

MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
SUBCOMMITTEE AGENCY 1

February 24, 1977  
8:00 A.M.  
Room 225  
State Capitol Bldg.

AERONAUTICS - D.C.A. - WRAP UP

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bradley. All members were present except Representative Gunderson.

OLD WEST REGIONAL COMMISSION

The LFA said he did not have much on this. It relates to the impact coordinator they requested to be continued into 78. It is a budget amendment. This person has been on board for several months.

Mr. Hoven told how they used to operate on a contract year. This \$108,000 would put us on a fiscal year. The \$9,000 is centralized service cost. The \$14,600 is what Curt was referring to - the impact coordinator. This was a piece of a larger program going to the local area passing through D.C.A. He is in Glendive and is supposed to aid the people in that area.

Representative Marks said he noticed they have \$25,000 in the budget already for an energy impact coordinator. Is this what you are talking about?

Mr. Worsdell said that is for fiscal year 78. This is for a budget amendment for fiscal 77 that we are asking for. In other words, this same position would be going into FY 78 and in the executive budget we have already asked for it in FY 78-79.

Representative Marks asked if this person is on board now. Mr. Worsdell said yes, on October 15, 1976. Representative Marks then asked if they had the budget authority for this. Mr. Worsdell said that permission was granted in July or August, however, no budget authority.

No further question.

INDIAN AFFAIRS COORDINATOR - \$3,000.

The LFA said this also came in late and he had no information on it. Mr. Lucas said this is a \$3,000 grant through the U. S. Civil Service Commission. Originally the talent bank program was funded under CETA. At that time we did not anticipate what it would cost for us to computerize our system to be compatible with employment security. We then went to the U. S. Civil Service Commission. We have the \$3,000 grant and what we are asking for is the \$3,000 budget amendment authorizing us to spend the \$3,000.

RESEARCH AND INFORMATION PROGRAM - \$17,500

The LFA said this is to pay for the geographer to work with the census department. The request is also for fiscal 1978. They want to move it forward to 1977. We did not recommend this because it was a coordinating function that could be handled through the existing staff.

Mr. Draper said the Bureau of the Census told us to get ready for the 1980 census. In order to cooperate with them, we had a meeting and it was chaired by members of the legislature. This department was asked to coordinate the project. We have to get into every county and every town to re-arrange the boundaries to satisfy the state of Montana. We are asking for \$17,500 in one year and \$17,500 the next.

Mr. Dundas made a few comments on this also. He talked about the meeting where the state government was asked to take the responsibility to coordinate the re-defining of boundaries for the census. DCA was asked to take on this responsibility; the request coming from the legislature. We have until next December to meet this requirement. If we don't do it the bureau in Washington will do it for us. He talked about how the boundaries should be changed. We have until April to let them know which Department will be doing this, otherwise they will do it for us in Washington. All districts are established on the basis of these boundaries, and we should do it here in Montana, not Washington.

Senator Stephens said we all understand taking census every 10 years. Who will do the work?

Mr. Dundas said the procedure is that the coordinating agent contact the county commissioners and ask them what procedure they want to follow. The work is done by the local people, not by the state. The County Commissioners have the responsibility to establish the groups we will work with. We provide maps, etc. to them. They have to define the boundaries. In 1970 the local people did not do it and the federal people came in and did it.

Senator Stephens said the LFA feels you have personnel on board that can do it. You feel you don't, is that right?

Mr. Dundas said no, they don't have the people on board.

Representative Marks asked if he indicated he was going to have some guidelines brought down to work with? Mr. Dundas said yes, this would be done.

Senator Story talked about how the job would be done. He felt it was very important to be done by us, not the federal people.

Senator Roberts mentioned they would be doing the census every 5 years. Mr. Dundas said starting in 1985 the congress established the 5 year census.

Senator Story asked where they would get the geographer?

Mr. Dundas said from Montana State University, either 2 graduate students or 1 member of the faculty. We would like to have Professor Taylor who has been involved in this. He likes doing this type of thing.

Representative Bradley suggested we go through the supplementals.

SPECIAL PROJECTS PROGRAM #3 -

Representative Marks asked if the BIA funds for that had been allocated. Mr. Worsdell said yes, and sent to the federal government,

Senator Stephens moved it be approved.

ALL VOTED AYE

MOTION CARRIED

OLD WEST REGIONAL COMMISSION PROGRAM - #4

Senator Story asked when they drop this on us next time, will you come back for general funds?

Mr. Worsdell said, "absolutely no".

Senator Story moved we authorize the budget amendment.

ALL VOTED AYE

MOTION CARRIED

INDIAN AFFAIRS COORDINATOR PROGRAM - #5

Senator Roberts moved we adopt this.

Question -

AYES - Senator Story, Senator Roberts, Representative Bradley,  
Representative Marks and Senator Thomas

NOS - Senator Stephens MOTION CARRIED

RESEARCH AND INFORMATION PROGRAM - #6

Representative Marks moved we adopt this contingent on action taken on the 1978 year.

Senator Story mentioned he would like to see it done because I don't want it left up to Washington.

Senator Roberts moved we adopt the supplemental before us and also the request into 78 as contained in the executive budget, both budget and supplemental.

ALL VOTED AYE

MOTION CARRIED

Representative Bradley said there were 2 budgets we have to do tomorrow and get to the other subcommittee - one is the office of commerce proposal and the 2nd area would be the aeronautics expenditure in the governors office. I think the other committee should decide on this. These two will be discussed tomorrow morning.

#### AERONAUTICS BUDGET -

Representative Marks said it seems the pooling is going to cause some problems to the Aeronautics Department. I understand they have a capital account for maintenance of their own aircraft. The Highway Department doesn't have this. I think if the other planes need extensive work or improvements, the department would be hard put to do this because they would not have the funds.

The LFA said for capital improvement that is probably true. The Highway Department planes should be good for some time, having new engines last year. In the future when the planes wear out, that could be a problem. They could build in a cost recovery. There are a number of different ways they could handle this. The LFA feels the general fund is not the big user of the planes. Others who use them should stand the cost.

Senator Roberts asked if the earmark revenue is a gas tax. The LFA said yes. Senator Roberts asked what about the increase of taxes?

The LFA said our recommendation did not include the increase, the executive did.

Mr. Fryslie mentioned there is a bill in for the increase now. It is in committee.

Representative Bradley said the first measure of consideration in looking at the general fund expenditure of \$180,000 - \$90,000 is for the governor's travel. I would suggest that we pull this amount out and send a letter to the subcommittee on elected officials on the \$90,000 a year for the governor's travel. We will send that with a letter of explanation to the other committee. It is their decision.

She said the second matter we should decide on is the purchase of new airplanes.

Senator Story said he wanted to do whatever is most economical.

The LFA said something that should be done, is the executive recommendation is based on the purchase of 2 planes. Now they are only talking about the purchase of one. What about new figures?

Mr. Fryslie said we can get along without getting the single engine plane after the implementation of the pool.

Senator Roberts asked if that means keeping the Queen Air?

Representative Bradley said that would be a separate decision.

Mr. Lewis said the new figures would be \$60,000 the 1st year and \$48,400 the second year for one plane.

Senator Stephens asked the LFA if he recommended any aircraft purchase and what about the Queen Air?

The LFA said they should study it and do whatever is most economical. The Highway Department has the type of plane they want which would replace the Queen Air. We feel we don't have enough information on types of planes they can purchase or lease to base a decision.

Representative Marks said he recommends the aircraft be not allowed and ask the Aeronautics or cooperating agency to come up with purchase or lease cost and present to the full committee.

Senator Roberts said he would add to the question of leasing or buying a new plane a proposal as to what to do with the Queen Air.

Representative Bradley called for the vote - ALL AYES - MOTION CARRIED

Representative Bradley said the next thing for consideration by this committee is the grants which are attached to the additional tax.

The LFA said we recommend \$200,000 a year for the grants and loans based on what can be granted within a revenue we expect from earmarked revenue accounts now. Could be increased to \$300,000 on the next biennium. To \$400,000 you would be looking at a tax increase.

Senator Roberts mentioned the Pilots Association would go along with the increase if they could be assured the money would go to airport development, and things of that nature, and not for things such as the governor's travel, etc.

Mr. Worsdell said if the gas tax is not permitted, by the end of the biennium, there will be no money in the earmarked account at all except maybe \$40,000. This is used to run the West Yellowstone airport and at that time the legislature would have the problem of reduced air travel.

Senator Story asked if West Yellowstone is the only state owned airport?

Mr. Worsdell said there are others but that is the only one the Aeronautics Department manages. There are 11 others but we do not have the financial responsibility for them. They have been turned over to the counties.

Senator Stephens asked why the funds are declining so much, more grants or what?

Mr. Worsdell said that basically the Aeronautics Department hasn't grown much since 1968. The money has dwindled about \$200,000 a year since then. By the end of fiscal 79 there will be no money. Cost has gone up on fuel, other expenses; just a general decline of income.

The LFA said in fiscal 76 they experienced expenditures of \$684,000 - had an income of \$661,000. The appropriation for the governor's travel will go back into the account as a repayment which will help some.

There was more discussion about the West Yellowstone airport.

Representative Marks asked the LFA about the repayment of the governor's travel. If that money goes back into the capital replacement account, will it be \$100,000 higher? The LFA said yes.

Mr. Lewis said you could line item \$400,000 a year for grants and local assistance. They couldn't spend this anywhere else. This would be a compromise.

Senator Stephens then made a motion on what Mr. Lewis had suggested.

Senator Roberts added that pending the outcome of the fuel tax, we might want to revise this later in the session.

ALL VOTED AYE

MOTION CARRIED

#### PERSONAL SERVICES -

The LFA said there is about \$20,000 difference between us.

Representative Marks moved we accept the LFA recommendation.

ALL AYES

MOTION CARRIED

Representative Marks talked about moving of some of the personnel when the pooling is implemented. The LFA said the revolving account would be transferred with them.

Mr. Worsdell said a lot of the planes have been purchased by federal funds and legally it would be difficult to transfer those planes to another agency who did not purchase them. He mentioned the Highway Department planes as one. We should probably have to buy them. (Pay now or pay later)

The LFA said he has a point but I don't think you have to pay now or pay later as Mr. Worsdell mentioned. Eventually we may have to pay them for the use of their planes but there are other ways we can handle this.

After a little more discussion on pooling, Senator Thomas asked if they could absorb the highway pilots?

Mr. Fryslie said there will be some problems in personnel, but can be solved. Fish and Game will be the biggest problem. Their 3 pilots are game wardens. This will be a problem, but I feel we can resolve them somehow. There are many complications.

Senator Thomas made one comment. We have tried pooling before with state vehicles and it didn't work. I have great reservations about this. This is going to be very expensive and I think we should give it more study before we force this pooling.

Mr. Fryslie said the Legislative Committee directed him as the Director, to make an honest and serious effort to implement the pooling. He explained how he was directed to make the effort and come back in 2 years with the results.

Representative Marks said he agreed with Senator Thomas. The personnel problem is the greatest one, I think.

#### OPERATING EXPENSES -

Representative Marks moved we accept the LFA recommendation until we get further input.

Representative Bradley said you can't do that. Representative Marks then moved to accept the LFA recommendation.

ALL VOTED AYE

MOTION CARRIED

EQUIPMENT -

The LFA said the 76 expense was for purchase of a plane. In 77-78 it will be for various equipment.

IT WAS DECIDED TO ACCEPT THE LFA RECOMMENDATION ON THIS.

Representative Marks moved to accept the supplemental of \$103,650 (the revised figures).

ALL VOTED AYE

MOTION CARRIED

Representative Bradley asked about the wind recording equipment.

Representative Marks moved to accept the wind recording equipment.

ALL VOTED AYE

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned until 8:00 tomorrow morning.

Dorothy Bradley  
Dorothy Bradley, Chairman

Nina Kosmas, Sec.