

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

March 22, 1977
11:00 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
Rep. Ora Halvorson
Sen. Matt Himsl
Rep. Oscar Kvaalen
Rep. Jack Moore

A motion was made by Rep. Jack Moore that the Committee approve an amount of \$2,000,000 called for in Option B of LFA Recommendation which would allow Personal Services at the University units.

All voted aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

Chairman South briefed the Committee on three-member task force assigned by the Governor which will be working with SBAS operation. An amount of \$700,000 has been appropriated to get SBAS into working operation as efficiently and as quickly as possible.

Of the \$700,000 appropriation, an amount of \$400,000 is to be used for data processing equipment and terminal equipment that is needed on the university campuses. The other \$300,000 is to be used to up-grade SBAS so it can be used more efficiently with other state agencies such as Fish and Game Commission and State Highway Department, etc.,

Also to be considered is the request for computer system at Northern Montana College and the terminal equipment and data processing equipment needed at Western Montana College so they will be able to work with the main computer system at the University of Montana.

Chairman South said that it is his suggestion that the \$400,000 that is to be used for the university system be under the Office of Budget and Management. The money would be under control of the legislature so that any equipment bought anywhere for the units would fit into the main scheme of SBAS and be in line with the theory of compatible computers throughout the system. The request has been for a main computer at Northern Montana College and for terminal and data processing equipment at Western Montana College. All computers and terminal processing equipment at the six units is supposed to be compatible and the legislative committee wants to make sure that the equipment purchased will be compatible.

Bill Gosnell, Fiscal Analyst, was called in for consultation. Chairman South asked him if he had any appropriation in the Department of Administration in the amount of \$700,000 to be used for SBAS development. Mr. Gosnell said that they had been informed that this amount would be coming to that department but at this time they had nothing that would be used for the development of SBAS.

Chairman South asked if there was any amount of money that would be used for the up-grading of SBAS?

Gosnell said that any funds would be used for the anticipated growth and to bring terminal processing data in line with D & A but there was nothing at the present time that would in any way relate to SBAS.

Rep. Kvaalen asked where the \$700,000 would be taken from and was told that it was coming from General Fund money. He said that it seemed to him that this was a very large amount of money to spend developing SBAS since that was done the last session as well.

Chairman South said that it was true that the Committee approved the idea of SBAS development but that no funds were appropriated for the actual change. Rep. Kvaalen said that he thought money had been appropriated for a study of SBAS. Chairman South said that a study had been made but that this money would actually be used to make the change so that we can start to get data out of the university system the way we do from the other state agencies.

The amount of money is actually \$670,875 to be used for the SBAS development.

A motion was made by Rep. Moore that the full amount of \$670,875 be accepted from the General Fund to be used for development of SBAS. It will be kept separate from other university expenditures and any amount that is not used will revert.

All voted aye.

Rep. Kvaalen refrained from voting.

Motion carried.

There was discussion regarding the balance needed in the Scholarship and Fellowship Fund for the university system. Judy Rippingale explained to the Committee how she had reached figures for recommendation.

The Scholarship Fund has been based on enrollment and has come from student fee monies. Since the enrollment is down 4.4 percent and then they revised their estimate originally made bringing it to 19.6 percent of the total amount they expected to collect from students in fees. The net amount is \$84,317 for the biennium.

A motion was made by Rep. Jack Moore that the Committee approve the amount of \$84,317 for scholarship and fellowship grants.

All voted aye. None opposed. Motion carried.


CARROLL V. SOUTH, CHAIRMAN


Betsy Clark, Secretary