MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE JOINT APPROPRIATION SUBCOMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

February 24, 1981

The Executive Session meeting on the Universities of the Joint Appropriation Subcommittee on Education was called to order at 7 a.m. on Tuesday, February 24, 1981 by Chairman Donaldson in Room 104, Capitol Bldg., Helena, Montana.

All members were present including Bruce Shively and Curt Nichols, Fiscal Analysts.

UNIVERSITIES - FACULTY SALARIES

The first discussion was in regard to faculty salaries at the University.

CURT NICHOLS briefed over the faculty compensation options. (EXHIBIT A)

REP. BENGTSON moved to have Eastern Montana College moved up to the 93% level for the biennium. MOTION FAILED on a tie vote with three, REP. THOFT, REP. DONALDSON, And SENATOR NELSON opposing.

REP. THOFT moved to use the current level guideline for all six units. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

CRITICAL AREA ADJUSTMENT was the next area of discussion.

REP. THOFT moved to use the critical area adjustment for all six units. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

COMPUTERS

The committee discussed the computer requests made by Eastern, University of Montana, and Montana Tech. (EXHIBIT B)

REP. THOFT moved to appropriate \$400,000 to Eastern Montana college for FY 82; \$175,000 to the University of Montana for FY 82; and \$175,000 to Montana Tech for FY 83 for Computer Equipment. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

CURT NICHOLS stated that the primary problem with revenues is estimated indirect costs.

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SENATOR NELSON moved to accept the Commissioner's allocation of \$1,000,000 reduction of revenue estimates. MOTION PASSED UNANTMOUSLY.

CONTINGENCY FUNDS

REP. THOFT moved to table the Contingency Funds at this time. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

The next discussion was in regard to the Audiological Services in Special Education. The Department of Public Health felt they could carry on the duties the second year of the biennium and for the first year the Office of Public Instruction would still contract with the schools. The General Fund would be appropriated to the Office of Public Instruction.

REP. BENGTSON moved to put the \$688,614 for FY 82 and \$750,589 for FY 83 for the Audiological Services into the Office of Public Instruction's budget. MOTION FASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

The Extension Service's salaries were discussed in regard to the catch-up.

REP. BENGTSON moved to accept the \$186,808 for Salary Catch-Up for the Extension Service. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Meeting recessed at 8 a.m.

Meeting reconvened at 12:30 p.m.

AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

The Agricultural Experiment Station salary base increases were discussed. (EXHIBIT C)

CURT NICHOLS explained several adjustments that could be made.

REP. BENGTSON moved to accept the \$61,942 for FY 82 and \$61,942 for FY 83, a total of \$123,884 for Salary Base increases for the Agricultural Experiment Station.

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CURT NICHOLS explained that to raise the average salaries in the Experiment Station to the level of Montana State University would cost \$76,000.

SENATOR HAFFEY made a substitute motion to adopt the adjusted average compensation to equal guidelines for Montana State University currently for \$76,713 for FY 82 and \$76,713 for FY 83 for Salary Base increases for the Agricultural Experiment Station. A total of \$153,426 for the biennium. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY with SENATOR JACOBSON absent as excused.

BUREAU OF MINES

The committee discussed the salary adjustment for the Bureau of Mines. It was decided that the Bureau was up to their peer level with Montana Tech.

The committee also discussed the Mineral Economist Study which was approved and whether or not it should be funded.

REP. BENGTSON moved to not fund the Mineral Economist Study for the Bureau of Mines. MOTION FAILED, five to one with REP. BENGTSON affirmative.

DESIGNATED FUNDS

CURT NICHOLS explained the Designated Accounts for the Universities. It has been a recommendation of the last committee that these be appropriated.

GLEN LEAVITT stated that the Executive does not recommend appropriating the designated accounts.

REP. BENGTSON moved to not appropriate the Designated Accounts of the Universities. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

SMITH - LEVER

The committee discussed the Smith-Lever Funds for the Cooperative Extension Service. (EXHIBIT D)

CURT NICHOLS stated that he would recommend a reversion clause if the committeee chooses to the conservative estimate,

REP. BENGTSON moved that the committee accept the LFA recommendation for \$1,561,193 for FY 82 and \$1,670,477 for FY 83 Unrestricted Smith-Lever Fund estimates. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

BUTTE VO-TECH SUMMER SCHOOL

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The committee discussed the Butte Vo-Tech Summer School Program.

JOHN BEBEE, Fiscal Analyst, gave a handout with program priorities and the estimated cost and FTE level. (EXHIBIT E)

SENATOR JACOBSON moved to accept the four top priorities; Practical Nursing, Business, Welding and Electrical Technology for the Butte Summer School Programs to be funded in FY 83. MOTION FAILED on a tie vote, with three, REP, THOFT, REP, DONALDSON, and SENATOR NELSON opposing.

SENATOR JACOBSON moved to appropriate \$50,698 for FY 83 for two programs for the Butte Vo-Tech Summer School. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Meeting adjourned at 1;20 p.m.

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