funds two officers in the Reno Intensive Supervision Unit who deal with clients who are in need of intense treatment and community services and the career criminal client. Mr. Campos explained to the Committee that these two positions are funded through December, 1979 and the budget recommends that they be maintained by general fund monies from January, 1980 forward.

DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE - STATE PLANNING AGENCY

Chairman Mello introduced Mike de la Torre, Director of the Department of Law Enforcement Assistance, to present this budget.

Mr. de la Torre said that Nevada has a Commission on Crime, Delinquency and Corrections with 17 members appointed by the Governor. He said that the Commission provides guidance and policy in advisory matters to the Division of Identification and Communications, Division of Planning and Training, and Division of Investigation and Narcotics. Mr. de la Torre said that the State Planning Agency provides technical assistance and resources to subgrantees. Mr. de la Torre pointed out that no new positions are requested.

Mr. de la Torre said that the Department is currently working on a work performance standard paper and a policy manual and has asked the Personnel Department to perform a productivity survey, and is starting a staff training program.

Mr. de la Torre expressed concern with the grants that various agencies request and said that some type of appellate process should be implemented with the Crime Commission to evaluate the grants to make sure that they do fit into the Comprehensive State Plan developed by the Planning and Training Division. Mr. de la Torre said that the Department is combining information currently being provided in the Nevada Crime Analysis and the Uniform Crime Report.

Chairman Mello observed that the State Planning Agency budget is predicated on possible legislation now pending in Congress and asked what would happen if this legislation did not pass. Mr. de la Torre replied that this would put an end to the grant system in this State, but would not end the Department of Law Enforcement.

Mrs. Wagner asked why the Commission appointed by the Governor receives Nevada Industrial Insurance coverage. Mr. Alastuey said that NIC does provide insurance coverage to Commissioners while on commission business if they determine that there is a salary to be billed. He added that the rates are not the same as those charged to regular state employees.

Chairman Mello inquired about contract laboratory services for \$62,803 and \$65,315. Mr. de la Torre said that this item is being moved to the State Planning Agency because Identifications and Communications is not being refunded. He said this would pay for lab services provided by the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department and the Washoe County Sheriff's Office.

Mr. Bremner asked for an explanation of lab services provided. Mr. de la Torre said that Washoe County provided such services as narcotics analysis and blood alcohol test for most of the state except Clark County, Lincoln County and Esmeralda County. Las Vegas Metropolitan provides similar services in those three counties, he said.

IDENTIFICATION AND COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

Chairman Mello requested Mr. de la Torre to explain the requested one-shot of \$51,093 for the Communications Board. Mr. de la Torre said that this requested appropriation is being heard in Senate Bill 218 and the amount requested will be reduced from the \$51,093.

Mr. de la Torre also addressed the \$128,427 one-shot appropriation for the Highway Patrol and said that work is being done to bring this request down from the \$128,427 shown in the budget. He said it was contained in Senate Bill 216.

Mr. de la Torre said that the Identification and Communications Division will be abolished and those functions transferred to the State Planning Agency of the Department of Law Enforcement Assistance and the Nevada Highway Patrol. He said the positions will be going from 15 positions to 7.

PEACE OFFICER STANDARDS AND TRAINING PROGRAM (POST)

Mr. de la Torre deferred this budget to Mr. John Compston, Training Coordinator. Mr. Compston said that this program was originally started in 1965 with legislation to establish standards for hiring and recruiting peace officers. Mr. Compston said that in Fiscal year 1976-77 the program trained 565 officers and in Fiscal year 1977-78 the program trained 708 officers. He stated that in 1978 the program has already trained 426 officers. Mr. Compston said that changes undertaken by the committee have been expansion of training from 120 hours to 160 hours and the addition of programs which provide an additional 40 hours of instructions in first aid courses, supervisory training, instructor training, and additional firearms training.

Mr. Compston said that some new programs to be developed are juvenile justice programs, corrections programs, and stress and its effects on the police officer and his family. Mr. Compston pointed out that the Criminal Law Manual has been transferred into the P.O.S.T. account and will be self-supporting by F.Y. 1980-81.

Mrs. Wagner inquired about consultant fees for special instruction in the contract services item. Mr. Compston said that for some training programs, it is necessary to have a sociologist or psychiatrist teach training sessions for which the P.O.S.T. employees are not qualified.

SMALL COUNTY AND INDIAN JUSTICE PLANNER

Mr. de la Torre said that this budget which is supported entirely by Federal funds is being transferred into the Department of Law Enforcement Assistance State Planning Agency account.

SYSTEMS AND STATISTICAL SERVICES

Mr. de la Torre said that the position of Research Analyst is being transferred into the State Planning Agency and will help with the Uniform Crime Report, Criminal History, etc.

CRIMINAL CASE HISTORIES/OFFENDER-BASED TRANSACTION STATISTICS

Mr. de la Torre said that the Federal support for this program has terminated and it is recommended some of the communication personnel currently being funded by this grant be transferred to the Nevada Highway Patrol communications center.

INVESTIGATION AND NARCOTICS - DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE

Mr. de la Torre introduced Mr. Vern Calhoun, Chief of the Investigations and Narcotics Division, to address this budget. Mr. Calhoun said that this Division was set up to enforce the drug laws and assist other investigations upon request, to eliminate illegal sources of controlled substances, and to disseminate information on the dangers of drug abuse. Mr. Calhoun said that in Fiscal year 76-77, they made 292 arrests with 263 convictions, and in Fiscal year 77-78, they made 391 arrests with 364 convictions. Mr. Calhoun stated that the amount of drugs seized by the Division increased from about \$2,000,000 just a few years ago to an excess of \$20,000,000 last year. He stated that the Division has attempted to go after the people dealing in and selling drugs (mainly heroin and cocaine) and to curtail illegal dispensing of pharmaceutical drugs. He stated the Division spends very little time on marijuana investigation.

Mr. Calhoun said the amount of illegal pharmaceutical drugs has been greatly reduced and the Division received cooperation from the pharmacists, medical boards, and other professional boards in controlling this area.

Mr. Calhoun said that 3.5 new positions are requested in this budget, two of which are Information Analysts. Mr. Bremner asked for a job description of the Information Analysts. Mr. Calhoun said that this person investigates and evaluates information from outside sources, other police agencies, and informants, runs backgrounds, etc. Mr. Calhoun said that this position frees the Narcotic Agents for more important work.

Mrs. Wagner inquired about the status of the legislation to establish a fund for the purchase of vehicles for the Division as addressed in the program statement. Mr. Calhoun said that the Budget Division was taking care of the legislation. Mr. Alastuey said he would look into the matter.

DIVERSIONARY INVESTIGATIVE UNIT

Mr. de la Torre said that this is funded by a grant which will expire in March, 1979 and is not expected to be continued.

CRIME COMMISSION - FEDERAL GRANTS

Mr. de la Torre explained that this program serves as the receiving account for the Federal funds awarded to the State and is divided into four categories: planning, formula, priority, and discretionary grants. Mr. de la Torre explained that this budget is predicated upon passage of the Criminal Justice Improvement Act of 1978 as it is currently outlined.

Mr. Bible asked Mr. de la Torre if this Act is not passed by Congress would Interim Finance then be requested for State monies for buy-in. Mr. de la Torre said that it was his understanding that failure of the Justice Improvement Act to pass would mean the end of this program.

Mrs. Wagner asked for an explanation of politically popular programs that would be funded by discretionary grants - as addressed in the program statement. Mr. de la Torre said that new leaders of LEAA have certain programs they like to emphasize such as arson and community crime prevention programs, etc. which may not fit into the established plans. He explained that discretionary funds are then used to support these types of programs.

Larry Katzenburger, Assistant Sheriff of the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department; Mr. Bob Galli, Washoe County Sheriff; and Colonel Barney Dehl; Chief of the Nevada Highway Patrol all spoke in support of the Department of Law Enforcement Assistance.

Chairman Mello stated that any members of the Committee wishing to sit in on the Subcommittee hearings and ask questions may do so, and named the Department of Law Enforcement Subcommittee: Mr. Mann, Chairman; Mr. Barengo; and Mr. Webb. Chairman Mello asked for a committee introduction on the bill that creates a commission on the Future of Nevada: the motion was made by Mr. Vergiels; seconded by Mr. Rhoads. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

DATE: _____

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

GUEST LIST

NAME (PLEASE PRINT)

REPRESENTING:

BARNEY DEHL

NEW CRIME COMMISSION

Larry Ketzenberger

L.V.M.P.D.

WILLIAM R. ...

...

RALPH F. ...

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February 9, 1979

MEMORANDUM

TO: Senate Finance and Assembly Ways and Means Committees

FROM: Budget Division

SUBJECT: Requested Appropriation for 1978-79 - Parole and Probation

It is recommended the following amount be substituted for the one-time appropriation to the Department of Parole and Probation listed in the Executive Budget, page A-22.

Personnel

Officer I (19)
Senior Account Clerk
Administrative Aid II (3)
Administrative Aid II (2) One-Half Time

Salaries and Costs	\$74,094
Building Rent	3,173
Equipment	12,240
Total	<u>\$89,507</u>

518

EXHIBIT "A"

PAROLE PROBATION
NEW POSITIONS 1979-81

OFFICE	1979-80		1980-81	
	AGENCY REQUEST	GOVERNOR RECOMMENDS	AGENCY REQUEST	GOVERNOR RECOMMENDS
CENTRAL				
DEPUTY CHIEF	1	0	1	0
SR. ACCOUNT CLERK	1	1	1	1
ADMIN. AID II	2	0	2	0
CARSON CITY				
OFFICER I	1	1		
OFFICER II			1	1
ADMIN. AID II	1	½	1	½
RENO				
SR. OFFICER	2	2 (½Yr.)	2	2
OFFICER I	8	4	3	1
OFFICER I (½ Yr.)	4	2	0	2
OFFICER II	0	0	12	6
ADMIN. AID II	3	½	4	1
ADMIN. AID II (½ Yr.)	1	0	1	0
LAS. VEGAS				
SR. OFFICER	4	0	4	0
OFFICER I	15	22	8	8
OFFICER I (½ Yr.)	3	6	3	0
OFFICER II	0	0	15	28
ADMIN. AID II	6	4	7	7
ADMIN. AID II (½ Yr.)	1	½	1	½
TOTALS	<u><u>53</u></u>	<u><u>43½</u></u>	<u><u>66</u></u>	<u><u>58</u></u>