

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF  
HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON ELECTED OFFICIALS  
MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

February 21, 1977  
8:45 a.m.  
Room 428A  
State Capitol Building

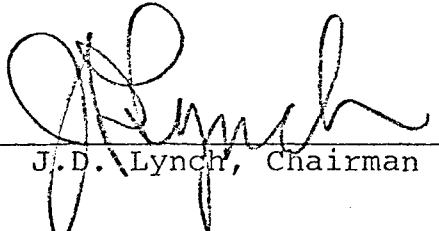
The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lynch, Representative Wood was present for the entire meeting, Representative Gunderson was excused, Senators Regan and Nelson were present for a short time but had to leave to join Senator Lockrem at a Senate Finance and Claims meeting. Subject of the hearings: Military Affairs - Air Guard Budget.

Military Affairs representatives were: Adjutant General John J. Womack, Assistant Adjutant General Harry W. Thode, Major Hindoien, William Conklin (Chairman of the Airport Authority), and William Utter (Airport Director at Great Falls).

Mr. Gosnell and Mr. Utter submitted the attachments for the committee's consideration in regard to the budget. Chairman Lynch indicated he felt this was a legitimate compromise, but asked if it would be a permanent arrangement. Mr. Gosnell responded that if the Air Guard goes for the full 15 firemen being federally funded, then there is no problem; but if they don't, there could be a problem. Mr. Conklin interjected that the state would not have the problem, but it would rest with the Great Falls airport. They would probably have to go back to paying fully for 5 firemen and have a 20% match for the other 10. The members of the Airport Authority agreed that the proposed funding should be arranged. Major Hindoien said they probably won't have to make any inputs into the Air Guard budget until May or June; and then the amounts would depend on how the national budget looks. Mr. Conklin pointed out that it is a requirement that they have the firemen at the airport and will have to fund them in some manner. Chairman Lynch said that the objection to this proposed funding method came from the two Senators from Billings, as their airport does not get the same funding method. In conclusion, Mr. Gosnell said that there is only a few dollars difference between the department's proposal and the LFA's.

Civil Defense will be heard tomorrow, Tuesday, February 22, 1977 at 8:00 a.m. when all committee members are expected to be available for the hearing. The Department of Justice's budget will be heard again beginning at 8:30 a.m., for the last division's budget.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 a.m.

  
J.D. Lynch, Chairman