

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

March 16, 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 were present:

Sen. Larry Fasbender
Sen. Matt Himsl
Rep. Jack K. Moore
Rep. Ora Halvorson
Rep. Oscar Kvaalen

Also present for the meeting was Judy Rippingale, Fiscal Analyst,
and John Krutar, Office of Budget and Planning.

Floyd McDowell, Superintendent of the Montana School for Blind
and Deaf, was present for the meeting. He presented an agency
budget to members of committee. In FY 76 the school was able
to save an amount of General Fund money amounting to \$94,483.
This makes them automatically working off a lower base for 1978-79
budget. McDowell said that his statement would show by comparison
figures what their appropriation was in 1976 and what the actual
expenditures were.

Rep. Moore asked McDowell how much more money he was asking for
and for what years. McDowell said the request is for \$1,608,000
for 1978 and for \$1,695,000 for 1979.

Rep. Halvorson said that she thinks the committee must set a
policy regarding those institutions which chose to save some of
the General Fund monies. It seems, she said, that when this is
done that it automatically lowers the base for the next year and
in a way they are penalized for trying to save some money. She
said that she thinks people may decide to spend all of their money
to keep the budget base from being lowered for the next biennium.

There was discussion regarding the three Community College budget
requests. In 1978, cost per student: FCC - \$1396; MCC - \$1418;
and DCC - \$1613. Dawson has a lower enrollment figure but the
cost per student is higher. One reason is because Dawson has six
more administrative personnel built into the budget base than the
community college at Miles City. Even though MCC will have a
higher enrollment, they will have about \$20,000 less in funds
because of this difference.

A motion was made by Rep. Oscar Kvaalen that the Committee adopt a total approved Legislative Budget including fringe benefits whcih consisted of General Fund local mill levys and student tuition as follows:

	<u>FY 1978</u>	<u>FY 1979</u>
Flathead	\$ 1,288,873	\$ 1,322,418
Miles	727,486	794,930
Dawson	757,885	772,357

The State would fund 65% of each budget in the following amounts:

	<u>FY 1978</u>	<u>FY 1979</u>
Flathead	\$ 837,767	\$ 859,572
Miles	472,866	516,705
Dawson	<u>492,625</u>	<u>502,032</u>
	\$ 1,803,258	\$ 1,878,309

All voted aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

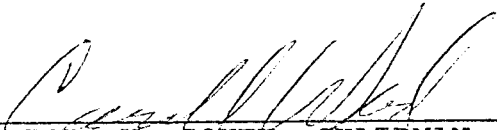
A motion was made by Sen. Larry Fasbender regarding the budget of the Board of Regents. He moved that the Committee grant the travel costs and per diem as outlined in the LFA Budget recommendations. This would amount to \$14,500 each year for the Board which includes the items they budgeted for in 1976 such as telephone costs, subscriptions, fees for two out-of-state meetings, etc.,

All voted aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Rep. Ora Halvorson that the Committee adopt the recommendation of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst regarding the General Funds for secondary and other post-secondary Vocational-Technical schools for the next biennium. This motion would call for a decrease of the 1977 General Fund level the first year of one-third and the second year of two-thirds.

All voted aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 A. M.



CARROLL V. SOUTH, CHAIRMAN



Betsy Clark, Secretary