

Leg. Council

APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON INSTITUTIONS

January 21, 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.

The chairman stated that the subject of today's meeting is CENTER FOR THE AGED IN LEWISTOWN, MONTANA. See visitor's list attached.

Tom Briggs distributed summary sheets on the Center for Aged showing FY-76 expenditures, executive budget recommendations and LFA recommendations. He mentioned that the center is funded totally from general fund with some reverted funds each year from Medicare and patient fees.

Nicholas Cerovski, Superintendent of Center for the Aged, discussed the personnel needs of the center with the committee. There is a considerable increase in requested personnel because of newly constructed wings with an expected increase of patients.

During the discussion of personnel, Karen Wilson, Chief of Fiscal Affairs of the Department of Institutions, stated that a computer print-out error caused some confusion in the FTE numbers, but that she and Tom Briggs will resolve this.

Ron Phelps, Hospital Administrator of the Department of Institutions, stated that the Department of Health inspected the new facilities recently and determined that there were three requirements to be fulfilled before occupancy. There is a license fee to be paid; some construction deficiencies which are being handled by the Architecture and Engineering Bureau out of construction funds; and privacy curtains in rooms with multiple occupancy.

The construction deficiencies concern a damaged roof and fire alarm wiring problems, both of which are being taken care of. Occupancy can begin as soon as the curtains are on order and the license fees are paid. The chairman requested that the committee be advised the date occupancy will begin.

Mr. Cerovski stated that he felt the recommendation covering food (under 2200 in the budget) was a little low. Mr. Briggs stated that he felt it was sufficient.

Karen Wilson stated that she felt the recommendation for communications was a little low. Mr. Briggs stated that he felt it was sufficient and the rate of increase used was the same used for all institution budget recommendations.

With regard to the utility portion of the budget, Mr. Cerovski pointed out the funds are low for their expected needs. A large increase is necessary because of expanded facilities and the added expense of the new wings' separate air handling system. The chairman stated this would be taken into consideration.

On the subject of equipment, it was brought out that the therapy room was without equipment. Mr. Cerovski listed other equipment needed - washer and dryer, more kitchen equipment, dining tables and chairs due to the increased patients, desks, chairs, privacy curtains, etc. The chairman requested a list be prepared for the committee on these requirements.

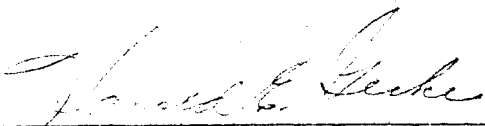
Mr. Cerovski mentioned certain remodeling necessary to provide kitchen services to the additional patients. The chairman requested that details on this remodeling and expected costs be included in the equipment list. Although remodeling is handled through the long range building program committee, this information would help this committee finalize the budget.

Curt Chisholm was asked if any equipment at Twin Bridges Children's Center could be transferred to the Center for the Aged. Mr. Chisholm stated there were a number of items that could be transferred and the Center for Aged's needs will have to be analyzed in detail to see what can be done.

Rising insurance fees was also pointed out for consideration in the budget.

The chairman stated that the committee will visit the Center for the Aged as soon as it can be scheduled.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:15 a.m.


Harold Gerke, Chairman

WITNESSES FOR 1/20/77 MEETING
APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE
INSTITUTIONS

NAME

TITLE

Nicklasz, Cerovski	Superintendent	County of the City
D. Booker	Analyst	CDPS
Greg Carlson	Admin. A.S.D.	DI
Greg Brown	Superintendent	DI
Corey Christensen	Acting Director, Dept.	
Tom Christensen	Head Admin.	DI
Karen Wilson	Chief, Fiscal Affairs	DT
Jim Hansen	Management Ser. Div.	DI