

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

March 9, 1979
8:45 a.m.
Room 104
State Capitol Building
Subject: WORK SESSION

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Carroll South with the following members present:

Sen. Larry Fasbender
Sen. Harold Nelson
Rep. Oscar Kvaalen
Rep. Jack Moore
Rep. Esther Bengtson

Also present in the meeting were, Judy Rippingale, Fiscal Analyst; Jim Hoffman, Director Dawson Community College; Glenn Burgess, Director of Billings Vo-Tech; Alex Capdeville, Director of Helena Vo-Tech; Bill Lanan, Community College Coordinator; Vern Kailey, Director of Miles City Community College; Dwight Milne, Flathead Community College; and Larry Key, OPI.

VO-TECH

Handouts were given. (Exhibit A & B)

Larry Key, OPI, started giving the presentation on the Vo-Tech centers. He introduced Harry Freeborn, director of Butte Vo-Tech. Mr. Freeborn presented the budget for Butte Vo-Tech to the committee. This budget was for summer school. To reinstate Butte's summer quarter it would cost \$146,758.28 plus cost of living increases from FY 76. If the committee allowed a cost of living increase of 6% per year from FY 76 summer salaries, the new funds needed in Butte Vo-Tech budget would be as follows:

FY 80 summer program	\$185,297
FY 81 summer program	<u>196,396</u>

New funds requested: \$381,675

He stated Vo-Tech respectfully requests this budget so we may have a summer quarter of program instruction. Mr. Freeborn commented without the summer program it has caused quite a problem for the students who take a one year program. If we don't have a summer program they have to come back of one quarter next year to finish a one year program.

Chairman South asked him what Butte Vo-Tech's pay plan is for the summer. Mr. Freeborn stated that it was the same as the school year, but the teachers' contract is only for 3 quarters.

Billings and Helena Vo-Tech gave a few points about their summer programs. The Billings Vo-Tech feel that if they don't get the money they requested they will have to cut a few programs.

Helena Vo-Tech stated that their summer program operational level was low. They only run 2 courses during the summer, these are: Air Craft Mechanics and LPN.

Glen Burgess, Director of Billings Vo-Tech, stated that their request included funds for their summer program and operational expenses. He explained the open entry system at Billings Vo-Tech. In some of the courses, students may enter by the week, some by the month and by the quarter. This allows the student to come into a course and leave training for jobs. After 2 or 3 months of being on the job market, they then come back and pick up a course or two that they feel they will do best in. This way they can get upgrading on what they feel they don't have much training in.

COMMUNITY COLLEGES

Bell Lanan, Community College Coordinator, handed out a budget request to the committee. (Exhibit C)

He pointed out to the committee the role Community Colleges play in society. He stressed how important and needed these colleges are. Vern Kailey, Director of Miles City Community College, stated that 80% of their budgeted money goes for faculty salary.

Mr. Hoffman, Director of Dawson Community College, stated that he feels there are 5 options to solve the problem of money needed for education.

1. Increase state funding.
2. Increase local support.
3. Encompass a wider local tax base.
4. Establish a uniform ceiling of local support with the state making up the balance.
5. Complete state funding.

Dwight Milne, Director of Flathead Community College, stated that Flathead Community College is experiencing a 4.5% drop in our total funding as a result of the project budget. This plus inflation will drop us to a 13% reduction in our total budget.

Chairman South stated that it isn't a very good idea for the state to appropriate more money, because it automatically raises the levy in the local level.

Chairman South stated that maybe the Community Colleges should start increasing the tuition. The presidents of the Community Colleges felt that this would not be a good idea.

Chairman South asked if there was any reason why the Community Colleges could not go ahead and adopt the budget that is necessary and go to the voted levy for the additional money. He requested an answer from all three Community Colleges.

Mr. Dawson stated that they have reserved the voted levy for capital expenditures.

Vern Kailey thought the people in his district would approve of this, but only to a certain extent. It would be unreasonable to ask for a large amount. What we are trying to do is get the total vote mill levies down not up.

Mr. Milne stated that are we to make a request for higher voted mill levies when the people are almost insisting that we have something in the area of automotive technology.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30.



CARROLL V. SOUTH, CHAIRMAN

Jeanne Glennon, Secretary