APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON INSTITUTIONS

January 19, 1977 - Room 225

The meeting of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Institutions was called to order at 8:00 a.m. by Chairman Harold Gerke. Other members present were:

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

Tom Briggs, Legislative Fiscal Analyst, was also present. Representative Bardanouve was present for part of the meeting.

The chairman stated that the subject of today's meeting is PINE HILLS SCHOOL FOR BOYS IN MILES CITY, MONTANA. See visitor's list attached.

Tom Briggs passed out a work sheet which was prepared for the committee showing the details for Pine Hills budget recommendations and summarized it briefly.

John Fitzpatrick, Research Manager of the Budget and Planning Office, gave a short report on the executive budget differences as against the analyst budget.

Dr. Don Holladay, Superintendent of Pine Hills School, gave a review of the school's modified budget and itemized in detail the additional staff requests. He stated that the school is requesting 20 additional personnel in various areas. He feels that these personnel are needed to give more individualized medical, educational and supervisory attention to the boys. The courts are demanding more and better care and better records are necessary. These people would be professional personnel in the developmental services area.

Among the personnel being requested is a group life counselor, two teachers, 1 recreational supervisor, 1 janitor, 1 nurse, 1 farmhand, 1 switchboard operator, 1 secretary, and 1 social worker.

He stated that the teachers were needed to provide schooling to the boys confined to the security building. The nurse is needed to give around-the-clock coverage. The farmhand is needed because of the farm work, but also to supervise the boys assigned to the farm. The secretary is needed to document the records that are required. The recreational supervisor would be assigned to the new security lodge.

Mr. Roland McCauley, Administrator of Corrections Division, stated the group life cottage personnel are very important in supervising all the boys on a personal basis to protect them and have much effect on the development of these boys.

Dr. Holladay said that their requests were based on the present condition and population of the school.

- Dr. Larry Elison, Governor's Office, stated that he felt the recommendations of Pine Hills for additional staff will bring the school very close to requirements being imposed on custodial institutions. He feels the requests are important and minimal.
- Mr. Gerke requested a detailed report on these requests and was told it would be available shortly. He also requested a report from Mr. Fitzpatrick with regard to federal funds which are available and for what purpose.
- Mr. Briggs stated that he felt a number of the positions being requested have not been justified and that some of the requests do not fit into the treatment area, such as teachers and janitor.
- Dr. Holladay reported that they are again requesting long range building funds for a new security building at Pine Hills. This has been requested in past sessions, but was referred to as an intensive care building. They wish to close down the Marcus Daly lodge because of its age and condition. They would then remodel the Lewis and Clark lodge into a regular lodge. The new security building has been estimated at \$775,000 for construction. Mr. Gerke pointed out that a building program can take two years or more after appropriation to be completed.
- Mr. Gerke remarked that all institutions are at full capacity. Mr. Bardanouve asked the Department of Institutions people if a long range plan had been made on this. Mr. McCauley said that the national trend projects an increase into 1985. There was a short decrease around 1971, but reversed shortly afterward.
- Mr. Ellis asked about the rehabilitation record at Pine Hills. Dr. Holladay said a recent study of repeat offenders is running below the national average, but that he feels statistics should not be relied on as they constantly change.
- Mr. Gerke asked if more equipment would be needed because of the additional personnel requested. Dr. Holladay said there would be some needs, but no major ones.
- Mr. Flynn asked about the farm at Pine Hills. Dr. Holladay reported that they have 10 to 15 boys working at the farm. They are limited as to the number of boys assigned to the farm because of supervision that is needed.
- Mr. Gerke said that at a later time the farm portion of Pine Hills will be gone into in depth. He said there is evidence that it possibly does not accomplish for the boys what something else might.
- Mr. Bardanouve brought up the subject of the use of Swan River Youth Camp for placement of boys from Pine Hills. There was a discussion about inmates from Deer Lodge being sent to Swan River. Mr. McCauley reported that the policy is that Pine Hills has first priority for placement in Swan River. Dr. Holladay reported that Swan River administration has been cooperative in this matter with Pine Hills.

Dr. Holladay said that there were two concerns with the budget he would like to bring to the committee's attention. One is that overtime and compensatory time funds were removed from their budget during the last biennium and coverage is mandatory. Also that federal funds are always earmarked for a definite program and cannot supplement state money.

Dr. Holladay expressed his appreciation for the visit to Pine Hills School by the committee recently.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

Harold Gerke, Chairman

WITNESSES FOR 1/19/77 MEETING APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE INSTITUTIONS

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