

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE APPROPRIATIONS SUB-COMMITTEE  
ON ELECTED OFFICIALS AND HIGHWAYS

January 6, 1983

The Appropriations Sub-committee on Elected Officials and Highways met at 8:15 a.m. on January 6, 1983 in Room 437 with Chairman Joe Quilici presiding. All members were present. In addition to the committee members the following were also present:

Cliff Roessner Legislative Fiscal Analyst  
Leo O'Brien " " "

and Terry Cohea, Doug Booker and JanDee May representing the office of Budget and Program Planning.

Chairman Quilici announced that a quorum being present we would begin the orientation meeting for the committee. The Chairman noted that Representative Lory who was chairman of the committee during the past session had done an excellent job. He hoped that as all members of the committee with one exception had served on this committee during the last session, we could proceed rapidly to the work before the committee.

The Chairman announced the weekly schedule for committee meetings. This schedule is set up to accommodate some conflicts which several members of the committee have with an 8 a.m. meeting every weekday. The committee will meet at the following times until further notice:

Mondays	8 a.m.
Tuesdays	7 a.m.
Wednesdays	8 a.m.
Thursdays	9 a.m.
Fridays	8 a.m.

The Chairman said we would try not to have meetings on Saturdays or in the evenings to begin with, but he could not guarantee that this would continue throughout the entire session. The Chairman asked the committee members to review the schedule of hearings and report to him any conflicts they might have.

PROBLEMS WITH SCHEDULE OF HEARINGS (Side 1, 40)

Senator Van Valkenburg noted that he had a concern about scheduling the Highways budget so late in February. He said that last session he felt the committee did not have enough time to spend on this budget and he would like to have the schedule changed to hear the Highways budget earlier in the session. The committee discussed proposed changes in the schedule. It was noted that the major issue with the Dept. of Administration is that they are constantly reorganizing. With most of the other budgets, the members of the committee will be familiar with their testimony. Some time could perhaps be taken from the schedule of the Dept. of Administration, and this time could be added to the schedule for the Highways hearing. (84)

Senator Keating suggested that perhaps we could have an overview of the Highways budget and get an idea of where they are now before we actually get into the detailed portion of the budget. The Chairman said he would contact the Highway Dept. and see if we could have a preliminary hearing and fit this into the schedule. He suggested that an evening meeting could be held earlier in the session than the schedule now shows.

(111) Senator Dover said he felt the committee should have the past and present positions of the Highway Dept. before we get into their projected budget. He noted that the Department has a responsibility to show that they have indeed done what they said they would do in the past session. The Chairman said he would meet with Gary Wicks and see if preliminary hearings could be scheduled.

#### DEFINITION SECTION OF COMMITTEE BOOKS (175)

Cliff Roessner, LFA, explained this section to the committee and said that because of existing statutes, some of the terminology had been changed in the budget materials the committee will be working with.

#### MORE DISCUSSION ON SCHEDULING (234)

Doug Booker, OBPP, told the committee that the Dept. of Administration may not need as much time for budget hearings for individual bureaus, as the committee is composed of members who served on this committee last session (with one exception). (251) He also told the committee he felt that Morris Brusett (Director of Administration) could come in the first day of their scheduled hearings and explain the changes they had made in that department which would speed up the process considerably.

#### HANDOUTS (260)

The Chairman suggested that, if it were possible, the committee would like to have the "handouts" (furnished by the agencies) distributed to the committee two or three days prior to their scheduled hearings. It was agreed that they would be requested to do this.

(270) During the discussion of paper-flow problems, Theresa Cohea, OBPP, said that, if it would be helpful to the committee, her office could furnish a computer printout with columns of figures representing (1) the Governor's recommendations, (2) the LFA's recommendation, and (3) a space for the sub-committee to insert a figure. The committee agreed that this would be very helpful.

SUPPLEMENTAL FOR DEPT. OF JUSTICE (311)

Sen. Van Valkenburg said, in looking at the list of Supplementals, there was no supplemental requested by the Dept. of Justice, and he was curious why there was no request from them with respect to the funding for the upgrades in the Highway Patrol that had been ordered by the Board of Personnel Appeals.

JanDee May, OBPP, explained to the committee that there is a statute that any time an upgrade or reclassification causes a department to go into a deficit situation where they will have to ask for a supplemental, it cannot be done. On that basis, the Governor's office cannot support that, so they now must come in with their own bill and justify it without the Governor's support. Theresa Cohea, OBPP, added that there is another conflicting statute that says they must pay the upgrade, so the department is caught between the two conflicting statutes.

(339) The Chairman informed the committee that this bill has been prepared for introduction, and the subcommittee may ultimately receive it in committee. The background of the bill: In 1979 the Highway Patrol appealed to the Board of Personnel Appeals. This board did not render a decision until 1982. That decision was in favor of the Highway Patrol, which made it retroactive to 1979, and resulted in a proposed expenditure of \$1,200,000+. The Legislature can disallow it and the matter will go to the courts, or the Legislature can pay it. The problem is: Why did it take so long for a decision to be made by the board? After some discussion, the committee agreed that they would like to have this question answered for them by the Board.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 a.m.

  
JOE QUILICI, Chairman

dm/jaj

