

*By Council*

APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON INSTITUTIONS

March 9, 1977 - Room 225

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

Senator Elmer Flynn  
Senator Mark Etchart  
Representative Harry Hansen  
Representative Art Lund  
Representative Howard Ellis

Tom Briggs, Legislative Fiscal Analyst, was present. Rep. Bardonoue was present for part of the meeting.

The subjects of this meeting are CONSOLIDATION OF NON-MEDICAL SERVICES OF GALEN AND WARM SPRINGS and HOUSE BILL 723. See visitors' lists attached.

CONSOLIDATION

Management of both Galen and WSSH were present to determine whether it is feasible to consolidate non-medical services of the two institutions.

Richard Moore, hospital administrator of WSSH, said the two institutions had gotten together and written up a summary on consolidation showing four phases. He distributed this summary to the committee.

Under Phase I, they feel they can implement four consolidations prior to June 30, 1977:

1. Dental Services - there are two full-time dentists at WSSH who could also serve Galen patients. Galen has been contracting for these services in the community. Galen said this could be worked out pending cancellation time for the contracts.
2. Respiratory Therapy - Galen has 1 therapist who could train WSSH staff in this area. This one therapist could not personally serve all Galen and WSSH patients alone, but through training could consolidate this.
3. Physical Therapy - Galen could utilize the therapists who are contracted for WSSH from Anaconda Community Hospital at a rate of \$17.50 per hour vs. the present \$24 they are paying for private practitioner.

4. Speech and Audiology - there could be a merger of contractual services with Easter Seals to cover both institutions.

Under Phase II, there are 8 areas that they feel could be consolidated after 7/1/77:

1. Laundry Services - all equipment and remodeling is scheduled to be finished by July 1, 1977, at which time WSSH feels they can handle all laundry for WSSH, Galen and the prison. By consolidation of clothing inventories, they feel they will have enough clothing and linen for the next six months. Galen said they would still need 5 of the 12 FTE's for laundry sorting, collecting and marking.

2. Psychology, Social Services and Psychiatric Services - around July 1, 1977, WSSH would have a clinical team in these areas available for evaluations for Galen patients. This would eliminate contracted services.

3. Acute Medical/Post Operative Surgical Services - there is a suggestion that services for patients requiring acute medical services be provided at Galen, if security is adequate. Galen and WSSH contract all surgery and would like to keep it that way.

4. Food Services - The WSSH dietitian could service both institutions to keep Galen in compliance with the Medicaid/Medicare regulations. Also the WSSH bakery could furnish Galen with their baked goods needs, instead of purchasing them from retail sources.

5. Motor pool - there can be a consolidation of all vehicles and teamsters services at WSSH. Galen now contracts some services. Galen said they would not have any savings in FTE's from this because their maintenance people are teamsters and they are their labor force.

6. Maintenance - they could be a consolidation of maintenance calls on weekends and nights. There could also be a consolidation of trips to purchase supplies.

7. Warehouse - there could be a centralized warehouse at WSSH, with expanded cooling facilities needed, with the possible addition of the prison to this arrangement.

8. Administration - there could be a combination of personnel and payroll services at WSSH. Galen feels they would still need their personnel records and management kept there, but agrees with payroll. Larry Zanto, director of Department of Institutions, said that these details could be worked out between the department and the institutions.

Phase III relates to a suggested study on consolidation of laboratory, x-ray, EEG and EKG services.

Phase IV covers long range consolidation to be developed over the next two years concerning other consolidation areas. Eventually perhaps in the future there could be one institution which could service the state for in-patient care for acute psychiatric, alcoholic, drug addiction and developmentally disabled who are non-ambulatory. They feel all these consolidation plans should not be rushed into without complete and detailed planning.

The committee was glad to hear that cooperation between the institutions has begun making consolidation possible in some areas.

Joseph Balkovatz, administrator of Galen, said that most of the discussed consolidations are that WSSH provides services to Galen on a contracted basis. There would have to be sufficient funds in Galen's contracted services' budget to cover this. The amounts would have to be worked out.

Tom Briggs said the method and arrangements for this type of exchange should be worked out between them and the department of institutions. It is felt that complete records should be kept on the various costs for future consulting and Medicaid/Medicare reimbursement purposes.

#### UTILIZATION OF BED SPACE

Chairman Gerke said this committee is faced with some major decisions on remodeling of the old general hospital at WSSH which would provide 64 beds. A possible alternate plan could be to transfer these patients to Galen to use the available beds there.

Dr. Xanthopoulos, superintendent of WSSH, said transferring those patients to Galen would totally disrupt their treatment and training programs. They feel they could not transfer sufficient FTE's along with them for proper treatment and still maintain all the patients needs at WSSH. Also proper security would be necessary which would mean remodeling at Galen. All of these patients need psychiatric care and Galen does not have a psychiatrist. The doctor at WSSH could not cover both institutions.

Mr. Moore agreed with Dr. Xanthopoulos and said there would have to be duplication of supervisory staff, also. The treatment of alcohol patients are different than with psychiatric patients. The question of which administration would be over the patients was mentioned. The law said that WSSH is in charge of the mentally ill, not Galen.

Dr. Higgins said Galen would be willing to take these patients if everything could be worked out satisfactorily because they wish to have their hospital filled. Each patient's needs would have to be considered.

Mike Butorovich, operations and support bureau chief at WSSH, said the remodeling costs are going up for the old general hospital and he believes a new building could be built for about the same amount of money. They feel they need the bed space, whichever way it is provided.

Ralph DeCunzo, architect of the Architecture and Engineering Division, of the Department of Administration, said that if the remodeling of the old general hospital is stopped, the architect's fees of approximately \$35,000 would need to be paid. He said the cost of a new building would depend on the number of beds and the type of care it should qualify for. The cost of the remodeling project, if a new roof and windows are included with the first request and the supplemental request, could reach as high as \$750,000. They feel all units should be built to meet skilled nursing requirements. The old general hospital will meet skilled nursing standards after remodeling. It was mentioned that the three floors would require more staff than a one-floor building. Mr. Moore said that it would probably take 4 or 5 additional FTE's for an estimated \$50,000 a year.

Jim Johnson, attorney for WSSH patients, spoke against any major transfer of patients from the old general hospital to Galen who need acute psychiatric care.

Larry Zanto said that consolidation should produce some satisfactory results in non-medical areas. He supports whatever consolidation can be worked out.

Chairman Gerke said that phase I could begin, as listed in the list provided by the institutions. Some of phase II is also possible soon. The rest of the items should be explored completely plus any new ideas that might arise.

Richard Moore distributed a chart to the committee showing WSSH building area (square feet) by type of space utilization.

Upon being asked a question, Mike Butorovich said that the patients in the old general hospital could be housed in the receiving hospital wing during the remodeling. Perhaps part of the Warren Building could be opened ahead of schedule if necessary.

He feels that either the old general hospital or the Bolton Building will have to be utilized. Mr. Moore said that they are going to combine region 4 into the Warren Building when it is finished, instead of the two present buildings, which are scheduled for demolition. They are going to utilize the receiving hospital in their consolidation of patient plan. After consolidation is over, their occupancy rate of their buildings should be 75%.

Consolidation of regions includes the use of the old general hospital. Windows and roof for the Warren Building have been requested in their long range building request for \$220,000. They also need a new roof on their laundry building for \$17,500 plus electrical work for \$13,500. These were already bid as an alternate.

Dr. Xanthopoulos mentioned a recent change in their plans for the new geriatrics unit 219. They are proposing that the University of Washington, under contract, set up an intensive treatment facility with intervention for hard-to-handle patients in the regions.

#### HOUSE BILL 723

This bill was introduced by Representative Harper. Its purpose is to provide a full-time employment counselor for the Board of Pardons plus an office and travel expenses. Chairman Gerke said that the Appropriations Committee referred this bill to this subcommittee for review.

Representative Harper said this bill requests \$80,000 for the counselor and other related costs for the next two years. These increased costs are offset by the savings at the prison by prisoners leaving earlier than before. Prisoners who are eligible for parole cannot be paroled until they have a job. This counselor would work with the prisoners and help them find work.

Representative Polly Holmes spoke in favor of this bill. Many prisoners do not leave because of a lack of jobs. This one FTE could make a great difference. A full-time Board of Pardons was requested, but was turned down. This is an alternate plan to help prisoners get out of prison and become better citizens.

Lee Topash, representing Human Resources Development Institute, AFL-CIO, spoke in support of this bill. He has been working for the last three years with prisoners helping them with rehabilitation and training to help them find work. He has

also worked with the Indian League at the prison who are all volunteers. They see the need for a full-time counselor to help with employment.

Hank Burgess, chairman of the Board of Pardons, said he is very much in favor of this bill, although they did not promote this bill. There is a tremendous need for a placement counselor working with the board to aid those eligible for parole. Another area would be training programs for paroles. He estimates a possible savings of \$280,000 a year, or at least a major portion of that amount, through the work of this counselor. This counselor would work directly with employers and match prisoners with jobs or training programs. The board feels this FTE should be under them for the most effective results.

R. E. Indreland, representing the 26 Ranch Company, North American Indian League, U.S. Government, Conf. of Salish and Kootenai Tribe, said he supports this bill. This is not a new idea. The federal government gave the board of pardons a grant and a training program began and there was a placement counselor, which was successful. His position was eventually eliminated because it was not included as a permanent fixture of the employment division. Mr. Indreland has been doing placement work as a layman with the Indian population at the prison for about 5 years. Since the Indian population only represents 16% of the prison population, this leaves quite a large group without adequate help. We have tried to help some of them, but it is too great a job. It is his estimate that \$65,000 would cover the cost of this counselor.

Larry Zanto, director of the Department of Institutions, said they agree there is a need for this counselor. He feels this counselor should be assigned to the Department of Institutions under the Corrections Division, instead of the Board of Pardons. He feels the board should be limited to their present work. This counselor would be placed over at the prison, but under the supervision of the division. He said section 95-3307 states the department has the responsibility of parole services, and it mentions employment assistance.

Mr. Zanto also feels \$25,000 per year would cover this service. The counselor would be a grade 15 or 16, plus travel expenses.

There were no opponents.

When asked a question, Mr. Indreland said that inmates are completely restricted as far as telephone calls are concerned. He is allowed to write letters, but these are also restricted. Finding work is very hard if not impossible without help. It is estimated that 25-30 prisoners are eligible for parole each month and must have a job. Personal interviews must also be arranged for possible jobs.

Upon being asked a question, Mr. Indreland said that the North American Indian League is a non-profit organization and would be interested in contracting employment services for prisoners other than Indians who they already serve. They have two counselors and Mr. Indreland is a technical supervisor for the League.

Chairman Gerke requested that the Employment Division be contacted by Tom Briggs to find out their jurisdiction over services to prisoners.

Hearing closed on HB 723.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

##### WARM SPRINGS STATE HOSPITAL:

The chairman said that a decision will have to be made on the remodeling of the old general hospital for a possible \$750,000 or build a new building for perhaps as much as \$1.5 million, but which would save \$50,000 a year or more on additional staff eliminated because of the one-floor concept, instead of three.

Geriatrics at WSSH were discussed. It is estimated that an average of 45 geriatrics will remain at WSSH. The new plan of WSSH to use the new geriatrics unit for the University of Washington's project was discussed.

The committee members feel that a new building at WSSH would be preferable to remodeling the old general hospital, if more bed space is needed. The old hospital should remain for any possible future needs.

Senator Etchart suggested appropriating for the new building with a delayed starting date of two years. This would allow the architects to draw up the plans and the next legislature would be allowed to make a final decision on the need for this building.

Tom Briggs said the bed spaces and patient populations projected for the next two years have been gone over carefully and it is his feeling that a small number of beds are needed, perhaps as few as 10. Doug Booker agrees more or less with Tom's figures, with a question still remaining on geriatrics.

Chairman Gerke requested that Tom Briggs and Doug Booker meet with Larry Zanto and get more information on WSSH's new plan for the geriatrics building and where the geriatrics will be placed.

It was suggested that a possible resolution be written regarding the consolidation of non-medical services. It would request a clear detailed written report on their goals and FTE's transferred or eliminated and reflecting all savings.

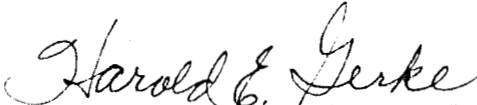
The nursing ratio for WSSH was discussed. Tom Briggs said that a total of 74.8 FTE's (LPN's and RN's) would provide the present ratio of nursing care. This is based on the projected population of 410. Of the 180 present nursing positions, they have 60-70 vacancies. \$500,000 additional each year will have to be added to LFA's recommendation to cover the additional nursing FTE's.

The direct care ratio is the same as before. The number of FTE's are figured on a population of 500. If the population drops to 410, then the direct care ratio will be better than it is now.

GALEN:

The final FTE's for Galen is 252, including the Lighthouse Program and alcohol program. The total budget for 1978 is \$3,679,000 and \$3,721,000 for 1979. Rep. Hansen made a motion to accept this budget. Senator Flynn seconded it. It was unanimously approved.

Meeting ended at 10:45 a.m.

  
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Harold Gerke, Chairman



3-9-77

WITNESSES FOR ~~FOUR~~ MEETING  
APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE  
INSTITUTIONS

NAME

TITLE

Joseph Bakhovatz	Salem
E. P. Higgins	Salem
Michael Butorovich	WSSH.
Richard Moore	WSSH
Richard Finesill	WSSH
Tammy C. Xanthopoulos, M.D.	WSSH.

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Witnesses

Hal Hayer

R.E. INDRELAND

Lee Topash

Polly Holmes

Sammy Zaito  
Hank Burgess

Representing

Dist. 30

U.S. GOV, 26 March Co, North  
American Indian League, Conf.  
Salish & Kootenai Tribes

Human Resources Development Institute  
A76-010

Dist. 67

Dist I

Mont. State Bd. of Pardons