

APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON INSTITUTIONS

February 19, 1979 -- Room 108

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Etchart.
Committee members present were:

Representative Art Lund
Representative Howard Ellis
Representative Pat Gesek
Representative Dan Yardley (excused until 9:15)
Senator Bill Thomas (excused until 9:00)

Others present were Betty Waugh and John LaFaver, Legislative Fiscal Analysts Office, Doug Booker, Office of Budget and Program Planning, and Curt Chisholm, Department of Institutions.

Curt Chisholm passed out a report on the legal services for the institutions. Those services are broken down into four categories. (1) Retainer contracts for legal services for the Department of Institutions; (2) legal contracts for patients and inmates; (3) retained counsel to act as hearings offices for the Department of Institutions; and (4) full-time legal counsel for the Department of Institutions. He went over the handout with the committee. (See exhibit A.)

Montana State Prison (See exhibit B)

- Personal Services - The committee still went with the 239.17 FTEs in FY'81 which was recommended in the meeting on Friday, February 16. The LFA and Executive wants to go over the FY'80 recommendation one more time.
- Contracted Services - After reviewing the differences between the LFA's figures and the Executive's figures, the committee decided to accept the following:
- FY'80 - Take the Executive's figures of \$315,146 and subtract the \$11,000 for accounting and payroll, subtract \$26,000 for legal fees and add in the \$4,200 for the SIMS accounting system which results in an ending figure of \$282,346.
- FY'81 - Take the Executive's figure of \$321,061 and subtract \$12,000 for accounting and payroll, subtract \$26,000 for legal fees and add in the \$4,200 for the SIMS accounting system which results in an ending figure of \$297,261.

- Supplies and Materials - Doug Booker told the committee he had discovered the prison had used food supplies but didn't charge them out at the end of the year. The food usage that Betty Waugh was using for her figures was not a correct amount. They discussed this and asked Betty Waugh and Doug Booker if they would compromise their figures and accept \$1,353,502 for FY'80 and \$1,480,266 for FY'81. They and the committee accepted those figures.
- Communication - Committee took the LFA's figures of \$29,493 for FY'80 and \$30,900 for FY'81.
- Travel - Committee took the Executive's figures of \$7,304 for FY'80 and \$7,346 for FY'81 to allow the warden an out-of-state trip.
- Rent - The committee took the Executive's figures of \$14,240 for FY'80 and \$14,494 for FY'81 to allow for more film rental, etc.
- Utilities - Committee went with the LFA's figures of \$264,400 for FY'80 and \$287,695 for FY'81.
- Repair - Committee took out the \$10,000 the Executive had for Central Office. They agreed on \$65,000 for FY'80 and \$60,000 for FY'81.
- Equipment - Committee accepted \$64,000 for FY'80 and \$20,000 for FY'81. (For FY'80, the Executive's kitchen supplies budget was taken minus two microwave ovens (\$6,000) and the dishwasher (\$6,000). There is a dishwasher at Warm Springs that could be used instead of purchasing a new one. The committee also approved the purchase of an aerial ladder and refinishing of some furniture. For FY'81, the committee left the budget at \$20,000 and the prison can buy either the hot water tanks or vehicles, whichever takes priority.)

The prison industries program funding was discussed. The personal services were included in the approved budget for the prison but the supplies, repair and equipment budgets were not included. The budget for those three categories would equal \$38,700 in FY'80 and \$6,000 in FY'81. Those amounts are to be shown as industries supplies, repairs and equipment over and above the prison's, which should be line itemed in the appropriations bill. There was discussion of having the industries program line itemed to the Central Office in which case the FTEs (3) and other moneys would have to be taken out of the prison's budget and added to the budget for the Central Office. Representative Lund moved that the committee accept the above figures for the prison industries program, which are those recommended by the LFA (see exhibit C). The motion was voted on and carried unanimously, with Senator Etchart being excused at the time of voting.

Representative Ellis moved that the committee accept the amounts approved for the prison, without the ranch figures. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously with Senator Etchart being excused at the time of voting.


Chairman Yardley asked for a list of the institutions as to what has been recommended and the money approved for each institution so far. John LaFaver said he would get the information ready for the February 20 meeting.

The prison ranch was discussed. John LaFaver referred to his presentation on Friday, February 16. He again said if the ranch was closed and leased out, sell the herds and existing crops the revenue would be over one million for the state. Doug Booker told the committee he would like to wait on that recommendation until after the new accounting system has been in effect for two years to see what the actual cost of the ranch is to the state. Chairman Yardley said he want to wait until there is a full subcommittee hearing to decide anything on the fate of the ranch.


Chairman Yardley asked for a list on how the sale of goods from the prison ranch affects the other institutions' budgets. Betty Waugh said she would get that information for the committee.

Chairman Yardley gave the committee copies of the overtime figures for the prison requested by Representative Ellis. He also gave them copies of a study done by the Yellowstone Boys Ranch concerning the \$800,000 building for the emotional disturbed children.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.



Dan Yardley, Chairman



Vicki Lofthouse, Secretary