

APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON INSTITUTIONS

January 18, 1977 - Room 225

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The meeting of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Institutions was called to order at 8 a.m. by Chairman Harold Gerke. Other members present were:

Senator Elmer Flynn, Vice-Chairman  
Senator Mark Etchart  
Representative Howard Ellis  
Representative Harry Hansen  
Representative Art Lund

Tom Briggs, Legislative Fiscal Analyst, was also present.

The chairman requested the visitors to say their name and title. See list attached.

The subject of this meeting is CENTRAL OFFICE. Tom Briggs gave a few remarks on the Legislative Analyst budget. He gave a handout summarizing the activities of the Department of Institutions showing their recommendations compared to the last fiscal year. He said he is preparing another report for distribution to the committee at tomorrow's meeting. He also mentioned an amended Department of Institutions budget submitted to the Governor's office.

The meeting stopped for a few moments to move into a larger committee room due to the increasing number of visitors.

Tom Briggs went on to explain the personnel needs of the department and the recommendations of the analyst in detail.

Curt Chisholm, acting director of Department of Institutions, presented a report to the committee on the director's office needs, including the Board of Eugenics. He felt the two advisory boards are sufficiently funded. He reported that the Board of Eugenics is inactive, but would like to keep it on the books in case it is needed.

One problem area he mentioned was an hospital administrator for the Central Office. They feel this position is vital to facilitate planning of medical facilities, improve medical services and assisting in plans for long range building programs. This is a position that was deleted from the fiscal analyst budget.

Mr. Briggs reported that the hospital administrator position was not included in their recommendations as we felt the duties outlined for this position can be covered by the existing administrators in the Central Office and in the various institutions.

With regard to Contracted Services, Mr. Chisholm feels there is not sufficient funds to continue programs that are going on now. The department needs to continue professional reviews at the different

facilities. Also additional contracted legal assistance is needed periodically to supplement the staff attorney.

Mr. Briggs reported that the fiscal analyst feels each institution should be funded individually for medical assistance. The analyst also felt that the full-time staff attorney, with occasional assistance from the Governor's office when needed, is adequate for the needs of the Department of Institutions, without additional contracted legal services.

Jim Haubein, administrator of Management Services Division, gave a report on his division. In the Personnel Bureau, he stated that there was a need for the staff member that the fiscal analyst did not include in the analyst recommendation. This person provides required EEO information.

With regard to the Reimbursement Bureau, they need the nurse's position as this nurse prepares studies at the different institutions for reimbursement purposes.

John Thomas, Manager of Data Information Systems, handed out a report on the activities of the automated billing accounts receivable system. He discussed the system and the financial needs of this program. This program was authorized by the last legislature and they need this additional money to finish activating it and for running expenses.

Mr. Haubein also discussed the travel segment of his budget. He feels that Management Services Division will be short approximately \$11,000 for travel.

Mr. Tom Gooch of the Personnel Division handed out a report on the Staff Development Program. He is requesting \$50,000, but this was deleted by the analyst office. Without the funds, the Central Office would be without resources for training programs. The small amounts a few of the institutions have for training programs are used for orientation purposes. Mr. Gooch feels that lack of funds would have a detrimental effect on the welfare on the patients. Also certification of certain staff through schooling is mandatory.

Mr. Briggs stated there is training money available in the individual institutions and also other grants are available. He also mentioned tuition being paid for a certain person to attend college full-time. Mr. Chisholm stated that this person has an obligation for services to the State of Montana, but not necessarily to the Department of Institutions.


Roland McCauley, administrator of Corrections Division, gave a report on his division. He felt the division office was adequately funded. Dan Russell, chief of Aftercare Bureau, gave out a report on his bureau. In answer to some questions, he explained the funding of the group homes that are operated by this bureau. Mr. Gerke asked if Aftercare is up to capacity. Mr. Russell stated there

has been an increasing burden, but we have not had a problem meeting the demand as yet using foster homes and group homes. Mr. McCauley stated that the Aftercare Bureau budget is in good shape.

Carolyn Zimmet, chief of Community Services Bureau, handed out a report on her bureau and explained the program. She also talked about the new facility at Ft. Missoula. She also mentioned that certain estimated funds will revert back to the general fund during the next two years: \$38,909 in fiscal 1978 and \$23,023 in fiscal 1979.

Due to lack of time, Mr. McCauley could not present a report on the Probation and Parole Bureau. The chairman said that this would have to be covered at a later time.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

  
Harold Gerke, Chairman

Gary L. Strong, Chief, Administration Bureau

Robert D. ... (unclear) Bureau

Robert McCauley, Admin. Corrections Division

Don Russell, Chief, Bureau of Affair

(unclear) ... Bureau

(unclear) ... Bureau

(unclear) ... Bureau

Lawrence Carlson, Administrator, Adaptive Services Division

Garry Brown, Budget ...

Jim ... Administrator, Management Services Division

Tom Good, PERSONNEL - D & I.

John Fitzpatrick, Residency Manager - OBPP

Dave Lewis, OBPP

D. Book, OBPP

Institution  
Aggregations Sub-Committee

Project Central Office

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