

MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
STATE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE  
MONTANA STATE SENATE

February 9, 1983

The twenty-seventh meeting of the State Administration Committee was called to order by Chairman, Senator Pete Story on February 9, 1983 at 10:30 a.m. in room 331 of the State Capitol Building, Helena, Montana.

ROLL CALL: All members were present except Senators Stimatz and Manning excused for other committee hearings.

CONSIDERATION OF SENATE BILL NO. 345:

"AN ACT TO ALLOW THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS OR NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS FOR THE PURPOSE OF ESTABLISHING COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS; AMENDING SECTION 2-17-302, MCA."

SENATOR STAN STEPHENS, District 4, presented S.B.345 and stated that this falls on the heels of what was presented last session. This piece of legislation is a minor piece in that package and brings out what the Department may do. They are offering advise and technical assistance to Government agencies and political subdivisions, but they receive alot requests from various TV clubs around the country, communities that want to put in an earth receiving station or interested in how to contact the FCC. They are looking for this kind of information. He stated that the committee will notice, on page 2, line 23 they have stricken the words "for state government" and inserted "within the state" to allow the department to not only speak to government agencies but also to the private groups like the ones mentioned. EXHIBIT 1.

The other part of the bill is on Page 3, line 5 through 8. This is new language.

PROPOSERS:

HIRAM SHAW, representing the Communication Division of the Department of Administration and Mr. Brussett, testified that when they were looking for this clarification they could not find one and that they have had numerous calls for assistant. The law does not say it is one of their functions. He said that they do not have the local experts out in the field. He said he feels they should be able to respond.

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JIM HUGHES, representing Mountain Bell Telephone Company, stated that he wants to express a couple of concerns although in does favor this piece of legislation. One is that there is some grandeous scheme of developing a state communication system and there is some concern on his part as how far it will go, as well as some other things.

There were no other proponents.

OPPONENTS: None

QUESTIONS OF THE COMMITTEE:

SENATOR TOWE asked Jim Hughes what other things he was talking about.

JIM HUGHES said if you take a look at a design for a large statewide telecommunications backbone network they may be proposing to construct on behalf of the state, and you allow that be a business that the excess capacity which you start interconnecting with local government, nonprofit organization and replacing with what communications are being supplied by other vendors, then I would be concerned. This language along with the backbone system will also allow them to provide services beyond information.

SENATOR STEPHENS said he appreciated Mr. Hughes being here today and he understands his concerns. He stated that being in the communications business himself, he can understand how complex and how much of a challenge it is to develop a telecommunication system across the state. This bill is basically an information and technical assistant type thing to assist local communities with the information that this department has. If a proposal would come before you, it would come in another form and there would be an appropriation involved. He said he knows of no state that has the state run a telecommunication system, so I do not see a concern for Mr. Hughes.

JOHN NARAS, Administration of Communication Division, said that Section 217 302 of the NCA, subsection G, establishes the Department of Administration with the responsibility providing means where the political subdivision of the state may utilize the state communications system upon such terms and condition that the department may establish. If the demand became so great he said that they would come back to the legislature before they expanded that service.

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SENATOR MARBUR asked Mr. Hughes if he were aware of the details of the other legislation you spoke of and does it refer to the same title.

JIM HUGHES said he does not believe it does. It is in the form of an appropriation. The citation given as section G was put in there with the full intent that we provide for a communication systems to interconnect with the subdivisions with the purpose of law enforcement telephone and telegraph system. That is what was anticipated by the language here. My concern is how broadly one would want to interpret that.

The hearing was closed on S.B. 345

CONSIDERATION OF SENATE BILL NO. 346:

"AN ACT TO SUBMIT TO THE ELECTORS OF MONTANA AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE VI, SECTION 2, OF THE MONTANA CONSTITUTION TO REQUIRE THAT THE OFFICES OF GOVERNOR AND LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR BE VOTED UPON SEPARATELY IN PRIMARY ELECTIONS AND JOINTLY, BY PART IN GENERAL ELECTION."

SENATOR MC CALLUM introduced this bill by saying it was said that this bill is "an act to prevent choosing of a bride, but to mandate shotgun weddings". He said that he takes this bill seriously. He said he does feel there are many people in the state of Montana that would like to run for lieutenant governor; on the republican side last time there was only one candidate for governor so that meant one person in the state of Montana could run for lieutenant governor and he would have to be asked by the candidate for governor. There were several candidates on the democrates side.

He said that it is a simple bill and will go to the people to be ratified.

There were no PROPONENTS nor OPPONENTS.

QUESTIONS OF THE COMMITTEE:

SENATOR TOWE: Questioned why this was a bill rather than a resolution.

SENATOR TOWE stated that as a bill it can be vetoed by the governor and as a resolution it cannot. Senator Towe suggested a punctation mark in the bill by putting a comma after party on line 8 and 12 of page 2.

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The rule applying to drafting of resolutions vs. bills was found in the codes under rule 6-3, page 25

SENATOR MC CALLUM CLOSED on S.B.346.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

SENATOR TOWE MOVED AN AMENDMENT TO add a comma after the word "party" in line 8 and 12 of page 2.  
MOTION PASSED.

SENATOR HAMMOND MOVED THAT SENATE BILL 346 DO PASS AS AMENDED.  
MOTION PASSED. Senator Towe voted no.

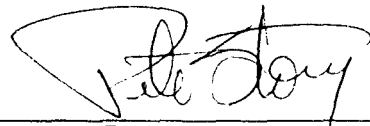
SENATOR HAMMOND MOVED THAT S.B.345 DO PASS.  
MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

SENATOR TOWE MOVED TO RECONSIDER S.B.269.  
MOTION PASSED.

SENATOR TOWE MOVED SENATOR HALLIGAN's AMENDMENT. EXHIBIT 2.  
MOTION PASSED.

MOTION WAS MADE BY SENATOR TOWE THAT S.B.269 DO PASS AS AMENDED.  
MOTION PASSED.

The meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pete Story", written over a horizontal line.

CHAIRMAN, Senator Pete Story

ROLL CALL

STATE ADMINISTRATION

COMMITTEE

48th LEGISLATIVE SESSION -- 1983

Date 2/9/83

SENATE  
SEAT 4

[illegible]

Each day attach to minutes.

DATE February 9, 1983

COMMITTEE ON

## VISITORS' REGISTER

[illegible]

(Please leave prepared statement with Secretary)

NAME: Alfred S. Jones DATE: 2-9-83

ADDRESS: 220 Michigan Ave., Detroit

PHONE: 7586

REPRESENTING WHOM? John Edgar Hoover

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: SB 395

DO YOU: SUPPORT? X AMEND? \_\_\_\_\_ OPPOSE? \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY

SENATE BILL: 345

## ASSISTANCE TO MONTANA COMMUNITIES IN COMMUNICATIONS

### SUBSTANCE OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

This bill allows the Department of Administration to provide assistance to political subdivisions and nonprofit organizations in the area of communication systems and techniques.

### FORM OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Amends Section 2-17-302, MCA to require that the Department of Administration shall:

- (i) Foster the development of new and innovative communications systems and techniques for state government within the state.
- (2) The department may provide assistance to political subdivisions or nonprofit organizations, upon such terms that the department may establish, relative to state and interstate communications systems and techniques.
- (2) (3)

### BACKGROUND

Present statutory authority governing communications systems does not clearly enable the Department of Administration to assist local governments or interested non profit organizations in the development of communications systems.

The Department has received requests from numerous local governments and non profit organizations to assist in the following ways:

- a. Analysis of telephone costs and recommendations for ways to reduce costs.
- b. Ways to improve telephone service.
- c. Ways to improve local land mobile radio service in such areas as coordinating local dispatch capabilities and improving the quality of local service.



- d. Assistance in applying for federal grants-in-aid for construction of communications facilities.

### NEEDS

The following factors contribute to the need for communications assistance:

- a. Communication technologies are extremely volatile, undergoing constant change and refinement. Expertise in addressing efficient and cost effective technologies is often not available at the local level.
- b. Regulatory changes, such as deregulation and divestiture of the telephone industry and cost impacts, are frequently not understood at the local level. Consequently, assistance is needed to help local communities adjust to these impacts.
- c. Montana communities cannot take advantage of federal grants-in-aid where skill in interpreting federal regulations, identifying sources of federal funds and preparing grant applications is not available.

### PROPOSED SOLUTION

The Department of Administration, through experience with the Montana Telecommunications Advisory Council (MTAC) and planning conducted under the auspices of HB 827 for telecommunications planning, has the expertise to assist Montana communities in developing innovative communications systems and techniques. The current level of staff and funding would enable this assistance without the need for additional funds or resources beyond the current level supported by the Division. Proposed amendments to Section 2-17-302, MCA, would enable this assistance to be provided.

2-1-83

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION  
COMMUNICATIONS DIVISIONEXAMPLES OF STATE ASSISTANCE TO MONTANA COMMUNITIES IN  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Lewis and Clark County: Assisted County Commission in analysis of consultant's report on radio site development. Facilitated discussions between County and State agencies on radio tower site sharing.

Butte-Silver Bow: Reviewed telephone costs and contractual obligations, with advice on bid opportunities for future telecommunications purchases.

Billings, City of: Reviewed city's requirements for radio communications and potential tie-in between Billings and the State's network.

Flathead County and Missoula County: Ongoing discussions relative to linkages between their microwave radio system and state government.

Flathead County: Requested assistance with data communications interface between Kalispell, Missoula, Hamilton, and state government in Helena.

Radio Communications Assistance

The following is a partial list of agencies requesting help with a variety of land mobile radio communications concerns:

Stillwater County Sheriff's Office  
Beaverhead County  
Cascade County Sheriff's Office  
Chouteau County Sheriff's Office  
Lincoln County Sheriff's Office  
Livingston School District No. 1  
Hill County Road Department  
Bozeman Police Department  
Lodgegrass Police Department  
Missoula County Fire Department  
Sheridan County Sheriff's Office  
Petroleum County Sheriff's Office  
Sidney City Clerk  
Daniels County Sheriff's Office  
Phillips County Commission  
Missoula County Airport Authority  
Gallatin County  
Meagher County Sheriff's Office  
Pondera County Sheriff's Office  
Fallon County Sheriff's Office

Indian Health Service,  
Billings  
Big Horn County Sheriff's  
Office  
Indian Health Service,  
Lodge Grass  
Belgrade Police  
Department  
Conrad

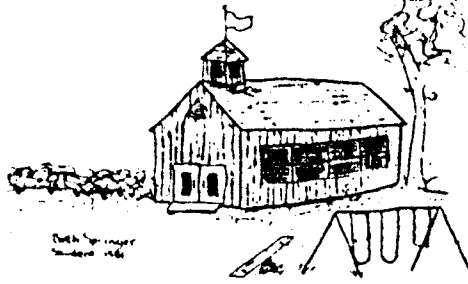
## LOLO PUBLIC SCHOOL

DISTRICT NO. 7  
LOLO, MONTANA 59847  
PHONE: (406) 273-6688

DR. JAMES F. HALL  
Superintendent

ORVILLE GETZ  
Head Teacher 6-8

DONNA BOYKIN  
Principal K-5



*Quality In Education*

February 2, 1983

Dan Fuller, Communications Engineer  
Department of Administration  
Room 222  
Sam W. Mitchell Building  
Helena, Montana 59620

Re: Telephone Hardware and Service Needs -  
Lolo School District No. 7.

Dear Dan:

I am enclosing for your inspection data obtained from property deeds relative to legal land descriptions together with location of buildings on the property and interior room layout as reflected on our fire drill exit plan.

The district currently employs a six-button rotary dial phone set-up with three incoming/outgoing lines, one of which was originally intended as a computer line and is now being used as a private line by the Superintendent. There is only one "com" line with a total of thirty-six extensions between the two buildings (eighteen in the Middle School/Administration Building and eighteen in the K-5 Building).

The system, obviously, leaves a lot to be desired. First of all, any expansion plans including extension phones in the additional rooms is precluded by the fact that (according to Mountain Bell) the system is "at max" with thirty-six extensions. Additionally, two lines are no longer sufficient to handle the volume of incoming/outgoing calls. One "com" line cannot possibly accommodate a staff of fifty-one persons trying to contact one another plus relay incoming calls. Moreover, there are no conversation privacy or conference call features, to mention only two which are basic to newer systems.

The Board of Trustees is in the process of reviewing alternatives to meet our needs of increasing enrollment and, concurrently, additional staff. These alternatives, of course, include building and remodeling options. Both the K-5 Building and Middle School/Administration Building are overcrowded at our 550 enrollment. We have projected an impact of at least one hundred more students in the next two years from the two new housing developments that we are aware of. Initially, I would predict the expansion plans to include addi-

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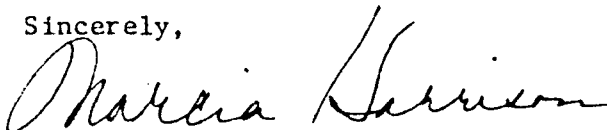
Dan Fuller, Communications Engineer  
Department of Administration

February 2, 1983

tions for between four to six classrooms each in the Middle School/Administration Building and the K-5 Building, with simultaneous interior remodeling of the existing structures. Incidentally, it would probably be most advantageous for us to continue handling all incoming calls at one station here in the Middle School/Administration Building.

Hopefully, this provides you with sufficient information to "start the ball rolling". I appreciate your talking with me this morning at such length. I will apprise the Board at tomorrow evening's meeting of our initial conversation. I look forward to hearing from you again.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marcia Harrison". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Marcia Harrison,  
Business Manager/Clerk

Enclosures

c: James F. Hall, Superintendent

c: Board of Trustees

SENATE BILL 269

MIKE HALLIGAN

AMENDMENTS

1. Page 1, line 15  
Following: "any"  
Insert: "utility"

# STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

FEBRUARY 9

19 83

MR. PRESIDENT

We, your committee on STATE ADMINISTRATION

having had under consideration SENATE Bill No. 346

Respectfully report as follows: That SENATE Bill No. 346

introduced bill, be amended as follows:

1. Page 2, line 8.  
Following: "party"  
Insert: ", "
2. Page 2, line 12.  
Following: "party"  
Insert: ", "

And, as so amended,

DO PASS

*PS*

# STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

FEBRUARY 9 1983

MR. PRESIDENT

We, your committee on STATE ADMINISTRATION

having had under consideration SENATE Bill No. 345

Respectfully report as follows: That SENATE Bill No. 345

DO PASS

# STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

FEBRUARY 9

19 83

MR. **PRESIDENT**

We, your committee on **STATE ADMINISTRATION**

having had under consideration **SENATE** Bill No. **269**

Respectfully report as follows: That **SENATE** Bill No. **269**

introduced bill, be amended as follows:

1. Title, line 5.  
Strike: "REQUIRING"  
Insert: "AUTHORIZING"
2. Title, line 6.  
Following: "REFUNDS"  
Insert: "AND CREDITS"
3. Page 1, line 15.  
Following: "any"  
Insert: "utility"
4. Page 2, line 3.  
Strike: "shall"  
Insert: "may"  
Following: "refunds"  
Insert: "or credits"

~~XXXXXX~~

continued...

*A.C.*



5. Page 2, line 14.  
Following: "investigation,"  
Insert: ", upon such hearing and due investigation,"
6. Page 2, line 23.  
Strike: "shall"  
Insert: "may"  
Following: "refunds"  
Insert: "or credits"

And, as so amended;  
DO PASS