

House Appropriations Committee
Second Special Session of
The 47th Legislature
June 22, 1982

The joint meeting of the House Appropriations Committee and the Senate Finance & Claims committee was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on June 22, 1982 with Vice Chairman Jack Moore presiding.

HB 5

House Bill 5 is an act to appropriate money for prison security improvement projects for the biennium ending June 30, 1983.

Representative Moore said that he had an amendment for the bill that the committee could address later in the hearing. He passed out copies to the members. A copy is attached and is EXHIBIT 1 of these minutes.

CARROLL SOUTH, Department of Institutions, passed around pictures of the units at the prison that were damaged in the recent disturbance. He explained to the committee what the repairs would entail and what improvements they planned to make in the units.

In regard to the perimeter security Mr. South stated that Warden Risley and Mr. Russell had visited the Walla-Walla prison and looked at their system. He stated, perimeter security has to have three facets; physical barrier, observation capability and some kind of alert system. This third facet is where the electronic sensing equipment comes in. It would be a dual system. The 5 foot chain link fence would be placed inside the prison yard to keep inmates away from the outer fence. Mr. South said that they had one instance where three or four inmates were leaning up against the fence and one inmate was down behind their legs cutting the fence. Mr. South said that they are also looking at a system that would provide them with six 60 foot light towers with additional lights placed on the existing guard towers. We propose to have some of the manufactures send us a sample of what they have and we will try them out to see how they work before we make a purchase. We are also proposing three additional walk through metal detectors. This would mean that all inmates going to and from the compound would have to go through the detectors and maybe we could help stop the flow of contraband. Also one unit would be placed in the door entering the dining hall to keep inmates from taking kitchen utensils back to the cells to make weapons with. Mr. South pointed out that the language in the bill about the guard tower is simply to point out that it did not cost as much as requested.

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SERGEANT WAGNER, Montana State Prison, testified in support of this bill and stated that they really need these things at the prison. He urged the committee to support these requests.

There were no other witness's on HB 5.

Vice Chairman Moore said that he requested the Warden to inquire about some temporary housing units that could be set up at the ranch. He requested the Warden to comment on the information he gathered.

WARDEN HANK RISLEY, stated that they talked to one company out of state that manufactures these units and they have available four units that were used as office space. We would plan to purchase two of them and the total cost including shipping would be \$50,000. If we used every room for two person housing it would give us 36 capacity, however, some of these rooms would have to be used for showers etc. so we would not expect to house 36. The installation and equipment we estimate at another \$25,000.

Mr. Risley said that another estimate determined by the A&E people at our request a few weeks ago determined that a 32 man open dormitory, modular housing, would cost \$65,000 per sleeping unit and \$56,000 for the common space. For two sleeping units and one common unit that would house 32 people it would cost a total of \$202,000. With the other modular housing we could house about 30 people for \$75,000.

Representative Moore asked how long these modular units (the used units in Washington) would last.

Mr. Risley said that from what he knows they last about 15 years.

QUESTIONS BY THE COMMITTEE:

Stobie: How much would it cost if you had the inmates do the labor?

Risley: I am not sure what it would cost by the time you have them do it and then do it over again because it's not right the first time.

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South: We have a limit of \$25,000 in terms of what we can do in building.

Stobie: How big would the units be?

Risley: About 28,000 sq. feet.

Sen. Smith: Where did this idea of the housing come from?

Conroy: In the course of the hearings we talked about keeping the prisoners that work at the ranch housed out there so they don't have to go back to the prison and be subjected to pier pressure, which causes a turn-over in help at the ranch.

Sen. Boylan: Where is this building to be located?

Risley: Probably adjacent to the dairy because there is water and other services available there.

Moore: They had discussed taking the old dairy barn and cleaning it up and putting in housing there. After checking on these units in Michigan, I thought for \$75,000 it might be a good idea to look into this.

Sen. Smith: You should check into the construction, insulation, etc. of these units before the committee decides one way or another on this.

Sen. Regan. I agree that there should be more research into the situation if they are going to be kept out there all the time.

Sen. Regan: Mr. Hauck, are you comfortable with the kind of proposal that you have heard tonight.

Mr. Phil Hauck: No I am not. There is something wrong here. In the paper the other day it said that the price of the average house is about \$76,000. Either there is something wrong or this is dirt cheap.

Regan: If they did accept your proposal, what would the time frame be for completing the building?

Hauck: Six or Seven months including the bidding process.

Mr. South: I want to put this into perspective. Our proposal was to use the dairy barn. We were asked to come up with alternatives to the dairy barn and these are two alternatives.

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Quilici: I have to agree with Senator Regan that if we are going to put something up we should spend a little more money and do the job right. In the meantime they could use the dairy barn.

Sen. Smith: I was told when the present warning system was installed that it was the most up-to-date system and prison in the united states. I think from my visit out there that it is one of the poorest designed prisons. Can you assure us that what you want to put in is any better and we will not be asked to come back two years from now and buy more equipment?

Risley: You cannot prevent escapes. We can only put up protection systems and barriers and better warning systems that give us adequate time to respond to an escape. Our present system does not allow us to respond in time to an escape. We need better equipment.

Smith: What about false alarms such as wind and people kicking the fence etc.?

Risley: This is why we want a dual system. We will have a double check. In 1972 when the present system was installed it was designed for a maximum of 350 inmates living at the prison. This included 35 maximum security inmates. With the present prison population and increase in maximum security inmates this system is not adequate.

Van Valkenburg: When the fence is straightened out will it be possible to move the electronic detection system or will it become unusable?

Risley: It can be moved.

Van Valkenburg: Who ever designed this prison did not do a very good job and if we are going to get into any kind of construction as a result of this session we should not get the same architects that we had before.

Sales: I am confused concerning the temporary housing we just discussed. Is that to replace the housing at the dairy barn or is it in addition to it?

Moore: It is in addition to.

Haffey: Could you use the A, B and C units for maximum

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Risley: If the units were cleared out today we would have about 30 inmates we could transfer to those units.

Smith: Was the original design of the prison followed or were there changes made as construction progressed?

Hauck: The design was followed. We have the plans of the original design.

A motion was made that the joint hearing be adjourned.

The joint meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

HB 5

Representative Moore said that he would like to know how much of the 91,199 left over from the guard tower is obligated.

Mr. South said he did not know but he would have someone find out.

Representative Moore said that they would probably have to amend the bill to utilize some of that money for some of these security improvements.

Stobie: What will happen to the present electronic system?

Risley: There is no electronic signal device along the fence at the parking lot. We are proposing to move it there and also use some along the corridor that runs to section 13 and the fence along buildings 5, 6 and 7.

Vice Chairman Moore suggested that the committee vote on the requests separately as listed on page 3 of HB 5.

Representative Bardanouve made a motion to approve the \$67,700 for security improvements to close units I & II. A vote was taken and carried unanimously.

Representative Quilici made a motion to approve \$88,000 for renovation in the administration building. A vote was taken and carried unanimously.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION Cont.:

Representative Conroy made a motion to approve \$197,000 for electronic systems at the fence. A vote was taken and carried unanimously.

Representative Lory made a motion to approve \$24,850 for lighting improvements. A vote was taken and carried unanimously.

Representative Bardanouve moved a motion to approve \$2,870 for chain link fence. A vote was taken and carried unanimously.

Representative Hurwitz made a motion to approve \$16,680 for three additional metal detectors. Some discussion on this issue followed. A vote was taken and carried with 14 voting yes and 2 voting no. Representatives Bengtson and Stobie voted no.

Vice Chairman Moore said that Mr. Hauck had given him the correct figure for the amount left from the guard tower appropriation as being \$60,168.64.


Representative Sales said that he would move an amendment that would apply this amount toward the security improvements thus reducing the general fund appropriation. A copy of the prepared amendment is attached and is EXHIBIT 1 of these minutes.

A vote was taken on this motion and carried unanimously.

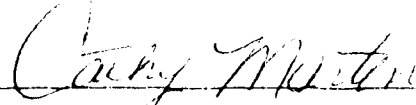
Representative Sales made a motion that HB 5 AS AMENDED DO PASS. A vote was taken and carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



REP. JACK MOORE, VICE CHAIRMAN



Cathy Martin/Secretary

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June 22, 1982
AMENDMENT TO HB 5

1. Page 2

Following: line 21

Insert: "Section 6. Long Range Building reappropriation.

The unexpended balance of the appropriation for construction of a guard tower at Montana State Prison, in HB 837, regular session of the 47th Legislature, is reappropriated for purposes of this act and is to be used to reduce the general fund appropriation in section 5."

Renumber subsequent sections.