

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Bremner
Vice Chairman Hickey
Mr. Bergevin
Mr. Brady
Mr. Coulter
Mr. Glover
Mrs. Hayes
Mr. Horn
Mr. Marvel
Mr. Rhoads
Mr. Vergiels
Mrs. Westall

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mr. Robinson (Excused)

OTHERS PRESENT: Bill Bible, Fiscal Analyst, Judy Matteucci,
Deputy Fiscal Analyst; Mike Alastuey,
Deputy Budget Director; (SEE ATTACHED
GUEST LIST)

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

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Mr. John Fransway, Chairman of the Environmental Commission, stated that the recommended budget will be adequate. He said the success in making the budget work as recommended is contingent on the additional duties the Legislature may add to the Commission. He pointed out that the commission will have a difficult time providing adequate service with only a half time secretary as recommended by the Governor.

Mr. Marvel asked if the secretary presently working for the commission was shared with another agency. Mr. Fransway stated the Commission has a full time secretary who works only for the Commission.

Chairman Bremner asked if the board and commission line item reflected the increase in salary to \$60 per day. Mr. Fransway stated that it did.

Mr. Roland Westergard, Director of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources interjected that it is his contention that the necessary services can be provided in the Department with the combination of four full time positions into two full time positions.

Mr. Marvel asked if a half time secretary would provide the service that is needed by the agency. Mr. Fransway stated that it would not, and the services provided would only be half of what is provided now.

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Mr. Lou Dodgion, Administrator of the Division of Environmental Protection, stated that the division is responsible for the implementation and enforcement of the statutory provisions of NRS 444,445 and regulations adopted by the State Environmental Commission in the areas of air and water pollution, and solid and hazardous waste management. He added that the Division also implements programs that are mandated by Federal law under the Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, and is responsible for the regulations in the State of Nevada that are promulgated by the Federal Environmental Protection Agency.

He pointed out that the Division has 33 positions; 21 are state funded and 12 are 100 percent federally funded. He stated that

the division has four sections; administration, air pollution control, water pollution control, and solid waste and hazardous waste management.

He pointed out that 10 new positions are being requested under the water pollution control section of the division to administer the construction of waste water treatment facilities. He stated that these positions are to implement the federally mandated amendments to the Clean Water Act requiring states to assume a major portion of the administrative responsibilities in this program. He indicated that the 10 positions requested would be entirely funded with federal money.

Mr. Dodgion pointed out that an excess of \$5,364 exists in the budget in the general fund appropriation. He stated this was put in the first draft of the budget but was later deleted, however, it is still shown in the budget.

Chairman Bremner asked if the General Fund appropriation could be reduced by \$5,364 in each year of the biennium. Mr. Dodgion stated that it could and the reduction would be \$1,200 in travel, \$1,100 in operating and the remainder in equipment.

Mr. Dodgion stated that the division expects federal grant funds to be cut substantially over what is reflected in the budget. He particularly cited Water Pollution Control 208 Funds that were budgeted at over \$70,000 in each year and stated that these funds may not be forthcoming at all.

Chairman Bremner asked what will happen if no federal funds are received. Mr. Dodgion stated they would probably eliminate two federally funded positions and added that they may be able to take up the slack through the construction grants program.

Mr. Dodgion stated that funds, over and above what were allocated in out-of-state travel, were expended during the last biennium. He said after they expended the amount allocated in their budget, they traveled out of the Governor's travel budget. He stated most of the travel was for the Construction Grants Program.

Chairman Bremner asked if the out-of-state travel is entirely federally funded. Mr. Dodgion said yes and added that the in-state travel is from general fund appropriations.

Mr. Dodgion pointed out that the increased in-state travel request is due to the increased efforts in the Construction Grants Program. He addressed the remaining budget categories and stated that most of the increases are due to the Construction Grants Program.

Mr. Dodgion stated that the other contracts line item reflects a large increase. He said this is due to the fact that all contracts are shown in this line item whereas during the last biennium this was not done. He added that there are additional contracts listed in this line item for the Construction Grants Program.

Mr. Bergevin asked what amount of money will be administered by the 10 people in the Construction Grants Program. Mr. Dodgion stated that the Clean Water Act provides for \$3.5 billion per year nation wide, and that Nevada's portion is \$20 million per year. He said actual appropriations have been less than that. He said in 1981 Nevada received \$17 million and that is predicted to decrease to \$12 million the next fiscal year. Mr. Bergevin asked if there is a need for continuing the same number of people in the administrative program if the allocations are decreasing. Mr. Dodgion stated if the funds are reduced to a point where it is not necessary to have this many employees, the people can be used in other water pollution programs.

Mr. Bergevin asked who handles the administration of the Construction Grants Program now. Mr. Dodgion stated it is being handled by Region 9 in San Francisco. He added that by having the program delegated to the State level, he feels his Division can be much more responsive to the grantees and cut out a lot of the delays that are involved in the construction of treatment plants.

Chairman Bremner asked what projects will have to be cut if the federal funds received are not as much as anticipated. Mr. Dodgion stated they have heard that funds will probably be cut in the area of plant expansions. He added they will probably have to look into cutting funding for interceptors and collection systems. He said possibilities of changing the matching requirements from 75 percent federal 25 percent state to 50 - 50 are being explored at this time to allow all projects to share in the federal funds.

Mr. Horn asked what the impact would be if the 10 new positions were not approved. Mr. Dodgion stated that the program would continue to be operated by the federal people from San Francisco and this probably would slow the efficiency of the program.

Mr. Glover asked if the cities and counties water treatment plant growth would be halted if funds were cut. Mr. Dodgion stated this is what has been stated at the federal level but it has not been enacted at this time. He said the President's proposal as it relates to the Clean Water Act is not clear at this time. He added that the counties and cities would receive grant funding to bring their treatment plants up to standards at the existing capacity, but beyond that, it would be a local responsibility for any expansion.

Mr. Glover asked if the discharge standards would be changed at the federal level. Mr. Dodgion stated he has not heard much emphasis on changing the standards of the Clean Water Act.

Mr. Glover asked what effect the loss of the Water Pollution 208 funds would have on the State of Nevada. Mr. Dodgion stated that if the Division loses the 2 positions that are involved in the administration of this program, their responsibilities will have to be taken up by existing staff members in the Water Pollution program. He stated it has to be continued. He said they have completed a great deal of work already and some duties that need to be continued are monitoring and updating of plans on an annual basis to make sure that the projects constructed are consistent with the plans.

Mr. Rhoads asked who tells the Division it has to continue the program if the 208 funds are eliminated. Mr. Dodgion stated it is a necessity, not mandated by the Federal Government; but essential in order to maintain the quality of the waters and recreational areas of the state.

Mr. Bergevin stated that it appears the agency has completely circumvented the intent of the Legislature as far as river quality standards are concerned. He stated that if it is the intent of the Federal Government to put less emphasis on the 208 projects, then this should be observed. He added that it is not proper to use Construction Grant Funds for 208 projects.

Mr. Brady asked how this agency's monitoring of waters differs from the water monitoring done by Consumer Health Protection Services budget. Mr. Dodgion stated that Health Protection Services deals with public water supplies and his division monitors the surface waters, i.e., streams, rivers, reservoirs and ground water in the basins. Mr. Brady inquired if it would be more economical to combine these two agencies. Mr. Dodgion stated the possibility of combining some of the functions has been discussed and it did not appear that a savings would be realized, in fact it appeared that it would probably initially cost more than it would save.

Mr. Marvel commented that it appeared to him that there was a duplication of efforts and inquired as to who set the criteria for the water quality. Mr. Dodgion stated the qualities are set through a monitoring network where the water is sampled for quality from various streams, rivers, and reservoirs. Mr. Marvel asked what the parameters are that are set during these tests. Mr. Dodgion stated they look at total dissolved solids, nitrogen, nitrates, phosphorous, phosphates, sulfates, chlorides, etc. He added that they examine a great number of chemical as well as bacteriological parameters.

Mr. Dodgion stated that they will receive \$165,000 in federal funds to administer a hazardous waste program. He added that AB 196 has been requested by the Division to implement this program at the State level.

Historic Preservation and Archeology

Ms. Mimi Rodden, Administrator of the Division of Historic Preservation and Archeology within the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, addressed the committee and stated that the proposed biennial budget represents a continuation of the Nevada Historic Preservation Program. She stated that the division requests no new programs or positions and requests only small inflationary increases in the operating budget. Ms. Rodden's statements are attached as EXHIBIT A.

Ms. Rodden stated that personnel has been reduced 14.3 percent in the Governor's recommendation and she requested that the budget not be reduced in operating costs proportionately. She said state and federal responsibilities have not decreased, but have expanded in the last few years and, if approved, the recommended budget will provide staff of 6 carrying the workload of 7.

Ms. Rodden pointed out that the historical architect is scheduled for possible deletion and would reflect a savings of \$20,218 in the first year and \$21,250 in the second year of the biennium.

Mr. Glover asked if any changes in federal laws or funds are anticipated. Ms. Rodden stated that to the best of her knowledge, she did not anticipate the changes in the federal law, but she does anticipate changes in federal funding base. She added that it is anticipated that there will be no survey and planning money nor acquisition and development money. She said the Federal Government will probably continue the match that is made for state salaries in the state offices.

Chairman Bremner asked how soon this information will be available to the division. Ms. Rodden stated that possibly at the end of May the funding cuts will be known.

Ms. Rodden pointed out that the in-state travel request remains the same as in the past. She stated that inflation factors must be considered in air fares because of the required project monitoring trips. She stated that operating expenses are increased moderately due to the increased cost of copying and office supplies, postage, etc.

Ms. Rodden stated that the advisory board travel request is based upon the 3 mandatory meetings per year that the 5 board members and 2 to 6 staff members must attend.

She stated that the marker program is the only program that is not matched with any federal dollars. She stated the \$260 increase over the next two years is small considering that stock prices have gone up 350 percent in the last two years.

Ms. Rodden stated that the markers should be maintained and many of them have not been refurbished in the last 12 years. She stated that the federal flow through moneys, acquisition and development category and the survey and planning category, reflect tremendous increases which are based upon the anticipation of existing projects requesting reimbursement within the same year. She said they are requesting the authority to pay but not to apply for 1 years federal allocation. (EXHIBIT A)

Mr. Rhoads asked what it costs to administer the historic marker program. Ms. Rodden stated that it is presently being budgeted at \$7,000. She stated that the costs of products in the program have increased sharply and only a minimal increase has been recommended in the budget. She added that they establish 6 to 9 markers per year. Mr. Rhoads stated that perhaps it would be possible to obtain some private contributions from areas where the markers are to be established. Ms. Rodden stated there is no mechanism for doing this at present but she agreed that it is a good suggestion because citizens do request the placement of markers from time to time. She stated that she is sure that organizations would participate in the funding of the projects.

Mr. Rhoads asked if the placement of a marker prohibits further activity around that area. Ms. Rodden stated that it in no way inhibits the use of the area around the markers. She stated generally they are placed on highway right-of-ways, but that no markers are ever placed without the permission of the land owners.

Mr. Marvel asked if trails were also marked. Ms. Rodden stated that some trails are marked however, they are marked in a different way. She said they are marked as an element of a State designation of the National Register designation.

STATE PARKS

Mr. John Meder, Administrator of the Division of State Parks, stated that State Parks is responsible for the acquisition, development, maintenance, operation, interpretation and protection of those areas throughout the State that have been designated as units of the State Park system. He stated there are 20 park units throughout the state which encompass over 150,000 acres.

Mr. Meder pointed out that with the proposed reductions in staff his division will have to reduce services such as patrolling and maintenance. He said they have 125 seasonal employees to augment the permanent staff. He stated that the budget as proposed calls for a reduction in work force of 8 employees which is a 13.5 percent work force reduction. He stated that with this reduction, some services will have to be cut.

Mr. Meder explained that the recommended highway fund appropriation is to maintain state highways that run through state parks. He pointed out that other funds come from General Fund appropriation and state park user fees.

Chairman Bremner stated that it appears that personnel cuts are being made from the park maintenance work force when in fact cuts should have been made in the administrative staff. Mr. Meder stated that when the personnel cut requests came to the agency, they tried to look at the various parks and facilities and make the personnel cuts in areas that would be the least affected by the loss of personnel.

Mr. Glover stated that by reducing those personnel who do the maintenance in the parks themselves, the quality and protection of the people and employees who are using the facilities will be jeopardized.

Mr. Hickey commented that the first positions to be cut should be in planning staff rather than in the maintenance staff. Mr. Meder stated that there have been personnel cuts in the planning division budgets.

Mr. Marvel asked if the juveniles and prisoners were paid for the work they perform in the State Parks. Mr. Meder stated the inmate crew in Northern Nevada is paid, but it comes from another source outside this budget. Mr. Lody Smith, State Forester, added that \$2.00 per day is paid per inmate. Mr. Marvel asked if room and board was charged to the inmates. Mr. Smith stated that they are not charged room and board.

Chairman Bremner asked if there are any state parks where no fee is charged. Mr. Meder stated that there are a few, with some new parks coming on line.

Chairman Bremner asked if the \$300,000 reflected in the budget includes the new user fees that will be generated as new park facilities are opened to the public. Mr. Meder stated that fees probably could be increased, adding that approximately \$70,000 was collected last year over and above what was budgeted.

Mr. Bill Woods, Assistant Administrator of State Parks, stated that last year collections totalled \$373,331; \$343,050 was in user fees, \$12,702 was in grazing fees and \$17,379 were from concessions.

Chairman Bremner asked why revenues are anticipated to decrease over actual collections. Mr. Alastuey stated the visitor count statistics indicate slight decrease in 1980 over the 1979 count. He said the fee projections were predicated on a continuation of the lower visitor counts due to higher gasoline prices and related costs.

Chairman Bremner pointed out two new parks with a potential for high usage are coming on line in the next biennium and suggested that a higher fee estimate in this budget would be more appropriate.

Mr. Meder stated that Floyd Lamb State Park and a campground at Washoe Lake will be coming on line soon and will generate revenue.

Mr. Marvel asked if the Wild Horse State Park will be a fee producer. Mr. Meder stated that this will be a fee park, but will come on line in the second year of the biennium.

Mr. Hickey asked if State Parks was continuing its acquisition program in the Lincoln County area. Mr. Meder stated that this program was authorized in 1977, reviewed in 1979, and denied at that time. He added that the attorneys for the owners have gotten the matter before the Legislature again this session. He stated there was a resolution passed this week in the Senate which terminates the acquisition at Spring Valley and at the entrance of Cathedral Gorge. He stated it will have no effect on these budgets.

Chairman Bremner asked how much revenue can be anticipated from the Washoe Lake Campground. Mr. Meder stated that the park was only open for a short time last fall and it would be difficult to estimate at this time.

Mr. Rhoads asked how Nevada compares with other states on user fees. Mr. Meder stated that a number of the remote parks do not charge for some use or they do not charge all year round. He stated that other states' fees are comparable to those charged by Nevada.

Mr. Randy Capurro, Chairman of the State Parks Advisory Commission, commented in response to Mr. Rhoads question, that the user fees as presently set at the various parks throughout the state, are adequate to reinstate the positions that are recommended for deletion by the Governor in this budget without additional cost to the general fund. He added that the commission is contemplating a raise in user fees at some parks specifically Lake Tahoe and possibly Lahonton and an increase in the annual fee to \$30. He said it is the Commission's contention that services should not be reduced if fees are raised. He added that the fee at Lake Tahoe, Lahonton, Rye Patch, Red Rock, and Floyd Lamb State Parks, is \$2.00 per car.

Mr. Capurro referred to an earlier statement by Mr. Hickey about cutting planning and development positions rather than park maintenance positions and stated that it is the responsibility of the division to monitor and maintain the park programs presently scheduled for development. He said that if, in two years, the Division of Parks does not receive additional Park Improvement funds, this function will probably be eliminated; however, it is the contention of the commission that it be maintained now.

Chairman Bremner asked the Division to estimate the amount of additional revenue that could be received taking into account new parks coming on line and the increase in fees. Mr. Capurro stated they could probably provide the information within a week.

Mr. Hickey asked if there would be a decrease in use with an increase in fees. Mr. Capurro stated there probably will be a drop but with a park such as Lake Tahoe that has been filled to capacity by 10:00 a.m. during the summer, the revenue would still be realized.

Chairman Bremner observed that with increased gasoline prices more locals will probably use the park facilities instead of going out of state. Mr. Capurro stated that this has already been shown in the statistics of park use.

Mr. Glover asked if the Commission kept a figure on how many senior citizens use the parks. Mr. Capurro stated the use is free to senior citizens and said he would provide the number of senior citizens later.

Mr. Marvel asked what the federal government match is for park improvement projects. Mr. Capurro stated it is a 50-50 match, adding that the state matches with cash and counties are able to match with land, work parties, and private donations.

Mr. Meder directed the attention of the committee to the buildings and grounds maintenance budget, in which he stated there is \$30,000 of highway monies. He said the reason for this is particularly evident in the Valley of Fire area. He said the road going through the park is a state highway, and while the division contends that it is a state responsibility to maintain the road, the State Highway Department contends that it is a State Parks' responsibility. Consequently, he said, the road has not been maintained in the past. He said the Governor's recommendation includes \$30,000 the first year and \$35,000 the second year to accomplish this maintenance.

Chairman Bremner asked if the division would like the Legislature to send the State Highway Department a letter instructing them to maintain their highway. Mr. Meder stated this would be fine, just as long as the road is maintained by someone.

Chairman Bremner commented that expenditures made during the 1979-80 fiscal year, versus what was appropriated, were over spent in some categories and under spent in other. He said, for example, the maintenance of buildings and grounds line item had \$15,000 less spent in it than was approved. He stated that the

Legislature intends for the funds to be spent for the purpose for which they are allocated and suggested State Parks be more ob-servant of the Legislature's approved budget in the future.

Mr. Horn asked if prison labor is used for maintaining ground. Mr. Meder stated they do not use prison labor and that it is not recommended that the general public be exposed to large groups of prison laborers. Mr. Horn pointed out that perhaps one inmate could be used in conjunction with park workers.

Mr. Meder stated that the \$15,000 is used to pay inmate labor for resource management programs and the Division doesn't have the ability in the Northern area of the state to use inmate labor on a small scale. He stated inmates are utilized on large maintenance programs such as tree trimming, etc. and the \$15,000 is used to pay for their services on the large programs.

Mr. Meder commented that in-state travel is about the same level as in the past. He said these funds are used for his travel in the administrative section, park inspections and the park advisory commission which meets 4 times per year.

Mr. Meder stated they are requesting 8 new vehicles, most of which are replacement vehicles, 1 at Lake Tahoe, 2 at Lahonton, 2 in District 5, 1 at Washoe Lake and an electric cart at Lamb Park.

Chairman Bremner asked if the funds requested for maintenance of buildings and grounds will be adequate. Mr. Meder stated they feel it will be adequate.

Mr. Glover asked if the division vehicles were scheduled to come under the new Motor Vehicles Facilities Division recommended by the Governor. Mr. Meder stated that this is anticipated; however, he said there is some concern for maintaining some of their own vehicles because the parks are so geographically spread out.

Mr. Glover asked why some of the inmates are paid while others aren't. Mr. Meder stated it is the Lincoln County crew that does not have to be paid because they come from an honor camp.

Mrs. Westall asked why some inmates get paid \$2.00 per day and some get paid by the hour. Chairman Bremner requested that the prison subcommittee look into this and provide the information to Mrs. Westall.

Mr. Marvel asked if the architectural design was done by in-house employees. Mr. Meder stated Park employees do some of it depending on the scale of the park improvement program. Mr. Marvel asked what the other contract services line item is for. Mr. Meder stated this is for the maintenance of typewriters, calculators and some special monitoring equipment that is used by the various parks.

State Park Planning and Development

Mr. Meder stated that this section is responsible for carrying out the park improvement program in addition to managing the grant programs addressed by Mr. Capurro. He added that one of their responsibilities is the development of the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (S.C.O.R.P.), a requirement to qualifying for the federal land and water conservation funds.

Mr. Meder stated as recommended by the Governor, this program will lose 1.75 positions, a senior park engineer, a 1/2 time administrative aid and a quarter time public service intern, that are vacant now and no attempt will be made to fill them.

He stated the revenues come from the general fund and from Land and Water Conservation Funds. He pointed out a substantial increase in the Land and Water Conservation funds caused by the update of the S.C.O.R.P. He said the funds are firm for the next two years, pointing out that they have approximately \$10 million worth of projects that are being administered.

Mr. Meder pointed out the large increase in the print duplicating and copy line item caused by the printing of the S.C.O.R.P. and noted that no contract service funds are being requested because the proposed capital construction program and the update of the S.C.O.R.P. can be handled in-house.

Mr. Meder stated they need some additional equipment, items necessary for the development section to do special testing they have not been able to do in the past. He added that they need an electrical multi-tester, and a soil testing kit, which they state the Highway Department has, and they can use if they buy the battery to operate it.

Youth Corp Conservation Program

Mr. Meder stated this is an 8 week training program in environmental education for high school age individuals. He said they are not sure of the status of the funding, adding that the President has asked that these funds be rescinded. He stated they would like the Legislature to authorize the acceptance of the funds in case they are forthcoming.

Mr. Marvel asked who instructs the youngsters. Mr. Meder stated they have a crew that is hired to supervise the participants and they are broken down into ten crew camps.

STATE FORESTRY

Mr. Lody Smith, State Forester Fire Warden, addressed the committee and stated that the Nevada Division of Forestry is charged with the direct fire protection on 5,271,000 acres of land within the State of Nevada. He added that they have the responsibility for wild land and structure protection within that area. He pointed out that this is accomplished through a means of cooperative agreements, county fire protection districts, and mutual aid agreements with other agencies.

He stated that funding is received from county sources, federal sources and state general funds. He added that his Division administers an air operations program, a nursery program, and an honor camp program throughout the state.

Mr. Smith indicated that the Clark McNary grant funds will probably be cut by the Federal Government.

Mr. Hickey asked if there is any plan to increase the fees for Christmas tree permits and desert plant permits. Mr. Smith stated that they have no plans at this time to increase the permit fees.

Mrs. Westall asked for information about the desert plant program. Mr. Smith stated his agency is responsible for the removal of desert plants on private land for commercial cutters. He stated that the permits are sold to commercial cutters for \$1.00 and the commercial cutter then has to pay the private land owner for the plants harvested.

Mr. Hickey asked if there were any vacancies in the agency. Mr. Smith stated they do have some vacancies adding that 2 are federally funded and those funds will probably not be forthcoming.

Mr. Smith pointed out that they have 18 seasonal positions that come on during the Summer time. Mr. Marvel asked which positions are seasonal. Mr. Smith stated that they are seasonal patrolman and fire crews in various parts of the state.

Mr. Glover asked how much the CM2 funds are going to be cut. Mr. Smith stated that they will be approximately \$24,300 short in fiscal year 82 and \$90,000 short in fiscal year 83. He stated these are historical funds that were established in 1924 through the Clark McNary Act and the funds have been received since that time.

Mr. Glover asked what will be done if the state has a big fire and the funds are exhausted. Mr. Smith stated the Division draws funds from the suppression account for big fires. He added that the CM2 funds are used for daily operations.

Mr. Glover asked what the effect will be of the loss of the CM2 funds. Mr. Smith stated they will just have to cut back on everything that they can.

Mr. Marvel asked if BLM reimburses State Forestry at all for fire suppression. Mr. Smith stated that they do receive reimbursement and it is reflected in the forest fire reimbursement revenue item in the Forest Fire Suppression account.

Mr. Smith stated the budget as presented has the total operation of the air program included under a special category adding that there is a one-shot request in for a new helicopter, funds to rebuild the engines on the existing aircraft, and purchase an auto pilot mechanism.

One-Shot* -- Division of Forestry

Mr. Smith addressed the need for the helicopter and stated that the Division's present helicopter is an old Bell 47 that has reached the point of requiring a major overhaul at a minimum cost of \$66,150. He added that it could cost an additional \$20,000 depending on the deficiencies found during the overhaul. He pointed out that the long term maintenance for this helicopter will cost approximately \$91,000, and the maintenance of the new helicopter will be \$20,000 over the same period of time. Because of these factors, he explained the Division is requesting the purchase of a new helicopter.

Mr. Rhoads asked if it would be cheaper to rent the helicopter. Mr. Smith stated that to lease a helicopter for six months would be \$144,000 which includes \$24,000 per month to have the machine on call, per diem for the pilot and fuel plus mileage. He stated a second bid that was received was for \$108,000 for the summer. He pointed out that there are risks that are taken in the quality of pilots being sent by the leasing companies. He said if they have their own helicopter, they can maintain it well and be assured of a good quality pilot and good performing piece of equipment at all times.

Mr. Rhoads asked that he be supplied with the figures on leasing by the agency and a written justification of why the agency feels they should have the new helicopter. Mr. Smith stated that he would provide the information. He added that one of the major reasons for needing the new helicopter is a greater speed at which it can respond to fires.

Chairman Bremner asked if they could work out an arrangement with Fish and Game to use their helicopters during the fire season. Mr. Smith stated that Fish and Game uses their helicopter quite a bit and it is the same model as the one presently owned by the State Forestry. He added that Fish and Game is going to have to overhaul or replace their helicopter before too long.

*A B. 335 as BDR S-1069

Mr. Marvel asked if the 10:00 a.m. theory is used on fire suppression. Mr. Smith stated that is a federal policy that is being looked into but as of now they are not bound to that policy.

Mrs. Westall commented that some of the job titles are not very descriptive of the job responsibilities on some of the positions, adding that she feels it would be better if they were more accurately described. Mr. Smith stated they have submitted their job titles to personnel for modification but have received no changes as yet.

Forestry Intergovernmental Agreements

Mr. Smith stated these budgets include all outside sources of funding coming from various political subdivisions. He said these agreements fund 15 full time personnel; 10 seasonal positions; and operating and equipment costs for fire protection by these entities.

Mr. Hickey asked if there are any vacancies at this time in any positions. Mr. Smith stated there are none.

Forestry Watershed Rehabilitation

Mr. Smith stated this budget provides spending authority in the event there is a wildland fire which destroys watershed. He stated this budget is used to pay the costs of rehabilitating watershed areas after a fire.

Forestry Nursery

Mr. Smith stated this budget represents the costs of the nurseries located at Floyd Lamb State Park in Southern Nevada and in Washoe Valley. He said one position has been cut for a savings of \$25,381 to this fund. He stated increases in the categories reflect only inflationary increases. He said the program is becoming very successful and the demand for products by the people is greater than the supply produced at the nurseries.

Chairman Bremner asked how soon the program will become self supporting. Mr. Smith stated that probably by the next biennium they will be self supporting.

Chairman Bremner asked if the products were being sold too cheaply. Mr. Smith stated that legislation pending now, SB 50, will allow the agency to have the authority to set their own prices at various times throughout the year.

Mr. Rhoads asked if the state was sure it should be in the nursery business, adding that the state nurseries do raise trees that regular commercial nurseries do not raise, but perhaps commercial nurseries would raise them if the state did not. Mr. Smith stated that the nursery program is necessary because the type of tree raised is utility stock most nurseries do not sell. He stated that the program is a national program and is partially federally funded and meets a need in the states that otherwise would not be met.

Rural Fire Departments

Mr. Smith stated this program was established 2 years ago and allows grants to 19 separate rural fire departments. He said the type of equipment purchased with the funds is such that the small fire departments have no way of getting without aid from this program. He stated a 50 percent match is required for a local entity to get the funds. He pointed out that SB 74 as amended will have some effect on this budget since it recommends a \$63,900 annual budget for this purpose rather than the \$30,000 each year as shown in this budget.

Marlette Hobart Watershed

Mr. Smith stated this program was established by the 1979 Session of the Legislature and is responsible for accomplishing a lot of work in this watershed area in the last 2 years. He said there are 2 inmate crews that have worked in the Marlette Watershed for the entire summer. He noted that \$35,000 to \$40,000 will be reverted from this year's money because inmate labor was used as were state paid equipment operators rather than contract services. He stated the water quality and quantity for the Marlette system is going to be the future for Carson City and it is directly affected by the services provided under this budget.

Forestry Honor Camps

Mr. Smith stated this budget reflects the operation of Honor Camps in Northern and Southern Nevada. He said the Northern Nevada Honor Camp is located near the Minimum Security Prison at Stewart and the other is located at Pioche. He said that the budget contains a proposal for a new honor camp in Southern Nevada.

Chairman Bremner asked if the new Honor Camp was still proposed to be located at Mt. Charleston. Mr. Smith stated that it is no longer going to be located there but is now proposed to be built next to the Southern Desert facility.

Mr. Glover asked when control was taken of the prisoners from the Honor Camps. Mr. Smith stated they are under the control of the State Forestry from the morning when the crew is picked up by the Foreman until they are returned to the camp at night.

Chairman Bremner asked when the Honor Camp will be open at the Southern Desert Correctional Center. Mr. Smith stated that it will probably be one year to get the equipment and everything that is necessary to bring the program on line.

Mr. Smith indicated that personnel will not be hired until the camp is open with the exception of the Forester I position which will be brought on line to assist in developing the programs. Chairman Bremner asked if a salary savings could be generated for the first year of the biennium. Mr. Smith stated that 2 of the Forestry Foreman can be deleted from FY 1982 and started in the second year.

Mr. Smith stated that \$80,000 is received from the inmate work program, almost all of these funds coming from the Northern Area. He said these funds are derived from private sources that the inmate crews perform services for, mostly in the Tahoe Basin area. He stated that there are no "make money" programs in Southern Nevada because all of the projects in that area are public projects. He said they have very little, if any, private land to work on and perform the type of work that the inmates do. He said in the event they can generate work projects from the City and County in the Las Vegas area, they will then be able to generate revenue from inmate labor in the Southern part of the State.

Mr. Hickey asked how many inmates are being utilized. Mr. Smith stated that 10 man crews are used and there is no anticipated change in the coming biennium.

Young Adult Conservation Corp

Mr. Smith stated that this is a federally funded program and if the funds are received the program will progress, however, if they are cut out, the program will not operate. Mr. Smith stated that he is relatively sure that the program will end in 1982.

Mr. Marvel asked if the position budgeted has been filled. Mr. Smith stated that it is vacant and they have not filled it because they anticipated there would be no program.

Forest Fire Suppression

Mr. Smith stated that this account has maintained a balance of \$100,000 for many years. He added that fires and emergency operations are paid for from this account. He stated that this is the account that receives reimbursements from other agencies for services rendered by State Forestry in fire suppression such as the BLM. He said they have asked for and have received recommendations from the Governor to bring the fund from \$100,000 to \$150,000 due to the inflationary factors in fire suppression. He stated that in SB 165 there is a request to include the Division of Forestry in the statutory contingency funding procedure which will help maintain funds in the account at a better level.

COMMITTEE BILL INTRODUCTIONS

Chairman Bremner asked the committee to introduce several bills. The following were the bill topics: *provide assistance to vocational education; †authorize additional amount for construction of a dairy for the College of Agriculture at the University of Nevada Reno; ◇the classified salary bill; #a supplemental appropriation to pay medical bills of recipients of public welfare; ^a supplemental appropriation for the child welfare program; **an appropriation to mental retardation residential placement fund to establish certain facilities; ††an appropriation to replace a door, and install psychiatric screens at Lakes Crossing; ◇◇an appropriation for repainting and repairing buildings at the Las Vegas Mental Health Center; ##an appropriation for drapes and carpets for Southern Nevada Children's Homes; and, ^^an appropriation for electronic scales for the State Mail Room in Carson City and Las Vegas.

Chairman Bremner stated that these are being introduced by Ways and Means and being referred back to Ways and Mean for further study.

Mr. Hickey moved and Mr. Glover seconded the motion that these bills be introduced from Ways and Means and referred back to Ways and Means. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

* A.B. 317 as BDR S-1007

† A.C.R. 23 as BDR 1729

◇ A.B. 333 as BDRS-1371

A.B. 334 as BDR S-1258

^ A.B. 319 as BDRS-1259

** A.B. 332 as BDR S-1262

†† A.B. 318 as BDR S-1263

◇◇ A.B. 321 as BDRS-1264

A.B. 320 as BDR S-1266

^^ A.B. 316 as BDR S-1339

HISTORIC PRESERVATION & ARCHEOLOGY
BUDGET COMMENTS

I. INTRODUCTION

The proposed 1981-83 biennial budget represents the continuation of the Nevada historic preservation program. This continuation presents no new programs nor new positions.

Although personnel has been reduced by the required 10% (actually 14.3%) I do not feel our operating costs should be reduced proportionally. Our state and federal responsibilities are not decreasing, they have expanded in the past two years and a staff of six will carry the workload of seven.

II. PERSONNEL SERVICES - 01

Personnel costs are based upon cost estimates provided by Budget Division. As requested, I have reduced the Division's staff. Position #0006 - Historical Architect has been presented to you for possible cut. This cut represents an accrued \$20,218 savings in 1981-82 and \$21,250 savings in 1982-83.

III. IN-STATE TRAVEL - 03

Our travel request remains the same. Consider inflation factors, ever-increasing air fares and required project monitoring trips.

IV. OPERATING - 04

The requested 1981-82 budget of \$22,176 and the 1982-83 budget of \$22,947 one very small increase (\$368.00 to \$771.00) from the previous fiscal years. Based upon prior year's expenditure performances and the continued need to xerox higher costs for mail, etc., I feel this is the bare minimum needed to continue our program.

V. ADVISORY BOARD - 12

Advisory Board travel request is based upon three mandatory meetings per year with five board members and 2 to 6 staff members attending (Federal Regulations 36CFR 61(f)).

VI MARKERS - 14

The requested 1981-82 - 1982-83 budget represents an increase of some \$260.00. I feel this increase is more than justified due to the need to refurbish existing markers, NRS 383; some of which are 12 years old. This responsibility has never been met on any major level due to lack of funding. Increased costs are also attributable to dramatic increases in the cost of materials (steel, 350% increase \$24.00 - \$108.00) for aluminum and paint. We will plan a smaller marker program for the next two years.

VII. FEDERAL FLOW THROUGH MONIES (A&D Cat. 10 and S&P Cat. 16)

The seemingly tremendous increase for federal flow through monies is based upon the anticipation of existing projects requesting reimbursement within the same year. We are asking for the authority to pay and not the authority to apply for one year's federal allocation.

A&D projects have a life span of three years and S&P a two year life span. I feel the program has not been in existence long enough to test this possibility of three different fiscal years projects requesting payment all under one fiscal years' authority. It is extremely difficult to anticipate a project's exact end date, or when they will need to be reimbursed. Some projects are completed six months after approval and others three years later. Additionally, we are dealing with many unpredictables affecting the completion of projects. Some of these variables are bad weather, unforeseen structural problems, unavailability of contractors willing to do the work in a remote area.

As you can see, the difficulty of planning for a project's completion is close to impossible. We are proposing this increase in authority so that the state and the Division are not caught in an embarrassing situation of not being able to pay as agreed due to the authority or ceiling being too low. We are dealing with properly executed contracts.

We are barely maintaining a skeleton staff with this budget. State and Federal law mandates the survey and management of cultural properties and it is the staffs desire to do so.

See Division responsibilities.

Submitted proper budget to State MX Office. Two and one-half people and computer time in first year. Up the second year. Cut in Federal dollars comes at a time MX may come to the West.

COMSTOCK TUNNEL & DRAINAGE COMPANY
and
SUTRO TUNNEL COALITION, INC.
309 East John Street, Suite 4
Carson City, NV 89701

March 10, 1981

Assembly Ways & Means Committee
Nevada State Legislature
Carson City, NV 89710

Members of the Committee:

Comstock Tunnel & Drainage Company and its subsidiary, Sutro Tunnel Coalition, Inc. addresses the members of the Committee on behalf of and in support of the Nevada Division of Historic Preservation and Archeology.

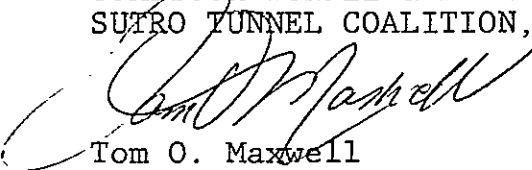
Our companies are substantial property owners in Storey County, Lyon County, and Eureka County. Many of our buildings exist from the days of the Comstock Lode and the construction of the Sutro Tunnel.

We have received from the Administrator and the several professional people employed by the Division of Historic Preservation and Archeology encouragement, guidance, and necessary support for the purpose of restoration and reconstruction for the preservation of the rich heritage that is Nevada's past.

Therefore, we address the members of this Committee to give their continued and total support for the valuable purpose this Division serves the State of Nevada.

Sincerely,

COMSTOCK TUNNEL & DRAINAGE CO.
SUTRO TUNNEL COALITION, INC.



Tom O. Maxwell
Vice President

DATE: March 10, 1981

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

GUEST LIST

NAME (PLEASE PRINT)

REPRESENTING:

Roland O. Westergard

Dept. of Cons. & Nat. Res.

REBA JONES

DCNR - Env. Prot.

Lew Dodgion

Env. Protection

Ed Stokke

Dept. of Cons

JIM HANNATT

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

JOHN FRANSWAY

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Tom O. Maxwell

COMSTOCK TUNNEL + DRAINAGE CO.