

*Leg. Council*

APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON INSTITUTIONS

March 11, 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 Mark Etchart  
Representative Harry Hansen  
Representative Art Lund  
Representative Howard Ellis

Senator Flynn was absent. Tom Briggs, Legislative Fiscal Analyst, was present. Also Larry Zanto, Director of the Department of Institutions.

The subjects of this session are: MONTANA STATE PRISON, ALCOHOL TREATMENT PROGRAM and WOMEN PRISONERS.

MONTANA STATE PRISON

It was reported that 120 prisoners have been moved to the new prison. 100 more will be moved on March 22, 1977 and 100 more on March 24, 1977. This makes a total of 320.

The new close security living unit is in the long range building program.

Attached is a list of the costs for this new unit. There is an estimated bid date of March 1978 which they hope to beat if the same architect and contractors could be used as a continuation of the original work.

Item 6 should be corrected from \$111,200 to \$18,400. The committee questioned the amount of item 5 for architects' fees. They wonder if the same architect could be used and this treated as a continuation that the total might be less. Item 7 might be less, also, if it were to be treated as a continuation.

The total of all seven items is \$3,452,877. Adding in the amounts for a new sewage lagoon, water well and water storage makes the grand total \$3,722,877 needed for the new unit.

\$1,390,785 is needed to keep both units going until July 1, 1977.

316.75 FTE's are needed for both years to operate the new and old prisons. \$100,000 would be needed for purchase of new license plate oven which can also make county road signs. If this new sign operation gets started and generates revenue, perhaps a separate revolving account should be established.

Total operating expenses for the next biennium is \$6,761,471 for 1978 and \$6,918,075 for 1979.

Senator Etchart made a motion to adopt this prison operating budget and long range building proposed project for the new unit. Representative Ellis seconded it. It was carried unanimously.

It is this committee's intent and should be written into the appropriation that the supplemental staff hired because of operating both the new and old prisons are to be terminated when the new prison is finished.

#### ALCOHOL TREATMENT PROGRAM

Larry Zanto, Director of the Department of Institutions, said that he feels alcohol treatment programs function better as a separate division away from the mental health division. These patients do not feel they should be regarded the same as a mental health patient. The majority of the alcoholic programs are done at Galen.

The committee feels the alcohol treatment programs should be under one division or head. Within the department it is sort of fragmented. It should be consolidated. This would include drug programs.

The Southwestern Drug Program is staffed by some people from the Department of Institutions. Most of the other programs are under contracts.

Some of the mental health community centers have contracts for alcoholic services and are working fairly well. It really depends on facilities, capacity and particular staff. Some of the centers have expressed no desire to do this type of work or have tried it and have not been successful.

HB 627 was discussed. This is the bill that raises the tax on liquor for alcohol treatment programs.

The two new nursing homes at Glendive and Billings were discussed. The intent of the last session for the use of these facilities was discussed. One member of the committee thought they were being built for the depopulation of institutions for geriatrics. Now the use has been expanded to include mentally retarded and developmentally disabled. It was stated that they are for institutionalized people first, but community geriatrics have access also if space is available.

The possibility of using Glasgow Air Force Base for a long term detoxification center similar to Galen was discussed. The eastern part of Montana is in need of such a facility. It is hoped that it could be run on a contract basis. There is a hospital there that would meet the requirements plus facilities for the families. It was suggested a resolution from this committee be written to the Department of Institutions to recommend this air force base for this purpose as the number one priority for that purpose.

#### MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL

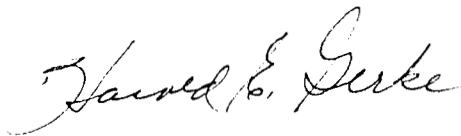
It has been agreed that this advisory council will go into the Governor's Office.

#### WOMEN PRISONERS

Mr. Zanto reported that a member of his department was recently in California and Nevada and talked to prison authorities about women prisoner placements. Nevada said they could take 5 maximum. California was very noncommittal. Mr. Zanto suggested perhaps a combination of contracting women prisoners to other states plus a small halfway type house in Montana.

This will be discussed further.

Session ended at 10:00 a.m.

  
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Harold Gerke, Chairman