Minutes of the Nevada State Legislature

Assembly Committee on GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS - Room 214 WORK SESSION

Date: June 2, 1981
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MEMBERS PRESENT:

X

Chairman Dini

Vice Chairman Schofield

Mr. Craddock Mr. DuBois Mr. Jeffrey Mr. May Mr. Mello

Mr. Nicholas Mr. Polish Mr. Prengaman Mr. Redelsperger

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

GUESTS:

Barbara Gomez, Committee Secretary Lucille Hill, Committee Secretary Robbie Alldis, Committee Receptionist

Joyce Woodhouse, NSEA

Joe fisher, NSEA Will Deiss, PPA

John Hawkins, Nev. State School Boards G. P. Etcheverry, Nev. League of Cities Joe Cathcart, City of North Las Vegas

Chairman Dini called the meeting to order at 9:05 A.M.

Mr. Dini: In this work session, we will first start on $\underline{SB-23}$ -Directs submission to vote of people of proposal to issue state general obligation bonds for building and expanding public libraries and provides for construction grants from proceeds if issue is approved. This bill is supported by the Nevada Library Association.

Mr. Prengaman: As you know, the Fleischmann money was used to build a lot of branches when it was available. Now that it is no longer available, there is a problem, as needs do go on. We are looking at this as a means of building additional branches and going on with the business of operating libraries and giving services in the state of Nevada. Of course, the people have to approve it.

Mr. Prengaman moved a DO PASS on $\underline{SB-23}$, seconded by Mr. Craddock. Motion carried.

The next bill to be discussed is SB-489.

Mr. Patrick Pine, Clark County: This is a companion to 488 and 167. This section was formerly Section 12 of the original bill.

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The intent, which was confirmed with Mr. Daykin, was to include this section in AB-167. At the time it was, it got lost somewhere in the process. We, essentially, revived 489 on the Senate side to pick this section up. What it does is, because we passed the other bonding legislation, some assessments which are being levied, and sometimes those assessments may be levied or established at a lower rate than what the bonds may go out for, and because we have created surplus and deficiency funds for bonding, we would like to be able to make up the difference for the shortfall from a deficiency fund, if it is already in existence. This section would simply take care of some existing assessment districts and assessment bonds, which if we don't pick this section up, would leave three or four assessment districts, in our particular case, and I don't know how many others in the state, sort of out on a limb where they couldn't solve the problem of assessments that are already in process.

Mr. Schofield moved a DO PASS, seconded by Mr. May. Motion carried.

The next bill to be heard is SB-350.

Mrs. Joyce Woodhouse, President of the Nevada State Education Association: SB-350, as originally drafted, extended 'last best offer' package arbitration to all public employees. The first reprint before you does extend 'last best offer' package for the fire fighters only, the rest of the public employees will try another way. The Governor is removed from the process and a panel is put in place. The panel consists of one person from the Nevada Bar Association, one person from the Board of Accountancy. Those two people are chosen by a list of five persons that will be submitted through the Commissioner to the employee groups and the employer and we will go through a striking process, with the employee group going first. two persons will choose a third person from the general public and neither of those three persons can be tied in with either labor or management. The bill also sets up mandatory mediation for all groups that are under the panel, except for employee groups with less than thirty members. The reason why they were exempted was that these groups, should they go to mandatory mediation, then before the panel and then into arbitration, it becomes a very costly factor and, maybe, somewhere along the line, they have to be excluded from the process because they couldn't afford it. So, mediation is not mandatory for them.

The time lines have been changed and I gave you a copy of the schedule that Fred Weldon drew up so that you could see how it went through. (A copy of this Time Schedule is attached hereto as EXHIBIT A, and made a part of these minutes). We have had a lot of problems with the time lines. These have all been moved

to a certain period and, hopefully, they will help us deal with the problems we have had and the restrictions we have had under the present NRS 288 in the time line area. There is an appropriation on Page 6 of \$100,000 which the Interim Finance Committee will compensate the members of the panel with when they hear the cases before them.

Mr. Bob Petrone, Attorney, Clark County School District: The bill also provides for the guidelines which the panel must consider in making determinations. On Page 5, Section 11, it sets up the Commissioner, meaning the EMRB commissioner, must perform a study and collect data over the years. One of the problems they felt they had was that they wanted to study the last best offer a bit longer, so they extended it for four years for the fire fighters.

Mr. May: Who strikes the first name?

Mrs. Woodhouse: The employee group.

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Mr. Petrone: That's not in the bill. It didn't get in the bill, but, talking this over, some people figured that the EMR Board, by regulation, could provide that and take care of that so you won't have to amend the bill.

Mr. Dini: It should be put in the minutes that it is the intent that the employee group strikes name in the selection process for the panel.

Mrs. Woodhouse: On Page 5, is the financial ability to pay. We took out the self-insurance fund as it is presently written and the financial ability pay will be tied to the tax package. That is Lines 17 through 21.

Mr. Jeffrey: Are the recommendations of the panel binding on both parties now?

Mrs. Woodhouse: All the panel will do is determine for you if we go to advisory or binding arbitration. The panel takes the place of the Governor, and that's all.

Mr. G. P. Etcheverry: After many hearings with the Senate Government Affairs Committee, the Nevada League of Cities, through our personnel people, have concurred with the provisions of SB-350. Naturally, we would like to have seen the last best offer included, but we did settle with the employee groups and at the last meeting of the Senate Government Affairs Committee, we concurred with SB-350.

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Mr. John Hawkins, representing the Nevada School Boards Association: I would concur with that comment. We had more than adequate opportunity to testify before the Senate Government Affairs Committee. We think that mediation, as a required step, is a plus in this bill. We think the study is a plus. We are not really sure in regard to the operation of the ability to pay of the local entity, but we are willing to try this particular approach to see how it works. We are not sure of the time lines and the effectiveness of the panel, but we are willing to try that approach for two years to see how it works.

Mr. Bob Sullivan, CRBCOG: There were six counties involved in working on this and they concur, also.

Mr. Bunker, representing fire fighters: On Page 2, Lines 26 through 28. "If the accountant or attorney...are unable to... serve... then the State Bar and the...state board of accountancy... will pick the person". If that's so, then labor wouldn't be able to pick the fellow, or the parties involved. Their right to choose would be disregarded. So, I'm wondering if we can't reflect in the minutes here someway, if that was so, that when this picking process started, they pick alternates right away in case No. 1 on the legal side and the accountancy board couldn't serve. Otherwise, labor would pick no one. I don't think that's right.

Mr. Joe Cathcart: Maybe this could be worked out in the resolution, rather than modify the bill, as long as it was in the minutes of this meeting as the intent.

Mr. Petrone: This could also be worked out by regulation of the EMRB.

Mr. Cathcart: We would have no problem with that.

Mr. Dini: We will not make a decision here at this meeting. We will take it to the floor. I would like all members of the committee to study it carefully and we will do it on the floor.

On AB-452, Mr. Mello moved to INDEFINITELY POSTPONE, seconded by Mr. Nicholas. Motion carried.

On AB-55, Mr. Mello moved to INDEFINITELY POSTPONE, seconded by Mr. Nicholas. Motion carried.

This concluded the work session.

Mr. Dini: There are a few comments I would like to make. When we had our committee party, Bob Craddock was back east and I was not able to present him with a small token of my appreciation

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for his serving on this committee this past year. I would like to make some brief remarks to the whole committee. I was very honored and very pleased with the calibre of the committee that I had this year and we had some outstanding legislation passed and the work we did, I think, was of very high quality and I am very proud of this committee. You are the finest group of people that I have worked with in the Assembly and I want to say thanks for all your cooperation and the work you did. You can leave here with your heads up high and say that you did a good job in the best interests of the people of the state. And so, I thank you all.

Mr. Craddock: Since I didn't have an opportunity to be at the party, I would like to say now that I think you, Joe, have been extremely fair and I even heard comments here this morning that indicates that you have been more than fair with them as they had more than even opportunity to be heard. I have appreciated this committee very much; it has been a learning process for all of us, and I certainly picked up my portion of the information during this session.

Mr. Schofield: Mr. Chairman, on behalf of the total committee I would like to give you this gift certificate for a new suit.

Mr. Dini: Thank you very much. The contents of the letter attached: "Dear Joe and Mr. Chairman: On behalf of the Government Affairs Committee, we hold you in the highest esteem and present you with this as a token of our appreciation. Your dedication to your committee in dealing with the governmental affairs of this state certainly was way above the call." Signed by all the members of the committee. Thank you so much.

Mr. Redelsperger: We were all fortunate to serve on this committee and feel it was quite an education. We are all very pleased with the excellent job you did, Joe.

Mr. Prengaman: I wasn't fortunate enough to serve on this committee as a freshman, but you notice I corrected that mistake.

Mr. Schofield: I would like to hear from that beautiful lady that hardly ever says a word. She's in here most of the time and that is the dark-haired lady sitting in the back. Along with the other two. They have done such a masterful job.

Mr. Dini: They have done an excellent job. I would like to thank my secretaries. They were an excellent staff. They worked a lot of long and hard hours. It's been a tough grind for them. We are very fortunate in the selection this year. Of course, I had to recruit Barbara back from Sparks. I hope she comes back again. Lucille and the other girl have been super with us. Let's give them a big hand.

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Mr. May: While we are passing out flowers, our vice chairman or social chairman, who has been bright-eyed and bushy-tailed all session certainly deserves a note of appreciation for his fine contribution, especially in the social activity area. (applause).

Lucille Hill: Mr. Chairman, I know that Barbara would like to say that we have really enjoyed meeting all of you gentlemen and working with you. It has been a real, real pleasure. Before you go, if we may, we would like a group picture of the committee.

Respectfully submitted, fuelle Will Lucille Hill

ASSEMBLY GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

GUEST LIST

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TIME SCHEDULES ASSOCIATED WITH ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN PURSUANT TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS ACT IF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS ARE ADOPTED

DATE

ACTIONS WHICH MUST BE UNDERTAKEN ON OR BEFORE THE DATE

NEGOTIATION-MEDIATION

<u>FACTFINDING</u>

February 1 Notice of desire to negotiate. April 1 Request for mediation.* May 1 Dispute may be submitted to factfinder.** June 1 Request for mediation. Dispute may be submitted to factfinder. June 5 Mediator must be selected. June 20 Schedule for hearings must be established. June 25 Request for binding factfinding must be received. June 30 Mediation generally is concluded. Lists of possible panelists must be submitted. July 8 Parties must select two panelists and make notifications. July 10 Report of mediator is due. Two panelists must select third, make notifications, and provide list of available dates.

August 10

Panel must order binding factfinding if it is going to so order, unless this date is extended by the commission:

*This is the initial date for submitting a request for mediation. **This is the initial date for submitting a dispute to a factfinder.

Exhibit A