MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE LEGISLATIVE SUB-COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS FOR EDUCATION

February 25, 1977 8:00 A. M. Room 132 State Capitol Building

Subject: Work Session

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Carroll South. The following members of committee were present:

Rep. Ora Halvorson

Sen. Matt Himsl

Sen. Larry Fasbender

Rep. Oscar Kvaalen was present for the meeting but had to be excused before the voting.

Rep. Jack Moore was excused because of illness.

Also present in the meeting were Judy Rippingale and John Krutar, Fiscal Analysts.

The committee discussed the budget requests of the Library Commission.

A motion was made by Sen. Fasbender to add a supplemental amount of \$187,200 to the amount of \$317,000 budget for 1977. The amount of \$317,000 is the state general fund obligation. The amount of \$187,200 would be federal funding so a budget amendment would not be necessary. All members voted aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

Sen. Himsl asked if this amount of money would allow the Commission to continue with their program for the blind or any of the other programs which they have started. Chairman South said that he felt certain that none of their programs would be jeopardized. The total spending authority would be the same.

There was discussion regarding the number of FTE needed. The State Library Commission presently has a staff of 26 people. They request 1/2 FTE to be funded. They already have the 1/2 FTE working. The Fiscal Analyst's recommendation was for \$7,650 more than the Executive and the amount was for an addressograph machine.

Chairman South asked Judy Rippingale if she was computing vacancy savings into her recommendation. She answered that she was.

Sen. Himsl said that he felt a total amount should be budgeted for the Library Commission but that they should have been allowed to make operational changes within the limits of the budget. The Commission had reported that they wanted to hire personnel instead of contracting some work and that they wanted a person on staff for the upgrading of programs.

Rep. Halvorson made a motion that the Library Commission be given the 26 FTE as they requested.

Sen. Fasbender made a substitute motion that the Library Commission be left at 25 and 1/2 FTE. The vote was as follows:

Fasbender - yes South - yes Himsl - yes Halvorson - no

The ayes carried the vote. Motion passed.

It was established that federal funding is expected by the Fiscal Analyst and the Executive; however, Judy Rippingale said that since the public had voted against the mill levy she felt unable to recommend the federation program.

Chairman South made a motion that the \$317,000 granted for 1977 also be granted for 1978 and 1979—each year of the biennium. All members voted aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

Committee requested that it be recorded in the minutes that it is their intention to grant a supplemental for only the state Library operations, not grants, in the event that the federal funds anticipated are not received.

There was some discussion regarding the Historical Society. Sen. Fasbender felt that the committee may have to take an active part in the management of the Historical Society. He felt that a letter of legislative intent should be drafted and sent to the Director of the Historical Society.

The committee inquired of John Krutar whether the Bicentennial Fund could be transferred to the account of the Historical Society now. Krutar said he was in the process of doing this; however, there are bills against the \$15,000 amount so there will only be about \$7,000 left to be transferred.

Sen. Fasbender inquired about the book, Not In Precious Metals Alone, which was sponsored by the Historical Society. Book sales have been lower than anticipated but it is hoped that more money will eventually be generated through continued sale of this book.

Chairman South asked Judy Rippingale to have before the committee the different programs of the Historical Society, both those now in progress and those proposed. The chairman said that he would like to wait until there was a full committee before taking any action regarding the Historical Society.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 A. M.

CARROLL V. SOUTH, CHAIRMAN

Detay Clark
Betsy Clark, Secretary