

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE JOINT APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE FOR INSTITUTIONS
January 8, 1981 SUPPLEMENTAL REQUEST FOR MONTANA VETERANS HOME

CHAIRMAN JACK MOORE called the hearing for the Supplemental Funding for the Veterans Home to order at 8:00 a.m. Committee members present were:

Representative Ernst
Senator Etchart
Senator Thomas
Senator Johnson
Representative Conroy (Excused)

Visitors to testify were: Peter Blouke, Pat Estenson, Administrator of the Veterans Home, Mr. Keith Wolcott, Fiscal Analyst for Department of Institutions, Carroll South, Director of the Department of Institutions (See Visitors' Register).

MR. SOUTH gave a brief overview of the Veterans Home. One of the big decisions to be made in the future is whether or not to phase out the old domiciliary. The current population is around 115 at the Veterans Home. He went into further explanation of the current FTE levels (See Exhibit 5 attached).

THE CHAIRMAN stated that executive action would be taken on the Veterans Home Supplemental on Saturday morning.

MR. SOUTH explained upgrades in the Department of Institutions and the problems this would cause the current budget.

THE CHAIRMAN asked for a discussion on the old domiciliary and the 15 residents living there.

MR. WOLCOTT stated that it would take approximately \$46,000 to bring the old domiciliary up to fire codes.

SEN. ELLIOTT, the Columbia Falls Senator, stated there were management problems in having the veterans take care of the building instead of a maintenance team. He expressed concern over the FTE needed to efficiently keep up the Veterans Home.

MR. SOUTH stated the difficulty in working with an outdated budget. He feels safety is an important factor, and the correct amount of FTE's is related directly to this. He stated there is currently 26.6 direct care staff. One of these positions is currently open.

THE CHAIRMAN asked how many of the direct care staff were directly associated with the old domiciliary.

MR. ESTENSON stated that approximately 3 or 4 FTE. He noted the building was capable of housing 25.

THE CHAIRMAN asked Mr. South to offer a recommendation whether or not the old domiciliary should be phased out. This recommendation would be reviewed during the Saturday Executive Session, January 10.


MR. ESTENSON stated that if the old domiciliary should be closed, this would effect the July 1, 1981 budget.

THE CHAIRMAN stated he is not adverse to building a new cottage for the veterans. He expressed concern over the upcoming World War II veterans, and the surplus admission requests this will involve.

MR. ESTENSON stated there is presently a fire hazard problem in the old domiciliary. He feels that a sprinkling system should be installed in the old domiciliary for three reasons: (1) it provides 25 more beds, (2) the number of residents is in direct proportion to the Board Bill, (3) the reimbursement. He felt that members on the second level could be those residents who are at a functional level.

THE CHAIRMAN stated that due to the importance of the decisions in regard to the Veterans Home domiciliary, the committee should plan on visiting the Home on Friday, January 16, 1981. He asked that arrangements be made.

There being no further comments or discussions, the hearing was adjourned at 9:25.



JACK MOORE, Chairman

~~12,374.00~~
12,437 - was taken about - of request
5 800

MONTANA VETERAN'S HOME

Montana Veteran's Home is requesting \$364,545 in supplemental funding for the FY 81 biennium. This supplemental request results from the identification of very serious deficiencies in the level of care provided by that institution and the decision of this Department that certain actions were necessary to protect the life and safety of the residents at that facility. The \$364,545 supplemental request is based upon projected deficits in the following budget categories:

Personal Services	(\$273,664)
Contracted Services	(25,649)
Supplies and Materials	(21,697)
Utilities	(43,535)
	<u>(364,535)</u>

Personal Services (\$273,664)

The Montana Veteran's Home began FY 80 with an authorized FTE level of 49.13. However, subsequent to a comprehensive review by staff of this Department and in consultation with the Governor's Office, it was determined that additional staff beyond the authorized FTE level would be required to protect the life and safety of the residents of that facility. Consequently, in May of 1980 17.2 additional staff were employed at the Home. Sufficient staff were hired to provide 24 hour care and observation of all residents of the facility. This action was taken to reduce the risk of a fire in the Annex and Old Dom areas. Both areas housed residents in excess of eighty years of age, many of whom were only marginally ambulatory. In addition to the deplorable physical condition of the buildings and the fire hazard they presented, many of the residents were isolated from staff and friends and spent their entire day sitting in their rooms. Without periodic checks of residents, incidents occurred where residents would fall or become seriously ill with no mechanism to seek help.

Additional maintenance and housekeeping staff were hired to upgrade the general cleanliness of the facility. Bathrooms were cleaned and sanitized to eliminate extremely odorous and unsanitary conditions. Urine stained tiles had to be replaced and splash walls put in around several of the bathrooms.

As a result of the above measures and applied vacancy savings the Montana Veteran's Home is projecting a personal services deficit of \$273,664.00.

Cost of Additional Positions:

FY 80	26,022	
Fy 81	<u>215,733</u>	
		241,755

Unrealized Vacancy Savings:

FY 80	11,664	
FY 81	<u>20,245</u>	
		31,909

HB 891 Vacancy Savings

FY 80	6,363	
FY 81	<u>12,420</u>	
		15,762

HB 483 Vacancy Savings

FY 80	9,399	
FY 81	<u>42,532</u>	
		54,952

Contracted Services (\$ 25,649.00)

The deficit projected for this budget category results primarily from increases in the contracted medical care for the residents and an increase in the laundry contract.

Supplies and Materials (\$ 23,160.00)

The supplies and materials deficit is due primarily to increased costs associated with housekeeping and increased cost associated with food service.

Utilities (\$ 43,535.00)

See attached schedule

MONTANA VETERANS HOME
BUDGET STATUS

	<u>Actual FY 80</u>	<u>Budget FY 81</u>	<u>Proj & Actual FY 81</u>	<u>Surplus (Deficit)</u>
Personal Services	681,758	650,836	918,695	(267,859)
Contracted Services	35,971	34,079	59,728	(25,649)
Supplies & Materials	90,876	86,876	110,036	(23,160)
Communications	4,514	5,355	5,355	-0-
Travel	1,647	995	995	-0-
Rent	35	(2)	1,632	(1,634)
Utilities	68,713	39,710	83,245	(43,535)
Repair/Maintenance	7,333	16,497	11,269	5,228
Other	423	210	2,104	(1,894)
Equipment	2,567	114	351	(237)
TOTALS	893,937	834,670	1,193,410	358,740

MONTANA VETERANS HOME
REVENUE ESTIMATES
FY 81

	<u>Projected Revenue</u>	<u>Approp.</u>	<u>Diff.</u>
Per Diem Reimbursement	457,401	374,040	83,361
Veteran Admin. Reimb.	<u>274,044</u>	<u>317,375</u>	<u>(43,331)</u>
	731,445	691,415	40,030

STAFFING PATTERN
Montana Vets Home

	April 1980			Current		
	FTE	%	Added	FTE	%	% Increase
Direct Care	18	36.64	8.5	26.50	40.56	47.22
Developmental	-0-	-0-	1.0	1.00	1.49	100.00
Administrative & Support	31.13	63.36	6.70	37.83	57.91	21.52
	49.13	100.00	16.20	65.33	100.00	32.97

New Positions

The authorized FTE's in FY 81 were 49.13, one Laundry Worker II 361002/6 (#18) was not used due to an increase in laundry contract. The following positions have been added:

Administration

FTE
 .70 Clerk General Office 219007/7
 1.00 Administrative Officer III 169013/15*
 *This position will be modified to Program
 Manager III 187027 G13 1/14/81

1.70

Maintenance

.80 Maintenance Worker II 899002/9
 .80

Housekeeping

2.00 Custodial Worker II 382002/6
 2.00

Nursing

2.00 Nurse Professional I 075001/12
 2.00 Licensed Practical Nurse II 079002/10
6.50 Nurse Aide I 355003/7

10.50

Food Service

3.20 Food Service Worker II 311002/6
3.20

Total 18.2 FTE added to current level
49.13 Current level FY 81
- 1.00 Laundry Worker II - deleted
- 1.00 Vacant - Nurse Aide position
65.33 Total FTE currently 1/1/81

Overtime

	November	Full Year
FY 80	\$930	\$1,431
FY 81	\$793	\$1,220 projected

\$211.00 = 14% reduction

FTE

	AUTHORIZED	FILLED			DIFFERENCE
		7/1	6/30	AVERAGE	
		7/14/78	June 79		
FY'79	49.13	46.25	46.25	46.25	-2.88
		7/13/79	6/26/80		
FY'80	49.13	46.00	58.70	52.35	+3.22
		7/22/80	12/22/80		
FY'81	49.13	58.70	70.73	64.71	+15.58

POPULATION

	BUDGETED	7/1	6/30	AVERAGE	DIFFERENCE
FY'79	140	125	124	129	11
FY'80	140	124	110	122	18
FY'81	140	109	103	107	33

12/31/80

MONTANA VETERANS HOME

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NATURAL GAS

	FY79 ACTUAL	FY80 ACTUAL	FY81 PROJECTED
USAGE	22,345	19,426	18,479
\$	43,054	59,857	68,574
\$/MCF	\$1.93/MCF	\$3.08/MCF	* \$3.71/MCF

* 17.98% Rate Increase
effective 12-19-80

ELECTRICITY

	FY79 ACTUAL	FY80 ACTUAL	FY81 PROJECTED
USAGE	588,741	572,473	580,837
\$	9,573	8,832	12,488
\$/KWH	1.63¢/KWH	1.54¢/KWH	2.15¢/KWH

OTHER UTILITIES

TYPE	FY79 ACTUAL	FY80 ACTUAL	FY81 PROJECTED
Water & Sewer	192	384	2,183
TOTALS	\$52,819	\$69,073	\$83,245